

**VILLAGE OF FOX RIVER GROVE
PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY
SEPTEMBER 6, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Knar called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were Trustees Colletti, Ireland, Knar and Menzel. Also present were Village Administrator Osten, Chief Lukasik, Sergeant Domagala, Building Inspector Pete Vernon and Clerk Brouder. Village President Nunamaker and Trustees Blohm and Schiestel were in the audience.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 2, 2011 MINUTES:

Trustee Colletti made a motion to approve the Public Health & Safety meeting minutes of August 2, 2011. Trustee Ireland seconded. The motion passed with four yes votes.

RESIDENTS COMMENTS

There were no residents present.

BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report

Pete Vernon was introduced to the Committee. He will be working Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 – 3 and Saturdays 9 – 12. Trustee Ireland asked how he was doing. Inspector Vernon explained some of the items he was working on. There were a couple of surprises with un-permitted work being done. The residents were not aware they needed permits. It started as a re-roof and siding and ended up enclosing a porch. He found out about it from Tom Kunz. Residents have been friendly. Trustee Ireland asked if he had reviewed our ordinances. He is working on that. Trustee Ireland asked him to let the Committee know of any disconnects in our ordinances. Trustee Menzel had no questions. Trustee Colletti asked about 722 Old Hunt. They had asked the Village for financial assistance. The Village does not offer any. It was noted that Walgreens and Stone Hill Center have sealcoated their parking lots, but have not re-stripped and there are no arrows. This causes some confusion. Trustee Colletti stated they just did the sealcoating today. Administrator Osten spoke with Mr. Wagner at the Chamber Golf Outing and reminded him. Trustee Ireland asked to make sure the left and right is marked correctly on Route 22. Trustee Menzel stated there is a lot of property maintenance activity and that is good to see and he hopes Inspector Vernon will continue

this. There is just too much junk around. Trustee Knar stated the new mattress store erected a banner and he did not see it on the report. Verizon's was in last month's report and is not in right-of-way. Trustee Blohm stated a business was very offended when they received a letter. We should do face to face visits whenever possible. Trustee Colletti asked about the work being done at Five O'Clock Steakhouse. They have a permit to do some demolition and advise if the house can be repaired. She also stated there is a burning bush behind the McDonald's and to the left of the Dominick's building (if you're looking at Dominick's) by those first four parking stalls that totally blocks the view. Chief Lukasik stated that is private property. She said they do trim it each year, but she would like to see it removed. Inspector Vernon will talk to them.

Fire Sprinklers

There was a short discussion regarding fire sprinklers and if we want to enact an ordinance for when a remodel is 50% or more. Trustees Colletti and Menzel had no problem with the ordinance. Trustee Ireland struggles with Letter b at the top of page 3 ~ *"Construction shall be considered cumulative. Projects of less than 50% (fifty percent) EAV shall be tracked for the remaining life of the building and sprinklers required when the 50% threshold is reached."* They may not renovate because of this. He suggests omitting Letter b – if left in, it is going to impede redevelopment. Trustee Knar is also concerned about this. Inspector Vernon stated this is in the existing building code. There are Levels 1, 2, and 3 of code work. One is windows and roofing, two is replacing and repairing systems and three is moving walls. That would trigger sprinklers. Trustee Blohm asked if it is 50% of square footage. Trustee Ireland stated there is not a need to rush. He would prefer more insight from Inspector Vernon. There were some concerns if putting in air conditioning and the number of buildings that are not handicapped accessible. Administrator Osten stated that if not enough space for a wheelchair, it is grandfathered. Inspector Vernon stated there needs to be a reasonableness about this. **Trustee Menzel made a motion to recommend approval of an ordinance amending Sections 6-3 and 6-12 of Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Fox River Grove.** There was no second. **Trustee Ireland made a motion to deny existing content for this ordinance. Trustee Knar seconded.** It was approved by a roll call of four yes votes. Inspector Vernon can bring this back to Committee when he has more time to review it.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report

Chief Lukasik reported one of the part-time officers has resigned. He received an application from a viable candidate today and will be interviewing him. Trustee Knar asked if there were any part time possibilities with the existing applications he has already received. There were not. Trustee Ireland asked how many hours the part-time

officer had worked. Chief Lukasik reported he worked one eight-hour shift and then resigned. He added that there are several days the Police Department is short staffed. The Department always tries to have no shortages for the 3 – 11 p.m. shift. Trustee Ireland asked how he is addressing this. They are paying overtime. On the monthly report there is a new format for the arrest report. Trustee Menzel asked if this was inline with law requirements. Yes.

Vehicle Stickers

The police report shows 63 tickets were for vehicle stickers. Clerk Brouder stated we have sold \$57,356 through August. We have sold 2,633 passenger stickers, 288 truck stickers and 69 motorcycle tags.

Doyle Road – No Parking

This has been brought to the Committee before and they decided they did not want to make Doyle Road no parking. This would require ordinance changes and signage. Trustee Knar spoke to one of the owners, Pete Preveliotis, over the weekend and he agrees there is a problem. Brunch Café is a successful business and Trustee Knar does not want to diminish their success. He feels making Doyle Road no parking may cause a hardship for Brunch Café. People won't find a spot to park and will continue on. He suggested making Doyle Road a 15-minute order pick-up area. Trustee Menzel asked why the Committee is bringing this up again. There have been no accidents. He does not want to spend money on this. Trustee Knar appreciates Trustee Menzel's comments, but this is a safety issue. It is a dangerous intersection there. Trustee Colletti said she goes there a lot. People are pulling out, there is no striping, and more people are parking there. She agrees with the 15 minute loading zone. There should be no parking 20 feet from the driveways. Administrator Osten stated there could also be 15 minute parking in the front. Trustee Knar stated there is a parking issue with Armanetti's and Car-X, too. Trustee Ireland said people do not want to drive into the back parking lot. Just past that lot on both sides of Doyle, there are culverts. Trustee Ireland is in favor of making Doyle Road no parking. Trustee Knar suggested putting this on the agenda for next month and invite Brunch Café owners, Andy or Pete to the meeting.

School Zone - No Cell Phone Use Signs

There was a discussion whether or not the Village should install "School Zone – No Cell Phone Use" signage. Illinois Department of Transportation has not approved any signs for this. The Village is not required to put them up. The cost is \$30 - \$35 per sign. It would be for Algonquin Road, Orchard Street, and Old Hunt, both coming and going – a total of six signs. Trustee Knar asked if the sign would go on the school zone sign. The Chief was not sure. Sergeant Domagala has seen several violators and issued warning

tickets to them. **Trustee Knar made a motion to get tentative approval of school zone no cell use signs and see if we can put them on the school zone signs. Trustee Colletti seconded.** Trustee Colletti asked if Illinois Department of Transportation would make us change the sign. Chief Lukasik stated this new law is in the Rules of the Road. The motion was approved by a roll call of four yes votes.

Skateboarding on Street Ordinance – Review/Enforcement

Trustee Menzel suggested having signage on Violet, Pleasant and Birch streets prohibiting skateboarding. He stated these three streets are definitely dangerous. Trustee Ireland said this can't be enforced. There are also Algonquin, Old Hunt, Circle and others that could be used for skateboarding. We lack enforcement ability. The police are not able to be everywhere. He is against this. Inspector Vernon said this is a public liability, but Administrator Osten said we have tort immunity. Trustee Colletti agreed with Trustee Ireland. We will have to ban more streets and there are not enough police. We lack manpower. No matter how many signs or police, people will still do it. Trustee Menzel stated Violet curves sharply and we are protecting people. The signs are not as much about enforcement, but a discouragement to people doing it. Trustee Knar agreed with Trustee Menzel. The people skateboarding down these streets, do not live here. It will discourage them. **Trustee Knar made a motion to establish streets that would be no skateboarding and to work with Police Department to have signs installed. Trustee Menzel seconded.** Trustee Knar and Menzel voted yes and Trustees Colletti and Ireland voted no. The motion did not pass.

