



VILLAGE OF DOWNS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
7:00 PM
November 6, 2014

Village Hall
211 S. Seminary St,
PO Box 18
Downs, IL 61736

1. Mayor Mike James called the November 6, 2014 meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Roll call was taken with Trustees Roach, Goveia, Freimann, Myszka, Luke and Lush all present. Also present were Treasurer Zwilling, Clerk James and Attorney Wall.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was taken.
4. A Motion to approve the Agenda order was made by Luke and seconded by Roach.
Approved 6-0
Discussion:
Item 16-1 was scratched,
Item 5-1 (Ordinance 2014-15) We will be continuing the board meeting on 11/13/14 and finishing this up after the zoning board meeting.
We will be adding item 11-3 to the discussion which is about adding a part-time police officer.
5. Zoning Board Recommendation
 1. A motion to approve Ordinance 2014-13 Approving the Rezoning of the Hall Property, Parcel 29-08-200-001 from R-1 to Agricultural was made by Goveia and seconded by Roach. Approve 4-2 Freimann and Myszka
Discussion:
 - The ZBA met on 10/30/14. They recommended 100% to change the zoning of 41.78 acres from R3 to R1. They recommend 100% zoning 162.28 acres from R1- to agriculture.
 - This won't become a cultivation center until the licensing goes through. Once the license is issued Mr. Jones he would have 6 months to start growing plants. There would be 4 structures built. Mr. Jones explained the process at the cultivation center.
 - Freimann doesn't feel it should be agriculture. Attorney Wall has been working with an expert in this area at her firm. This expert says that, the Department of Agriculture oversees the activities in the cultivation center. Because the Department of Agriculture oversees this, it does not meet commercial zoning criteria.
 - Goveia can understand Freimann's point.
 - Lush says the majority of the product is agriculture.
 - The Mayor read an IML magazine article from May 2014. The Mayor is going with what counsel is telling him to do. Attorney Wall says you want to zone with the most restrictions, which in this case would be agriculture. If this deal doesn't go through, the property will be zoned whatever we zone it to tonight. It will not revert back.
 - Myszka wanted to know why it was zoned R1 and R3 to begin with. Hall's had originally planned a subdivision.
 2. Motion to approve Ordinance 2014-14 Approving the Rezoning of the Hall Property, Parcel 29-05-451-001 from R-3 to R-1 made by Goveia and seconded by Roach.
Approved 5-1 Myszka
 3. Ordinance 2014-15 Approving the Rezoning of the Estes Properties Located at 415 W. Main St, Downs, IL from R-1 to R-2 (For continuance at 11/13/14 7:00 pm meeting)

6. Eagle Scout Project(s) Report- no reports
7. Engineer Report- No report was given by Farnsworth. Mayor James however, reported that Beecher will be boring under the RR tracks.
8. Treasurer Report- Treasurer Zwilling sent out the financials. The annual treasurer's report is on the agenda for later, as well as the tax levy.
9. Mayoral Report
 - The TIF firm consultants are starting to work on TIF 3.
 - He had a meeting with Representative Brady, Mitchell and one of Schock's representatives. He is trying to make some progress with railroad and Huff Rd. He is also trying to get some grant money for the water department.
 - We received notification that we received another grant from DCEO for \$30,000. We need to come up with a project.
 - We are still waiting on the first \$25,000 DCEO grant money.
 - Mayor James has decided to pool efforts with the middle school for Veterans Day. They have a wonderful program. This is scheduled on Friday 11/7/14 at 10 am.
 - We have maxed out our website email addresses. We have maxed out the website. Have been looking at moving to Go Daddy or perhaps some other host site.
10. Trustee Reports
 1. Building Report- Trustee Freimann just approved the Village Market permit.
 2. Water and Sewer Report
 - Superintendent Whitehouse reported there were no water main or service line leaks this month. He still has 24 radio reads left.
 - He raised the Washington St. fire hydrant up to grade.
 - There was a sewer back up on Woodlawn. It was discovered that a Nicor gas line was run through it.
 - He met with Enbridge. They will be replacing some sections of pipeline.
 - Mayor James asked if any of the plant light bulbs could be switched out to LED's. He has learned about them in his meetings with Mr. Jones.
 3. Police and Services Report-
 - We had to make some repairs on police car.
 - Roach passed out a sheet of proposed police expenses.
 - Chief Dingler is working on some contingent emergency plans.
 - Roach and the Chief are going to start working with some property owners over tall weeds and some buildings.
 - A deadline has come and passed with the homeowner on Huff and Main. We may need to take legal action.
 - The garbage dumpster has disappeared from park again.
 - Chief Dingler gave a report.
 - There was a dog bite on Washington St.
 - Seven wiring rolls were stolen out at Cross Creek.
 - A car was burglarized over Halloween.
 - He will begin working on overgrown weeds and other ordinance violations.
 - He has been going through our ordinances and has found several that are outdated.

