

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
ZONING AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2013
MEMORIAL HALL
7:30 p.m.**

Present: Chairman Saigh, Trustee Haarlow, Trustee Angelo, Trustee Elder

Absent: None

Also Present: Kathleen Gargano, Village Manager, Robert McGinnis, Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner, Bradley Bloom, Police Chief, Rick Ronovsky, Fire Chief

Deleted: Dave Cook, Village Manager.

Chairman Saigh called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and summarized the agenda.

Minutes – August 2013

Trustee Elder moved to approve the minutes as amended for the August 26, 2013 meeting. Second by Trustee Haarlow. Motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Reports – August 2013

Fire Department

Chief Ronovsky stated there were 225 emergency responses in the month of August. Year to date there has been a total of 1733 incidents through August. This compares to 1682 incidents through August in 2012. Current activities include the annual fundraiser for The Safety Village of Hinsdale, Children's Burn Camp, and the Wellness House of Hinsdale in honor of the late Deputy Fire Chief Mark Johnson will be held on Saturday, September 21st At Veeck Park.

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Chairman Saigh commented on the fundraiser and Trustee Elder commented on reading the Manager's notes and the upcoming Silent Parade on Friday, October 11th. The annual Silent Parade honors fallen firefighters as well as people involved in fires. The parade starts at the Hinsdale Fire Station at 7pm.

Police Department

Chief Bloom briefed the Committee on the Police and Fire Open House on October 12, 2013 from 1100 am to 3:00 pm as well as recent Departmental activities regarding school zone enforcement of cell phone use and speeding. Chief Bloom also mentioned that the School District 181 Crisis Committee has just completed a review and approved the Districts 2013/14 Crisis Plans.

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Police Department¶

Community Development

Robert McGinnis went over the monthly report for August and noted that the department issued 113 permits including 2 new homes, conducted just over 400 inspections, and generated just over \$74,000 in permit revenue for the month. He stated that August was a busy month for the department and that presently lead times for inspections were running two days and that plan review turnaround was running about 4 weeks.

Request for Board Action

Recommend Approval of a Resolution Approving and Accepting a Plat of Subdivision to Re-subdivide the Properties Commonly Known as 201 and 205 S. Vine Street in the Village of Hinsdale, County of DuPage.

Chairman Saigh introduced the item and summarized the request. Keith Larson gave a brief overview on the item and the process they went through in order to break out the two single family lots originally

included within the Planned Development. Trustee Haarlow made a motion to Recommend Approval of a Resolution Approving and Accepting a Plat of Subdivision to Re-subdivide the Properties Commonly Known as 201 and 205 S. Vine Street in the Village of Hinsdale, County of DuPage. Second by Trustee Elder. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Approving a Map Amendment for the Properties Located at 201 and 205 S. Vine Street.

Trustee Haarlow made a motion to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Approving a Map Amendment for the Properties Located at 201 and 205 S. Vine Street. Second by Trustee Elder. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Approving Site Plans and Exterior Appearance Plans for Modifications to a Commercial Building at 35 E. First Street, Subject to the Above Stated Conditions.

Robert McGinnis stated that the applicant was not able to have anyone at the meeting and requested that the item be postponed until the next Zoning and Public Safety Committee meeting date.

Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Amending Article XI (Zoning Administration and Enforcement), Section 11-103 (Plan Commission), as it Relates to Term Limits

Chairman Saigh introduced this item and asked Sean Gascoigne to speak on the item. Sean Gascoigne explained the changes proposed under the text amendment.

Trustee Haarlow had questions on the way that Commissioners were appointed under the proposed language and stated that he felt it was vague. Staff agreed to have the village attorney answer that question for the Village Board meeting. Trustee Elder mad a motion to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Amending Article XI (Zoning Administration and Enforcement), Section 11-103 (Plan Commission), as it Relates to Term Limits. Second by Trustee Angelo. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommend Approval of an ordinance to declare certain Village owned property as surplus and to sell at public auction or dispose of.

Chief Bloom stated that staff is requesting two surplus squad cars that have been taken out of service be declared as surplus and sold at a public auction on E-Bay. In addition, staff is also seeking miscellaneous computer items and electronics as well as some equipment owned by the FD be declared surplus and items that have value will also be sold at auction.

Trustee Elder moved to recommend that the Village Board approve an ordinance declaring property as surplus and approving the sale of the surplus property on the Internet website E-bay by public auction and the disposal of items having no value. Trustee Haarlow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

Temporary Ice Rinks

There was discussion on temporary ice rinks and the way that enforcement was handled over the last couple years. Staff stated that enforcement had been handled on a case-by-case basis by the police department and that this had produced a good outcome. Staff was planning on hand delivering the same letter that went out last year and educating residents on where the rinks could be located legally if anywhere, along with a reminder to be cognizant of the neighbors. The Trustees concurred and agreed to have staff stay the course.

Lagging Construction Projects

There was discussion on certain construction projects that never seem to get finished and what tools to use to encourage these permit holders/owners to complete their projects within the reasonable amount of time.

Robert McGinnis stated that in most cases the fact that the fees were doubled after the initial term was a motivator, but in rare cases, was not enough of an incentive to get the work done. He stated that he felt that the tools the village had in place were effective in most cases, and that these isolated projects only made up 1-2% of the total number of permits issued during his tenure with the Village.

There was discussion about fees and fines and that most Trustees felt that the village should be more punitive in these cases and try to get larger fines when these cases go to court.

Trustees commented that permit renewals be limited to either the one year or eighteen month duration as set forth in the code. Comments were also made about the ability of an owner to afford to live in these homes once they finally complete them in addition to considering some requirement for escrow

Trustee Haarlow stated that the end result was to get the project finished and that he understood the catch 22, but that he felt the fines should be high enough to push the owner to complete the project.

Jeff Miller spoke to the Committee about the frustration tied to living next door to one of these projects, damage that was done, and the amount of time it had taken to complete. He also stated that he did not support a requirement of another face-to-face contact, as this really pits neighbor against ultimate neighbor in these cases.

Staff agreed to bring back some suggestions and alternatives as soon as they heard back from the village attorney as well as their thoughts on a completion bond or some other surety that might be enough to give someone enough incentive to finish the work.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Saigh asked for a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Elder made the motion. Second by Trustee Haarlow. Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Robert McGinnis, MCP
Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner