

**VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG
MARCH 21, 2013 REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

President Hettermann called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Attendees

Trustee John Huemann
Trustee Kevin McEvoy (absent)
Trustee Mary Lou Hutchinson
Trustee Janice Sisk
Trustee Ron Zanko
Trustee Rich Janusz (absent)
Village Attorney Michael Smoron
Village Engineer Tim Hartnett
Special Projects Coordinator Rick Quinn
Police Chief Keith VonAllmen

FROM THE FLOOR – Carl Neiss of 3802 N. Hillcrest Place was in attendance to thank the board for protecting the right of way next to the Haney’s property. Mr. Neiss stated that the Haney’s fought the matter for years and even sent a letter to Martha Freund, his wife’s mother, in an attempt to buy the property. He explained that the property was intended to be used as right of way to go down to the river and he is grateful to those board members who worked to protect it.

OMNIBUS AGENDA – President Hettermann explained that he removed check 109902 from the disbursements. Trustee Huemann moved to approve the Omnibus Agenda. Trustee Hutchinson seconded the motion. Ms. Peters explained that the removed check is for payment to Midland Standard Testing which was approved at the previous board meeting and is being corrected and reissued. All Trustees present voted aye on the roll. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT - President Hettermann apologized for the lateness of the newsletter and explained that there were delays with the printer. He reported that the audio recordings of the Village Board meetings beginning in January of 2013 are now available on the Village’s website. He also reported that former Village police officer Bill Rowan passed away.

HANEY FOIA COSTS - Trustee Hutchinson provided an update on the cost impact of FOIA requests received from Maggie Haney. She explained that at the previous board meeting she reported that Mrs. Haney’s FOIA requests had cost the Village \$8,376.60. Since that time, the Village has spent an additional 27.5 hours responding to additional requests at a cost of \$1,514.63 bringing the total cost for FOIAs submitted by Mrs. Haney to \$9,891.23. She explained that the majority of those FOIAs are related to the property previously referred to by Mr. Neiss at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Neiss asked for clarification on the costs. Trustee Hutchinson explained that the figure represents the cost to taxpayers for Mrs. Haney’s FOIA requests. She added that it does not represent the cost of FOIAs related to this matter received by McHenry County and other governmental entities that have received FOIAs from Mrs. Haney.

JOHNSBURG ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Jeff Young, Assistant County Engineer with the McHenry County Division of Transportation, along with Jim Warner and HR Green representatives Todd Destree and Mike Hastings were in attendance to discuss the upcoming Johnsburg Road Improvement Project. Mr. Young informed the board that they have established a website for the project at www.johnsburgroad.com which includes information and maps related to the project. Handouts and

brochures are also available that provide information regarding the project. Mr. Young explained that the public is being directed to the website whenever possible as the site includes the most up to date information. He stated that people can also go to the website and sign up to receive email updates and alerts on the project. Mr. Young pointed out that contact information is available on the website which will enable the public to contact the project representatives who can assist them. He added that social media is being utilized in an effort to reach as many people as possible.

Mr. Young reviewed the project explaining that it has been split into two phases. Construction will begin this spring on the first phase of the project which starts just west of the intersection of St. Johns Avenue/Chapel Hill Road and continues to Route 31. He reviewed maps that provide details of the improvements which can be viewed on the website along with a detour plan. Mr. Young explained that the posted detour route is intended to route traffic away from the construction area, however local residents who are more familiar with the local road networks will typically pursue their own alternative routes to avoid the construction area.

Construction informational meetings will be held shortly and representatives will be in contact with residents and business owners along the project route. Tim Hartnett added that meetings have been held with public works, police, fire, township and school representatives to keep them informed and address their questions. They have also coordinated mutual aide emergency response, mass transit and mail delivery in the project area. Additional meetings will be held to insure that everyone is informed and their questions are addressed

Trustee Huemann reported that at the recent JABA Expo there were many questions raised regarding the project. He added that he is glad to hear about the meetings that will be held with the businesses owners in the downtown area as they are concerned with how they will operate their business during the construction. He explained that although it is a County project, many people reach out to the Village for answers to their questions regarding the project and he expressed a desire to partner with the County to help keep people informed. Mr. Hartnett assured that representatives will take the time to meet with the businesses and residents throughout the duration of the project to coordinate construction activities in an effort to minimize its impact. Mr. Hartnett provided examples of what has been done in other downtown areas during major construction to help the area businesses.

Mr. Neiss expressed concern that during rush hour traffic will back up into the roundabout from the traffic signal at Spring Grove Road. Mr. Young assured that it will not back up into the roundabout. He explained the traffic projections utilized for the project anticipate traffic through 2030 therefore growth has been built into the project. Emit Roberts was in attendance and questioned if the hill west of Riverside Drive will be completely closed down during construction. Mr. Young stated that the road will not be closed but will be limited to westbound traffic only.

Mr. Young confirmed that large vehicles such as school buses and fire trucks can maneuver through the roundabout. Mr. Hartnett added that Village, police and fire department personnel met in Hoffman Estates at a similarly designed roundabout and observed a large fire truck and snow plow truck maneuver through the roundabout with ease. He pointed out that during the demonstration, the back wheels of the vehicles never even rolled up onto the concrete apron in the center of the roundabout which is there for larger vehicles if needed.

In response to an unrelated matter, Mr. Young confirmed that he has been made aware of the shoulder gravel needed alongside the road by the bank on Chapel Hill Road and assured that it will be addressed.

ADJOURNMENT - Trustee Huemann moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Sisk seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Claudett E. Peters
Village Administrator