

**MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG
FEBRUARY 28, 2008, MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE OF WHOLE**

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Dominguez called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Committee Members Present

Ed Hettermann
Marylou Hutchinson
William Sandell
John Huemann
Bruce Bennett
Kim Husby

Others Present

Village Engineer Tim Hartnett
Chief Kenneth Rydberg

MINUTES - Committee Member Hettermann moved to approve the minutes. Committee Member Sandell seconded the motion. All Committee Members present voted aye. Motion carried.

MCHEMRY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - Jeff Young, Assistant County Engineer and Wally Diedrich were in attendance on behalf of the McHenry County Department of Transportation to present road improvements being planned for Johnsburg Road between Route 31 and Chapel Hill Road. Mr. Young explained that McHenry County wishes to involve the community in the project to get input at early stages. It was explained that the County is utilizing Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for a portion of the project. The presentation included the limits of construction, construction details and timelines. Improvements will include signalization on Johnsburg Road at both Riverside Drive and Spring Grove Road. Improvement alternatives were reviewed for the intersection of Chapel Hill Road and Johnsburg Road to include signalization and a roundabout. The estimated cost of the project is \$3.8 million with 80% federal funding. Committee Member Huemann questioned the impact a roundabout would have on pedestrian traffic. Mr. Young explained that a pedestrian actually crosses less of an area in a roundabout to get to a secure area than they would have to cross in a signalized intersection. Mr. Young further explained the details of a roundabout. Chief Rydberg questioned if a roundabout will improve the backup at the intersection during peak periods? Mr. Young explained that it should decrease the backup of traffic.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief Rydberg informed the Committee that we have received a rate increase for dispatch services from the City of McHenry. Increases are driven by the number of calls handled. This year's cost will be \$33,585. Last year the Village paid approximately \$23,000. Chief Rydberg reported that even with the increase, our costs are still lower than they would be if we utilized McHenry County for dispatch services.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Committee Member Bennett reported that the Finance Committee will meet the first week of March to review the proposed budget. He added that JCAN has been meeting regularly.

PLANNING AND ZONING - Chase Bank will be coming before the Board for a sign variance. They are also undergoing Architectural Review of the facility they are pursuing in the Shops at Fox River development

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Committee Member Huemann reported that the Economic Development Committee continues to work on Downtown planning. The Committee is also looking into illuminating existing sidewalks.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE - Committee Member Sandell reported that the Ordinance Committee is working on an ordinance regulating improvements and maintenance of improvements within the right of way. Tim Hartnett explained that Spring Grove has instituted SSA's in new subdivisions for the future maintenance of roads, sidewalks and landscaping in the right of ways. Committee Member Sandell stated that the committee will continue to gather information before recommending an amendment to our ordinances.

Committee discussed considering an ordinance recognizing English as the official language of the Village. Chairman Dominguez questioned the need to establish a separate ordinance when the State of Illinois already recognizes English as the official language. Committee Member Sandell explained that by passing a local ordinance, we would not be obligated to conduct business or print material in a language other than English. Chairman Dominguez expressed concern with the negative connotation associated with the Village considering this type of ordinance. Committee Member Huemann questioned if other communities within McHenry County were surveyed. Committee Member Sandell stated that they were not. After further discussion, the Committee asked that the Village Attorney confirm whether or not the State of Illinois has a law recognizing English as the official language before pursuing the matter further.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Committee Member Hutchinson discussed her committee's strategic plan. She explained that the Committee is planning to pursue several projects this next year. The Committee is also working jointly with the Economic Development Committee to plan the Village's booth at this year's business expo.

ENGINEER'S REPORT - Tim Hartnett reported on the status of the low pressure sewer project.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Chairman Dominguez informed the Committee that he will be meeting with Father Jerry regarding Church Street improvements in the next couple of weeks.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Committee Member Huemann to adjourn. Seconded by Committee Member Sandell. All Committee Members present voted aye. Motion carried at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Claudett E. Peters
Director of Village Operations