



VILLAGE OF DOWNS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
7:00 PM
December 4, 2014

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

1. Mayor Mike James called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
2. Roll call was taken. Trustees Roach, Goveia, Freimann, Myszka, Luke and Lush were all present. A quorum was declared. Also present was Clerk James, Treasurer Zwilling and Attorney Wall.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was taken.
4. A Motion to Approve Agenda order was made by Roach and seconded by Lush. Approved 6-0
Discussion: The engineering report was scratched. The treasurer's report was moved in with the finance trustee's report. The Resolution with Living Hope (Annexation) was scratched.
5. Zoning Board Recommendation(s) –There were no recommendations.
6. Eagle Scout Project Report(s)
Cameron Engelhardt passed out pictures of his completed Eagle Scout project. Cameron and few scouts went out the other day and completed the benches. He has some money left over that he is donating to the "Eagle Scout Fund" with the Village. He spent 215 hours working on project. Approximately 20 people worked on his project with him. He may get some sort of dedication plaque for his project. Mayor James said he could use his left over money to purchase this.

Steven Kretz also completed his Eagle Scout project. He stated that the rock was donated. He also has some money left over. He has over 122 hours in his project with 22 helpers. It took 3 work days to complete.

Mr. Tom Kretz, Committee Member for Troop 53, wanted the board to know that the four Eagle Scout candidates have raised over \$5200 for their projects in Kickapoo Park in 2014. They have raised the value of Kickapoo Park. Over 1100 plus man hours were spent completing these projects in the park. Would the board consider renaming the park "Kickapoo Eagle Park"? Mayor James said it could be considered but would have to go to the Park board first.

It was suggested that the Eagle Scout information be added this to the website. Mayor James said we could acknowledge this in a formal resolution in the next board meeting. Attorney Wall said she would be willing to donate her time to prepare this resolution.

Mayor James asked the scouts, that if Mr. Bobst who owns Downs Storage donated to their project, to send him pictures of their projects and ceremonies. He has donated to several Eagle Scout projects.

7. Events Committee- The final numbers for haunted house was \$2800. The committee decided to buy Christmas street banners. The 4th of July came in at \$812. The committee is discussing other donations for the park. They will most likely pay the electricity for December. Santa is scheduled for 12/19 and 12/20. We still need Santa for 12/12 and 12/13. On 12/6/14 from 9am-noon we will be putting up more lights in the park with the help of the Cub Scouts.

Judging for light contest will begin on 12/11.

8. Mayoral Report

The Mayor is continuing to work on the TIF stuff. He is still trying to get a stop light at RT. 150 and the school. He has been working with the railroad. The railroad will do a one-time clearing. Is that something we are interested in? The board was not interested in this. Most people that go back there are people are going back there to cause trouble. We can continue our beatification lease with them.

The Mayor discussed purchasing the 55 acres from them. They want to keep it because it is a major thorough fare. There is also a fiber optic line going through there. They get money for the fiber optic line. We could let them keep the money for the line.

Mayor James asked the board members to take pictures of anything falling of the bridge so we can send it to them.

~~9. Engineer Report~~

10. Treasurer Report – with the finance report

11. Trustee Reports

1. Building Report- Freimann talked to Mark Bowers. Mr. Bowers expects to be selling lots at Beecher in by January. Houses should be going up by spring. A hole needs to be cold patched out there. Greg Gilmore needs to be called.
2. Water and Sewer Report Superintendent Report- Kevin Whitehouse reported that 64,600 gallons went to BNWRD this month. We had a normal 1.34 iron concentration. There were no service line leaks. He has 18 radio reads left. Beecher Trails sewer and water are going in. They are about 90-95% done.

In 2016 we will possibly need a re-do on the water tank. The primer and lead paint is flaking off. Kevin will look into getting us some bids.

Filter media replacement will take place in the 12/15 or 12/16. This will take a couple of days. People will notice their water will have more iron. We need to let the residents know. We could use the sign to let them know or a post card.

Trustee Myszka says that one property has yet to connect to the sewer. Mayor James asked the water department to look into another project for the newest \$30,000 DCEO grant.

3. Police and Services Report- The Chief and Trustee Roach are going through policies and procedures to make some changes. Some polices are old. She needs direction. Attorney Wall says the board discusses and then the ordinance is changed.

Chief is sending a letter to IDOT about stop light at RT 150 and the school.

The "Meet the Chief" reception was small but nice.

We need to plan for a policy and procedures manual for part-time employees. A separate manual is for needed for police.

As of January 1st 2015 full time is considered 30 hours/week.

Attorney Wall will get Roach a template for an employee manual.

The police department now has a radar gun.

4. Streets Report-Trustee Lush reported that his department is getting ready for winter. He has a couple holes that he needs to patch. He is getting equipment ready for winter.

He wanted to discuss options for buying a building for the streets equipment. The haunted house sits for 10 months, can the ordinance be changed? The haunted house seems to be secondary.

Goveia-The building would have to be modified and the event would be destroyed. It would take 100 volunteer hours to be put back up.

Lush-We have all kinds of stuff that will sit outside in the winter. He likes the haunted house but it is only used for a month.

Mayor-We still have Osborne's brown building for \$80,000 or Linda's building across the street.

Luke-It's about what the board think its priorities.

Myszka-Come back next month with a proposal and we can discuss it.

Freimann agrees with Lush it shouldn't be ruled out to use the haunted house, but should consider looking at the other options as well.

Trustees will go look at the buildings.

5. Parks, Community Center and Food Pantry Report- The food pantry received 5 pallets of fruit and vegetables from an anonymous donor. The NHS donated coats. Some shelves were added. 47 food baskets will be given out this month.
6. Finance Report-Alan passed out the financials. He produced a report. It was a summary of funds received that are needed to cover our expenses. We should come out alright and at budget, which is not necessarily a good thing either.

12. Discussion

1. Police Ordinance changes- No discussion, but look for this to come.
2. Police Part-Time Hiring Resolution 2014-16 approved this last month. Mayor James just wanted to clarify this. It wasn't to hire a part-time police officer. It was a required ordinance that we had to pass.
3. Other-Snowmobile route- Mayor James asked Josh to look at this with Lush. It is very outdated.

The Downs United Methodist Church will be petitioning for annexation in January. They are looking at our template annexation agreement. They would like the village to pay for the upsize of the pipe. They are interested in running sewer. Attorney Wall needed something from them that state they are not for profit. They are doing all roadway improvements.

Attorney Wall stated that with Living Hope Christian Church we have sort of "drawn a line in the sand". The services are up to their property line. We won't let them hook on until they sign annexation agreement.

A break was taken at 8:46pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:52pm.

Goveia asked about Farmland Subdivision Road. Both Mayor James and Trustee Freimann answered her question. He needs to needs to clear the lien and provide us the as-built plans. There are some sign off sheets and affidavits that need to be completed for the subdivision code. After this has been done the road can be dedicated.

13. Public Comment- no comment

14. New Business

1. Motions

- a) Motion to Approve continuance of the Village of Downs Regular Board Meeting to _____, 7:00 pm at the Village Hall- No Action
- b) Motion to Authorize and Approve the Annual Loan Payment for the Washington Street Water Main Replacement from TIF I was made by Myszka and seconded by Freimann. Approved 6-0
No Discussion
- c) Motion to Approve the November 6 & 13, 2014 Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Lush and seconded by Myszka. Approved 6-0

2. Resolutions

- ~~a) Resolution 2014-R15 Authorizing the Execution of an Amended Annexation Agreement between the Village of Downs and Living Hope Christian Church, Inc. Scratched~~

3. Ordinances

- a) Ordinance 2014-17 for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Corporate Purposes of the Village of Downs, McLean County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year of May 1, 2015 thru April 30, 2016 was made by Luke and seconded by Lush. Approved 6-0
Discussion: We didn't go over 5% limit.

15. Executive Session- Not Entered

16. Motion to approve payment of bills was made by Lush and seconded by Luke. Approved 6-0
Discussion: Payments to Tri-Valley out of TIF, the Christmas banners, Costigan and Wollrab bill and a few others were made.

17. Motion to Adjourn at 9:05pm was made by Luke and seconded by Lush. Approved 6-0



Village Clerk