

VILLAGE OF DOLTON
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
April 20, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Trustees to order in the New Village Hall at 9:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Trustees were present: Cathern L. Bendell, Stanley Brown, Tiffany Henyard, Robert E. Hunt, Jr., and Robert E. Pierson, Jr. Trustee Sabrina G. Smith was absent.

Also present: Engineer Ronald E. Smith and department heads. Village Attorney John B. Murphey, Legislative Counsel James M. Vasselli, and Village Administrator Stan Urban were absent.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
PRAYER

At the regular board meeting immediately preceding.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. FINANCES

Trustee Henyard asked for a report on the state of the village's finances at this time. Mayor Rogers noted that the trustees have been receiving financial reports at every meeting. He said that the village is paying its bills and that there are payment plans in place regarding past bills.

Mayor Rogers introduced Stephanie Blanco of Kasperek and Associates, the village's accountants, who said that they have been working on bringing all of the contracts up to date. She said that property tax revenue is down approximately \$1 million dollars over last year, about a 30 percent drop. The village is paying current bills on time and not letting delinquencies occur. Payment plans have been agreed to on old balances.

Mayor Rogers began to speak about the many unused but active phone lines at the old village hall and reduction of telephone bills at the new village hall. Trustee Henyard said that discussion of the new phone lines should be under Agenda Item B. Mayor Rogers replied that the savings is part of the discussion of village finances. Ms. Blanco said that it was her understanding that Item B referred to the cost of the move to the new village hall. Mayor Rogers agreed.

Mayor Rogers said that telephone bills were running about \$9,500 per month at the old hall. Bills at the new village hall average \$900 per month for the same services and with additional capability.

Trustee Henyard asked why one report of new village hall expenses shows \$58,000 and the other shows \$42,000 in expenses. Ms. Blanco said the \$42,000 reflects through March and the \$58,000 reflects an additional \$16,000 in April to date.

Trustee Henyard said that her objection is to spending bond money without board approval. Mayor Rogers said that the board had given the village administrator the authority to spend money and took away the mayor's right to spend. Mayor Rogers also said that the board takes too long to approve expenditures.

Trustee Henyard specifically objected to making the following bond expenditures without board approval: \$8,000 All-Right Signs, \$4,000 and \$3,500 in moving services, and \$19,000 new telephone services.

Trustee Brown said that the village administrator exceeded his authority to spend. Mayor Rogers responded that the village administrator spent \$8,000 to save \$100,000. Trustee Henyard asked for a consensus that proposed expenses should come before the board to be voted on. Mayor Rogers declined to comment further.

A. Village Hall Expenses

Discussion continued regarding the separate records of expenditures for the new village hall. Trustee Henyard said that the invoices she received add up to \$28,000 while the report she has says \$42,000. Another \$30,000 was spent under the bond. She is asking for the actual amount expended for the new village hall. Mayor Rogers said that he believes Ms. Blanco just told her the amount.

Trustee Brown asked about the expected \$50,000 from the state. Mayor Rogers said that the grant is among those frozen by the governor.

Trustee Pierson said that whether the village receives the grant or not, the residents are happy with the move. If it costs \$58,000 to be out of there, he is happy, as are all of the employees.

Trustee Henyard asked about the planned use for the old village hall. Mayor Rogers replied that that the old village hall was not on the agenda.

Trustee Henyard asked about the \$46,000 expenditure for tree services. Mayor Rogers said that the expenditure does not fall under the agenda item being discussed. Trustee Hunt stated that there should be a bid process in place at that dollar amount, even if the expenses are incurred over an extended period.

Mayor Rogers said that when it comes to safety issues, he will proceed. He pointed to the board's objection to hiring snow plow drivers just before the heavy snow in February. Trustee Brown objected to the mayor's remarks, stating that he had never voted against hiring snow plow drivers.

Trustee Henyard asked for an expense report for the move from the Media Center. Mayor Rogers replied that the work was done by Public Works. Trustee Henyard asked why Public Works was allowed in the building when the mayor has claimed that the mold in the Media Center presents a danger. Mayor Rogers said that before Public Works went in the new purchaser sent a crew in to assess the mold and applied what was needed to make it safe, and obtained an air quality report that it was safe. Trustee Henyard asked for a copy of the report. The mayor said it is not his to give. Trustee Henyard said that the mayor had misled the public and that he was the one who kept channel 4 off the air.

CITIZENS ADDRESS None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, on a motion by Trustee Bendell to adjourn the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole, second by Trustee Pierson, Mayor Rogers asked for a roll call to adjourn.

Roll Call

AYES: 5 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson

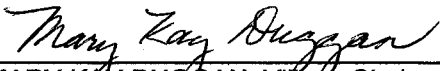
NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Smith

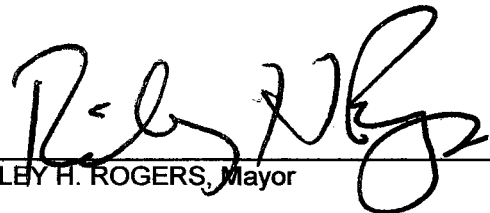
Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 4th day of May, 2015.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor