

**VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG  
FEBRUARY 7, 2013 REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

President Hettermann called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

**Attendees**

Trustee John Huemann  
Trustee Kevin McEvoy  
Trustee Mary Lou Hutchinson  
Trustee Janice Sisk  
Trustee Ron Zanko  
Trustee Rich Janusz  
Village Attorney Michael Smoron  
Police Chief Keith VonAllmen

**FROM THE FLOOR** – Maggie Haney of 1612 Bolling Avenue was in attendance. She questioned if after the Board approves the disbursements the checks are then issued for payment. President Hettermann stated yes.

Laurie Cwerenz of 4110 Pitzen Road was in attendance to address a statement made at the last Committee of the Whole meeting. She explained that at that meeting Trustee Zanko brought up eliminating administration fees paid by developers in the planning and zoning process. She stated that she does not believe his committee fully reviewed what the fees are intended for and she does not believe it would be a good idea for the board to eliminate the fees. She further explained that she was offended by a comment made by Trustee Zanko at that meeting during which he expressed that the staff is in the office anyways therefore the Village need not charge a fee for their time. Mrs. Cwerenz further stated that at Trustee Zanko's committee meeting someone made insulting statements regarding the worth of the employees. Trustee Zanko questioned which minutes she was referring to. Ms. Cwerenz explained that the statement was made at the last Ordinance Committee meeting. Trustee Zanko stated that the minutes have not been approved from that meeting. Ms. Cwerenz explained that the statement was heard from the recording of the meeting. She added that other employees heard the statement as well. Trustee Zanko stated that she should not quote from minutes that have not been approved. Mrs. Cwerenz questioned if the statement was made. Trustee Zanko stated that he did not recall the statement being made. Trustee Hutchinson questioned if the statement is on the recording. Mrs. Cwerenz confirmed that it is.

Trustee Zanko stated that the committee has requested a breakdown of the building permit fees typically charged so that they can get a better feel for what they are looking at. Ms. Cwerenz stated that she does not believe it is a good idea to eliminate the administration fees. She explained that there is a lot of administrative paperwork involved when a developer comes before the Village. Trustee Hutchinson explained that the fee enables the Village to recoup its costs. Trustee Zanko stated that his committee is only an advisory body that makes a recommendation and it is up to the Board to decide how they wish to proceed. Mrs. Cwerenz explained that she realizes that and therefore was trying to provide her input to the board because she does not believe it is a good idea to eliminate the fee. She explained that it appears that Trustee Zanko is trying save the developers money and the Village employees are spending time on development related matters when they could be addressing other Village business. She explained that it does not matter whether it is a big developer or a large developer, development needs to pay for its impact on the Village and she feels the fee is fair as it allows developers to pay for staff time that could be spent in other ways. Mrs. Cwerenz offered that over the past three and one half years it is has been apparent that Trustee Zanko does not respect the Village's staff. Trustee Zanko replied that Mrs. Cwerenz's statement reflects her opinion. Mrs. Cwerenz agreed that she was expressing her opinion. Trustee Zanko

stated that Mrs. Cwerenz was grandstanding before the Village Board and added that at the last meeting Trustee Hutchinson and Trustee Huemann talked down Mrs. Haney.

Mrs. Cwerenz explained that after the last Committee of the Whole meeting she approached Trustee Zanko with her input and he disregarded her. Mrs. Cwerenz stated that when she approached him after the meeting, he stated that his committee felt that the Village staff is in the office anyway therefore the Village need not collect a fee for their time. Trustee Zanko explained that his statement reflected the opinion of his committee. Mrs. Cwerenz replied that Trustee Zanko reported that his committee reviewed all of the ordinances. She opined they did not do so thoroughly as they did not talk with the people who are affected the most and whose time is impacted which she does not believe is the proper way to approach the matter. Mrs. Cwerenz pointed out that other people in the office heard the statements made at Trustee Zanko's committee meeting and were insulted. Trustee Zanko remarked that with regards to statements made about respecting Village employees, he was the only one who spoke up on behalf of Ms. Anderson who worked for the Village for eighteen years but there was a vendetta to get rid of her. Trustee Hutchinson stated that Trustee Zanko's statement is inaccurate and pointed out that it reflected his opinion. Trustee Sisk questioned why the matter is coming up at this time. Mrs. Cwerenz explained that the Ordinance committee made a recommendation to eliminate the administration fee and she wanted the Village Board to be aware of her concerns. Trustee Zanko stated that the matter is not on the agenda. Trustee Hutchinson expressed that residents can bring their concerns to the board when they wish to do so. Trustee Zanko stated that if Mrs. Cwerenz has a concern she can bring it to his committee. Trustee Hutchinson restated that she has the right to bring it before the board. Mrs. Cwerenz stated that she does not appreciate that as a resident Trustee Zanko does not want her to speak at a board meeting. She added that his treatment of her at the meeting is disrespectful. Trustee Zanko stated that Mrs. Cwerenz is disrespecting him as she has brought something to the board that she heard on a tape when she should have brought it to him. President Hettermann reinforced that residents are permitted to bring matters to the board. Trustee Zanko stated that if there is a suggestion that someone has for his committee, they should bring it before his committee. Trustee Hutchinson pointed out that Mrs. Cwerenz is also responding to statements made at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Don Allen of 1609 Lincoln Road in McHenry was in attendance regarding the Banner Apartment proposal. He explained that he attended the Development and Governmental Affairs Committee meeting and pursued some research regarding the proposal's impact to the community. He reviewed an economic evaluation he pursued on Rosewood Apartments in Round Lake which reflects a total annual tax base of \$237,267.71 for a total of 170 units. Mr. Allen explained that of the taxes collected an estimated \$960 per unit is contributed to the school district. He compared that information with the taxes currently being collected in Johnsburg for the school district which he estimates to be approximately \$5,958.75 annually per home. Mr. Allen pointed out that there are also impacts to other taxing districts such as fire and police. He questioned how taxpayers benefit from the development and who would make up the shortfall in taxes. He explained that the community looks to the board to consider these factors when making decisions regarding the proposed development. The board thanked Mr. Allen for his input.

**OMNIBUS AGENDA** - Trustee Huemann moved to approve the Omnibus Agenda. Trustee McEvoy seconded the motion. Trustee Zanko requested the removal of the minutes of the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and the disbursements. All Trustees present voted aye on the roll on the remaining agenda items. Motion carried.

**MINUTES** - Trustee Janusz moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2013 meeting. Trustee Zanko seconded the motion. Trustee Zanko clarified that his statement at the top of the third page which indicates "trumps the Constitution of the United States" was intended to refer to the Illinois Constitution. Trustees Zanko, McEvoy, Sisk, Huemann and Janusz voted aye. Trustee Hutchinson abstained. Motion carried.

**DISBURSEMENTS** - Trustee Zanko moved to approve the disbursements. Trustee Sisk seconded the motion. Trustee Zanko questioned check number 109692 to the State Treasurer for the Running Brook Farm Boulevard traffic signal. Ms. Cwerenz explained that it is the Village's quarterly payment for the traffic signal. President Hettermann pointed out that the question came up the last time the payment was made. All Trustees voted aye on the roll. Motion carried.

**RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION** – Trustee Zanko moved to go into Closed Session to discuss litigation affecting the Village. Trustee Janusz seconded the motion. Trustee Hutchinson questioned what litigation is being discussed. Attorney Smoron stated that someone could volunteer that clarification but it is not required. Trustees Zanko, McEvoy, Sisk, Huemann and Janusz voted aye. Trustee Hutchinson voted no. Motion carried at 8:00 p.m.

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION** - Trustee Sisk moved to return to Regular Session. Trustee Zanko seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted aye on the roll. Motion carried at 9:05 p.m.

Trustee Huemann addressed a statement made by Trustee Zanko previously in the meeting regarding Mrs. Haney. He stated that at the first meeting in January Mrs. Haney asked for a straw poll vote regarding the election of the Village Clerk. After that meeting, Mrs. Haney was quoted in the paper stating that if she is not successful in placing the matter on the ballot, she would follow up on the matter in her campaign. Trustee Hutchinson clarified that she believes the paper indicated that Mrs. Haney was going to pursue the matter further as Village President. Trustee Zanko stated that he does not believe the board meetings are the place to discuss politics. Trustee Huemann agreed and explained that Mrs. Haney was attempting to place the Village into a box on the topic and was going to attempt to make an issue of how each trustee voted on the matter.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Trustee Huemann moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Hutchinson seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

*Claudett E. Peters*  
*Village Administrator*