- He has started strategic planning for natural disasters.
 - He will look into some grant writing to offset some police expenses.
 - Chief Dingler and DK Designs designed a new patch for the police department . Donna donated about 30 hours of her time.
 - Chief Dingler explained the details of the patch: The shield represents protection. The 3 valleys represent Tri-Valley. The helmet is a Viking helmet. It has 2014, for the re-establishment of the Downs Police Department.
 - Heather Dingler, the Chief's wife, had a bake sale and raised about \$100 for the police department.
 - He has started 3 school programs.
 - The traffic in afternoons around the high school is very dangerous. He is writing a letter to get a stop light.
 - The Chief says police work is not about issuing tickets. It's about modifying behavior. Police do that by their presence.
 - Community betterment –He is going to write a letter request to get reflective tape on the bridge on Seminary St.
 - He feels he has eliminated some under aged smoking at the park.
 - He wants to remind residents to not store Christmas presents in cars. Youths have been recruited to steal.
 - There will be a “Meet the Chief” night out at the High School on 11/18 6:00-7:30 pm.
4. Streets Report-Lush said they will be done mowing soon and getting geared up for winter. They are done with debris pick up for the year.
 5. Parks, Community Center and Food Pantry Report-
 - The oven was fixed at the park.
 - The food pantry is up to 44 participants.
 - Venison was donated to food pantry.
 - The food pantry will be asking for turkey, ham or cash donations for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
 - Backpack program going well.
 - Mayor James reported that the haunted house sold over 2000 tickets and wrist bands. They will be making a donation to park.
 - Mayor James also reported that 10 laptops and 10 desktops were donated from State Farm to the food pantry.
 6. Finance Report- Luke reported that she and the treasurer are working on the tax levy. Trustees need to agree, plan and budget for capital projects. We haven't been doing this. We may need to consider municipal bonds for water.

11. Discussion

1. Downs Methodist Church Annexation Agreement
 - Attorney Wall updated the board. She has been in contact with their counsel for a template. It was last left that the Village would be willing to bear the expense of the upcharge from a 6” pipe to an 8” pipe. Would we be willing to

agree? Goveia asked how much that would cost. The cost would be under \$10,000 and it would be for future development.

2. Proposed Annual Tax Levy-

- The annual tax levy is due the last Tuesday in December. If we keep under 5% we don't require a hearing.
- The 5% would be approximately \$69,000.
- Are water main breaks driving the debt up?
- Should we have a referendum?
- Goveia says she can't see that a referendum would pass. People are strapped.
- We could consider having a hearing.
- Luke will meet with trustees over capital improvements
- We could have a special meeting in December for public hearing.

3. On next month's agenda, Trustee Roach would like to add the hiring of a part-time police officer for back-up. Our intergovernmental agreement with Ellsworth only covers emergencies. For instance, we had to borrow Ellsworth's car last week when ours broke down. This person would work approximately 10hrs/month. This would be for the Chief's vacation/sick days.

We are obligated to do the school patrols.

12. Public Comment

Mr. Jones thanked the board for voting yes. If he gets the license we will get tax money. A break was taken.

13. New Business

1. Motions

- a. Motion to Approve the October 2, 2014 Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes made by Goveia and seconded by Roach. Approved 6-0
- b. Motion to Approve the FY 2013-2014 Annual Treasurer's Report made by Luke and seconded by Lush. Approved 6-0
- c. Motion to Approve Purchase Order for Police Department made by Roach and seconded by Goveia Approved 5-0 Luke abstained

2. Resolutions

- a. Resolution 2014-R17 Authorizing the Execution of an Amended Annexation Agreement Between the Village of Downs and Living Hope Christian Church, Inc. –No Action
- b. Resolution 2014-R18 Authorizing and Approving a Mutual Aid Agreement Between the Village of Downs and the Village of Ellsworth made by Roach and seconded by Goveia. Approved 6-0
- c. Resolution 2014-R19 Authorizing the Police Department of the Village of Downs to be a Participant under the Illinois Police Training Act made by Roach and seconded Goveia. Approved 6-0
Discussion: We are participating in the training act. Any police officer that we hire will adhere to this act.

3. Ordinances

- a. Ordinance 2014-16 Authorizing the Village of Downs to Hire A Part-Time Police Officer Trained in Accordance with the Standards set by the Illinois Law

Enforcement Training and Standards Board ("ILETSB") made by Roach and seconded by Goveia. Approved. 4-2 Luke & Lush

14. Old Business-none

15. A motion to enter Executive Session was made by Lush and seconded by Luke. Approved 6-0
9:33 pm

The regular meeting was re-entered at 10:00 pm.

Roll call was taken with Trustees, Roach, Goveia, Freimann, Myszka, Luke and Lush all present. Also present were the Mayor, Clerk James and Attorney Wall.

16.

1. ~~Ordinance 2014-17 Authorizing and Approving Hiring _____ as a Part-Time Police Officer in the Village of Downs at \$ _____ per hour for 10 hours per week contingent on passing a back ground check and drug screening- Scratched~~
2. Resolution 2014-R20 Authorizing and Approving a Water Filter Media Replacement Contract Between the Village of Downs and Tonka Water motion made by Freimann and seconded by Myszka. Approved 6-0

Discussion: The cost to replace this is covered under our DCEO grant.

17. Motion to approve payment of bills was made by Roach and seconded by Lush. Approved 6-0

Discussion: Some bills were added.

18. Motion to Approve continuance of the Village of Downs Regular Board Meeting to November 13, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall was made by Roach and seconded by Myszka. Approved 6-0

10:12 pm



Village Clerk