

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER
09 July 2013**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM and present / responding to roll call were Trustees Calcagno, Gattuso, Reda, Steker, Yurkovich and President Pulia. Absent was Trustee Perry. Also present were Village Clerk Miller, Village Manager Matthys, and Attorney Durkin.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Westchester Educational Foundation – Angela Smith VP (WEF) addressed the Village Board. She, along with her Board members represent (WEF) which was formed to work with the school district to provide funds for programs that the District may not be able to fund. Founding Board members in attendance were Jim Solise-Treasurer, Sue Kata-Bell-VP, Kristin Laske-Secretary, and Eric Schmidt-2nd Treasurer. Their goal is to offer a not-for-profit means for donors and supporters to make gifts to directly support its educational mission, the Foundation will direct funds to supplement the schools existing budget for educational programs. The foundation wants to garner support of alumni, businesses and civic leaders. Their focus is also for businesses to help mentor students, sustaining afterschool/extra curricular activities, create opportunities for scholarships. One program starting this fall is “Adopt a Classroom”. Sponsors will have an opportunity to come in and help supplement classroom learning. Partnership is \$250 and tax-deductible. President Pulia volunteered to sponsor the Principals office ☺. The Foundation is asking for support from the Board in getting the word out. Trustee Gattuso offered the offered the weekly car show at 31st and Wolf, as a venue to help get the word out. Discussion is also pending for getting the Police Department involved. The Foundation is open for suggestions.... For questions, please call Fundraising Chair Eric Schmidt (630) 207-4505, or Angela Smith (708) 337-0280.

B. Wireless Fire Alarm Contract Amendment – Mr. Hribal - In 2007, the Village switched from direct line monitoring systems to wireless connectivity to the 911 Center for non-residential structures. Due to the outsourcing of 911 services to Norcom Public Safety, monitoring of alarms will be required by a third party. Norcom will not monitor equipment that is already installed. Midwest Central Dispatch is affiliated with SMG. They are currently monitoring Wireless alarms in the Chicagoland area. Mr. Hribal is asking the Board to approve the addendum that would allow SMG to re-direct alarms currently monitored by the Village to Midwest Central Dispatch. Attorney Durkin question the expiration of the original agreement? Mr. Hribal will follow-up. Trustee Gattuso question whether there was anything better as an option? Mr. Hribal noted there are other companies available if the Village maintained the 911 center, and there would not be any cost sharing. SMG is the only company that would provide monitoring without any disruption to the businesses. It is recommendation of Mr. Hribal's staff that the addendum be approved. Per President Pulia, they will look at the expiration of the current agreement and put the item on the agenda for the next meeting.

C. Business Application – Dog Breeder (Discussion Only) – Ms. Headley

Business applicant Amanda Dupin requested permission to breed Dachshunds at her home. She is requesting a variance from the current Municipal Code allowing her to increase the number of dogs in her home from 2 to 6. Per Attorney Durkin, this is a business in a home occupation and she is looking to breed up to (6) female dogs. The current Zoning Ordinance permits (2) dogs per household. Staff denied the request, however, Ms. Dupin wanted the opportunity to come before the Board, which she did during the Village meeting. Attorney Durkin is not advising Ms. Dupin, but she could seek a text amendment to authorize kennels in a residential district and see where that goes. Per, Manager Mattys, code was checked for allowable businesses in residential areas and a kennel was not included. Per President Pulia, when a resident moves into a municipality it is their responsibility to become familiar with the rules of the municipality.

D. Disposal of Surplus Property (Discussion Only)-Chief Adams

Chief Adams is requesting an ordinance to allow him to get rid of an old squad car (1974) Maxim, for scrap value. The car is not functional. President Pulia suggests that he also follow-up with Dave Stosier to identify a place to secure the best price for scrap metal. Item will be put on the next Consent Agenda.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Proposed Code Amendment – Overgrown Grass – President Ms. Matthys

The Villages' law firm constructed an ordinance to address overgrown grass. The ordinance was presented to Board members for review. The current code only addressed grass and not weeds. The minimum fine is proposed is \$50.00 and not more than \$750 for each offense. Per Attorney Durkin, there was previously discussion about adding fines to the Home Owner's Water bill. Since the Village is not “Home Ruled” the fine cannot be added to the Water bill. The owner can however be ticketed or a lien placed against the home. Item will be added to the Consent Agenda.

B. Overhead Sewer Grant Program in the Village of Westchester – Ms. Matthys

Manager Matthys noted that in subsequent discussions with Tom Halleren regarding the Overhead Sewer Grant Program, he noted that an application form and a contract between the Home Owner and the Village should also be included. She is working on the attachment before putting this to a vote. She expects this to be complete by next meeting. The dollar amount being looked at is \$1,500 per household with a maximum of \$30,000 the first year. Since the April 18th event approximately (6) permits have been issued, (5) check valves and one overhead sewer. Permits have not been evaluated to see if they meet the criteria of the grant.

INFORMATION ONLY:

Per President Pulia, there was a resignation from the Fireman's Pension Board. He is submitting Dr. Thomas Sullivan's resume for consideration at the next meeting to serve in that capacity.

Trustee Stecker noted that he has been in discussion with Chief Adams regarding updating the Life Safety Code for the Fire Department to 2012. It is currently in committee at the State level. The State currently has the 2000 codes adopted. We are looking to be proactive and adopt the code, (91) communities have already adopted the code. One of the items addressed is sprinkler systems for "New Construction".

President Pulia was approached by a company regarding Video Gaming. One company mentioned is Stella's. The Village currently does not allow for this activity. Other communities have rescinded their initial stance, e.g. Hoffman Estates, Oak Brook Terrace. President Pulia polled the Board to see if there was interest in a presentation, all agreed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Timothy Hinsdale questioned the variance for signage e.g. Duncan Donuts, and wanted to know if it was applicable regarding the Dupin Dog Breeding variance that is being requested. Per Attorney Durkin, the signage provisions allow for modifications. The Dupin request is a "Use Class" variance and this is typically not allowed.

Stephen Battersby had a comment regarding Addison Creek... He questioned whether President Pulia still belonged to the Addison Creek Restoration Foundation. Per President Pulia, they have not shut down but they have not met in a while as a result of the Water Shed project taking the Addison Creek project. There is no grant money left..... most monies went to engineering and planning.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discussed, Trustee Reda made a motion, seconded by Trustee Perry to adjourn for Executive Session. On the roll call vote the Board passed said motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38PM. (AYE 7)


Sherby J. Miller, Village Clerk