

VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
December 22, 2009

AGENDA ITEM 1: Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

Present: Chairperson – Trustee Debby Sosine, Jim Steigert, Jerrold Glogowski, Brian Dianis, John Spella, Bob Smith, and President John Schmitt

Staff Members Present: William Ganek, Village Manager; Jenna Kollings, Assistant Village Manager; Bob Mitchard, Public Works Director; Russ Laine, Police Chief; Jack Walde, Finance Director; Sarah Stefan, Recreation Superintendent; Ryan Farrell, Village Attorney; Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk

Chairperson Sosine called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and established a quorum with all Committee members.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Community Development
No items to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM 3: General Administration

A. Presentation of the Algonquin Events and Rec Evaluation Plan

Ms. Barbara Heller of PROS Consulting gave a slide presentation covering an overview of the above-mentioned plan and survey. PROS was hired to evaluate Algonquin's Events and Recreation Program to determine the overall effectiveness and efficiency of events and program offerings. Included in the plan was a household survey that received 433 responses, which, according to Ms. Heller, is an above-average response for the number of questionnaires distributed. Responses covered core areas like special events, early childhood programs, swim lessons, young adult programs, and senior services. The Recreation Department currently consists of one full-time Recreation Superintendent and one full-time Principal Assistant. Oversight is provided by the Assistant Village Manager.

During the presentation, several questions presented by the Committee of the Whole were answered. Mr. Steigert asking how private indoor fitness centers compare to what a village-run facility can offer. The reply was that private facilities can be very expensive for individuals. Mr. Smith asked how many employees are basically needed to run a community- type recreation center, the answer being more than eight. In these poor economic times, the cost of building a center would not be feasible. Mr. Dianis asked if having outside contractors run programs and facilities would be effective. Ms. Heller said contractors would be more interested in "making money" and that you would have better control over employees. One recommendation regarding phasing out the senior bus program was discussed, as subsidizing such programs is very costly. Mr. Glogowski asked if the small percentage of responses received by the Village is a true indication of what residents feel they need. Ms. Heller responded that, even though the responses totaled 433, it represents a cross-section similar to other polls. She then followed up with a comment that the Village web site should be used more to get information out to residents. Ms Kollings replied that online registration will allow for 24/7 signup and will bring more people to the web site. It is more cost effective for both the residents and the Village. Mr. Spella asked what types of adult athletic programs are most needed. Ms. Heller responded by

saying young adults, ages 18 to 21, would prefer more basketball-related and softball-type programs. Mr. Spella asked why we did not work more closely with School District 300 to utilize their facilities for Village programs. Ms. Stefan replied that the Village of Algonquin does work closely with the District and does use school gyms, etc. The District charges several fees, and, with their own school programs, the logistics make it challenging to use school property for Village use.

After discussion, it was the unanimous consensus to forward the Plan to the next Board meeting for acceptance. Once accepted the plan will be available to the public for viewing.

B. Review Current Status of Village Revenues

Treasurer Jack Walde presented an overview of Village revenue sources and what to expect in the near future. As Algonquin sits in both Kane and McHenry Counties, the figures he presented were broken down by county. He stated the property tax levy request of \$5.6M will be received, with 98% already collected. The remainder will be received from sales tax with interest accrued by the County.

There are three major sources of revenue in the General Fund: property tax, sales tax, and income tax. Sales tax peaked in 2008, with reductions in 2009-2010. The reduction in taxes collected is not as significant as some larger towns and cities because Algonquin has a blend of different businesses. The budget is based on a 2.6% decrease in sales tax revenue and is six-tenths of one percent under projections. Income tax has been affected by the unemployment rate. The Illinois unemployment rate was 6.6 in 2008 and jumped to 9.8 in 2009. The Algonquin unemployment rate is 8.7% in McHenry County and 7.7% in Kane County in 2009. As unemployment decreases, the sales tax revenue should increase. As far as income tax revenue assistance from the State, Mr. Walde does not see any relief until the end of 2010.

Mr. Ganek added the Village loss in sale tax revenue is less than expected, but income tax revenue is down about 15%. All Village of Algonquin departments are working hard to spend five percent less. He is hopeful they will meet those expectations.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Public Works & Safety

A. Resolution to Review and Consider Participation in the McHenry County Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning Process

Mr. Mitchard reported McHenry County is forming a Hazard Mitigation Planning Team and asked Algonquin to join the team. The Village already participates on a Kane County Planning Team. The McHenry County Mitigation Team will focus on prevention of disasters and not just responses to such disasters; this team does not duplicate or replace any emergency response plan already in place. Any county or community that has a hazard mitigation plan that is compliant with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 is eligible for hazard mitigation grant money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee of the Whole to move forward to the Board for adoption.

B. Consider Membership in the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN)

Mr. Mitchard requested the Committee consider membership in the above-mentioned organization. This proposed agreement does not conflict with any other mutual aid programs in which the Village is currently involved. Basically, the IPWMAN is a group of communities that will assist other members if a disaster occurs. The Village would sustain a five-day period

financially to pay salaries and benefits for Village employees who would be sent to assist in a disaster. The State of Illinois would provide funds after the five days if necessary. The fee for joining IPWMAN is \$250 per year. If a disaster should, unfortunately, hit Algonquin, this program would be very beneficial, with assistance coming from the other communities involved in the network. If Algonquin is asked to render assistance, employees sent would be according to their expertise. Discussions with the unions would be completed before the agreement would be signed. Even though the Village would be paying expenses for the first five days, the positives far outweigh the negatives.

After discussion, there was consensus to move forward with the ordinance for passage.

C. Consider Ordinance Amending Various Portions of Section 41.12, Vehicle Seizure and Impoundment, of the Algonquin Municipal Code

Police Chief Laine requested the Committee consider the above amendment to the current ordinance to make it compatible with the Village's Administrative Court. This amendment will clarify the reasons and different situations that would make a seizure of a vehicle appropriate. It provides fees for booking, posting bails, and related arrest processing costs. It also will reduce the storage time of seized vehicles. When asked how many times a year these procedures would be used, Chief Laine responded about 200.

It was the consensus of the Committee to forward this ordinance to the Board for approval.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Executive Session

No items to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Other Business

A question was asked about the status of the building at Routes 31 and 62. Mr. Ganek replied that the building is up for sale and that the title holder is being fined daily for code violations.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Sosine adjourned the meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 9:16 pm.

Submitted: Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk