

Minutes

Village Board of Trustees

March 24, 2011

A meeting of the Village of Horseheads Board of Trustees was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m.

Present were:

Village Board and Staff

Mayor Donald Zeigler
Trustee Larry Clark
Trustee George Koliwasky
Trustee Suzanne Peters
Village Attorney John Groff
Village Manager Walt Herbst

Clerk-Treasurer Sharron Cunningham
Parks Dir. Nate Nagle
Fire Chief Arthur Sullivan

Absent:

Trustee Ron Swartz

Others

Dave Padgett, W. Franklin St.
Glenn Hostettler, W. Broad St.
Tess Banfield, Catalpa Dr.
Barb Skorczewski, W. Franklin St.
Dave Radin, S. Main St.
Alice Roote, Gardner Rd.

Wayne Brubaker, Gardner Rd.
Jean Quinn, Gardner Rd.
Mike Stenpeck, Grand Central Ave.
Valerie Rohrer, Ridge Road
Mike Swasta, Watkins Road

Resolution by Trustee Koliwasky, seconded by Trustee Peters

BE IT RESOLVED, that the reading of the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of March 10th, 2011 be dispensed with and the same stand approved as entered by the Clerk.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler: Aye
Trustee Koliwasky: Aye
Trustee Clark: Aye
Trustee Peters: Aye

Update: Wendell Energy

Manager Herbst reported that Atty. Groff is out of town - resolution for the next meeting on their proposal. He briefly described the Wendell Energy project. Will also be looking at meters, infrastructure, etc. Upgrade will more than pay for itself.

Resolution by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Peters

BE IT RESOLVED, that a Special Board of Trustees Meeting is hereby scheduled for Thursday, March 31st at 8:00 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Tentative 2011-2012 Village Budget.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler:	Aye
Trustee Koliwasky:	Aye
Trustee Clark:	Aye
Trustee Peters:	Aye

Presentation by Sheri Geary from STEG Re: Merchants Association

Ms. Geary did a power point presentation regarding shared service for Merchants Assoc. Sharing resources is more beneficial. Merchants group could be coordinated under the Village. Need to look at new opportunities to access grants for marketing, special events and maintenance for the district. She talked about recommendations listed in the comprehensive plan. She has talked to Elmira Heights on working with the Village of Horseheads on this program. And they are very interested in that partnership. As far as expanding beyond Hanover Square, Ms. Geary stated that we should start in one area and when successful in one area then you can move on. Need a starting point. Elmira Heights needs immediate attention to 14th St. first. It normally is a two to 10 year window. Consider writing a grant to facilitate this project for the two Villages. A Business Coordinator will help the merchants. Works with municipality and merchants. Cannot ask a volunteer to do work as a coordinator. Need specific skills to handle the process. Next step is to have a workshop on how this needs to be done and meet with the Heights.

Dave Radin, S. Main St. - commended the Board for moving forward per the comprehensive plan. Has the Heights and Village talked about getting money together to get a Coordinator. Should be Mayors and Merchants meeting

Mayor Zeigler - yes, should be public workshop.

Mike Stenpeck - the Comp. Plan committee did not just focus on the Square - also includes Grand Central Plaza.

Ms. Geary - we should start with Hanover Sq.

Mike Swasta, Watkins Road - core of Hanover Square eroded over years. Consideration should be given to a larger business core than just Hanover Square.

Motion by Trustee Koliwasky, seconded by Trustee Peters, that this Board along with the Village Manager and Village Attorney move into an Executive Session to discuss the status of collective bargaining negotiations.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler:	Aye
Trustee Koliwasky:	Aye
Trustee Clark:	Aye
Trustee Peters:	Aye

Trustee Peters distributed handouts regarding the Health Reform Act.

Trustee Clark - appreciated Sheri Geary's presentation and wants to move forward with this project.

Mayor Zeigler - will be forming a group called Council of Governments with other municipalities. Continue to share ideas and services - need to save money and still be efficient.

Trustee Koliwasky - still want inventory from all departments to determine supplies and equipment for budget purposes. Police clothing, DPW valves, etc.

Manager Herbst reported on the following items:

- Leadership conference at CCC
- Status of K-9 program
- Sister City fund drive for Japan earthquake
- DPW taking computer class
- Wine/Beer/Roses this Saturday at Appleridge
- Sharing operations - meeting with Town of Elmira, Elmira Heights, Big Flats etc.

Audience Participation

Valerie Rohrer, Ridge Rd. - lots of trucks coming and going on our road. And what about railroad - where will silo and trains be located. Is it coming behind our homes. Also have to hear horn honking at truck washing bay, and bright lights.

Manager Herbst said trucks will be on Wygant Road south past existing buildings - cross Second Street and turn east towards Ridge Road onto Schlumberger property.

Mayor Zeigler - we have a meeting with DEC, etc. to discuss concerns.

Manager Herbst - truck traffic is a problem and will be addressed. We now have a good working relationship with Norfolk Southern. Had a meeting and went to each site - putting together a plan for improvements.

Mike Swasta, Watkins Road - three issues at the Holding Point - dust - air pollution - uncovered loads of sand. He submitted a letter to the Board.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was closed at 8:30 p.m.

/rmb