Level of Service

The Village has a major coverage problem with the number of police calls there are. The part-time officers can only cover vacation, sick days or disability. With eight full time officers we have two car coverage about 80% of the time. Trustee Blohm asked if we fill a position, how do we do it without having a six month training course and an easier transition. She shared budget information regarding level of service overall from the Revenue Committee. She put together a 5-year General fund spreadsheet similar to the Water & Sewer 10-year capital. We are already deficit spending. We did agree to use some of our reserves. There is new legislation trying to get passed - If a town's Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) does not increase, and ours has decreased 6 – 10%, we can't raise taxes. One of our bonds is budgeted as an expense and this year that was \$88,000. That is only a partial payment that increases each year ~ next year it will be \$115,000 and then the next year \$261,000. In four years the Village will have \$150,000 in additional expenses. We have \$110,000 for ten years for the road bonds. With no increases of anything, by 2015 we would have only one month of reserves. This includes all departments. The Village can't afford to spend \$400,000 per year. Can we afford less coverage? Chief Lukasik stated that would be an officer safety issue. President

Nunamaker said there has to be a better balance. We have to keep folks safe. Trustee Ireland added Trustee Blohm is saying there is only so much money. There has to be some give and take. The Police Department costs \$1.3M to operate. We've made decisions to reduce Police Department staff and we have done this. The Board approved two part-time officers and one worked out and one didn't. How do we maximize? The schedule shows officers working 13 hours/day all the time. That is too much. They can't do a good job working that long. Sergeant Domagala stated he can't keep denying officers their vacation, comp time and personal days because at year end they'll have so many days off. Trustee Ireland suggested the Police Chief taking a shift during the day to help fill the time. It makes sense to do this – no other choice. Chief Lukasik responded that he works Monday – Friday and does provide back up. He also has administrative duties he tends to, for example, he has two meetings tomorrow (Friday) one in the morning and the second in the afternoon with the States Attorney for a homicide. He has already been at work since 7 a.m. this morning. He is working on hiring another part-time officer. Trustee Knar said it is overstating that Chief Lukasik can do more. We have an officer on light duty for 42 hours and that needs to be covered. The Village does not have enough money to operate the Village. We are not going to have one-car coverage. We need to figure out the money. There was further discussion – if an officer leaves how quickly can a new one be up to speed. If we have neighboring town coverage, do we have to pay. No. Sergeant Domagala added if we call for back-up from another town, they could be miles away and when we call for back-up, we need it right away. Are calls more labor time intensive or nuisance? Depends. Is there anything the Village can do to help lower these calls? No. Chief Lukasik is the only one that does not get overtime. Comp time and vacation roll over each year

The part time officer left, so that leaves 16 hours, the Sergeant is working 30 hours too much and we have an office on light duty for 42 hours. Trustee Ireland asked if Chief Lukasik could cover some of these shifts – we have 88 hours each week. The Sergeant also approves reports, does red light camera and the schedule. His normal shift is 10 hour days. He does the overtime by default, because no one else wants it. He averages 10 –15 hours of overtime. Administrator Osten asked if we would have enough hours for three part time officers with the light duty, vacation, comp and sick time. These would not be regular hours and can be worked by a part time officer. Overtime started out \$300-\$400 in January and now we are up to \$2,800-\$2,900. Trustee Ireland stated we want an adequate police force to protect our community. We have done a mis-service to the Police Department. It was decided to put this on Executive Session for the Village Board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Menzel made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Trustee Ireland seconded. All were in favor.

Steve Knar, Chairperson

Donna M. Brouder, Acting Secretary

Date Approved