

VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting March 24, 2008

President Abboud called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Roll Call.

Present

Robert G. Abboud, President
Fritz H. Gohl, Pro-Tem
George L. Schueppert, Trustee
Walter E. Smithe, Trustee
Beth Mallen, Trustee
Elaine M. Ramesh, Trustee
Douglas Wambach, Village Attorney
Robert Kosin, Director of Administration
Michael N. Murphy, Police Chief
Kathleen Soeder, Village Clerk

Guests

Dan Strahan, Village Engineer
Pamela Cools, resident
Bill and Carolyn Springer, residents
Kathy Hammelmann, BHPD spouse
Gary Hammelmann, BHPD
Sgt. Mike Montemayor, BHPD
Alice Runvik, BHPD
Tim Jamer
Lee Norton, resident
Robert Best, Attorney
Steve Albert, Albert Development
Micki Tharma
Nikki Panos, resident

Trustee Mallen motioned to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and matters of personnel at 6:36 p.m. Trustee Schueppert seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Meeting Adjourned

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PUBLIC SESSION

President Abboud called the Public Session to order at 7:56 p.m.

MINUTES

Trustee Mallen motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 25, 2008 with certain corrections. Trustee Gohl seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

Trustee Schueppert motioned to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of February 25, 2008. Trustee Mallen seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

PUBLIC HEARING – Appropriation Ordinance

Trustee Gohl motioned to open the public hearing on the appropriation ordinance. Trustee Smithe seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

Trustee Smithe indicated that the appropriation ordinance lists the maximum amount of spending allowed in each category of the Village's annual budget, but does not reflect how much will be spent. It is required that this ordinance be passed prior to the end of the third month of the Village's fiscal year. No member of the audience made any comments concerning the ordinance. Trustee Smithe motioned to close the public hearing. Trustee Schueppert seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

Trustee Schueppert motioned requesting that Counsel and the Village Treasurer reconcile the difference between the estimated Sales Tax Revenue in the appropriation and the approved budget as the amounts differ. Trustee Mallen seconded.

Motion Approved

Appropriation Ordinance 08-03 - Trustee Smithe moved to adopt the appropriation ordinance for fiscal year 2008. Trustee Schueppert seconded. Roll call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Ordinance 08-03 Approved

POLICE AWARD

Officer Gary Hammelmann was presented issued the Dedicated Service award and recognized for 25 years of service with the Barrington Hills Police Department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Abboud opened a thirty-five minute session for public comments at 8:11 p.m. As there were no remarks, the public comments session ended at 8:11 p.m.

FINANCE – Walter E. Smithe

Treasurer's Report – Trustee Smithe presented the Treasurer's report for the month of February, 2008. Trustee Smithe motioned to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Trustee Gohl seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

Trustee Schueppert offered compliments on the new two-page summary report. Trustee Smithe reported that the financial software conversion has been completed and the transition has been smooth. The new software will provide a cleaner look to reports and will allow data to be easily exported to Excel. He also reported that both Payroll and Accounting replacements are in place to cover for Treasurer Rosemary Ryba while she is on maternity leave. Finally, Trustee Smithe presented a spreadsheet detailing Village Legal Services expenditures for the past fiscal year. He is asking for review and comment by the Board over the next month.

Police Pension Board Report – Trustee Smithe motioned to accept the financial report of the Police Pension Board through February, 2008 as presented. Trustee Schueppert seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

Trustee Smithe reported that a response had not yet been received from the Police Pension Board regarding a new accounting firm for the PPF work as the Board is not satisfied with information received from Lauterbach & Amen.

President Abboud took time to discuss legislation he and other local mayors support allowing municipalities a seat on Pension Boards. Currently municipalities fund the pensions but do not have a seat on the Board managing the funds. President Abboud is concerned about the future solvency of pension funds and wants to be certain that municipalities are able to deliver on these promises without saddling future Boards with huge financial obligations.

Overtime Reports – Trustee Smithe motioned to approve \$10,237.47 in overtime expenses for February, 2008. The reasons for the overtime expenses were discussed. Trustee Schueppert seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Motion Approved

Presentation of Bills – Trustee Smithe motioned to approve the payment of the bills for the month of February to date of \$394,328.32. Various bills were discussed, including discussion of the long-term purchase of bulk gasoline for the Police Department to save money. Trustee Schueppert seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Motion Approved

ROADS AND BRIDGES – Fritz Gohl

MFT Sec. 08-0018-00WR Res. 08-06 - Trustee Gohl motioned to approve the designation of Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds for the resurfacing of Oak Knoll Rd. this year. Trustee Smithe seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Resolution 08-06 Approved

Seasonal Road Posting Res. 08-07 - Trustee Gohl motioned to approve the placement of overweight restrictions on Village roads as of March 17, 2008. Village Engineer Dan Strahan stated the timing for removal of overweight restrictions is weather dependent, but historically has occurred around the first week in May. Trustee Smithe seconded. All present said aye.

Resolution 08-07 Approved

PUBLIC SAFETY – Fritz H. Gohl

Monthly Report – Trustee Gohl deferred to Chief Murphy who presented a Police Report highlighting information including the recurrence of mailbox damage around the Village. Any residents experiencing such damage should report it to the Police Department. Chief Murphy also noted work is ongoing to review lowering speed limits around the intersection of Routes 59 and 68, and possibly lowering the limit on Route 62 to 45 mph. He also reported that the Police Department has submitted and collected on requests from FEMA for storm expense reimbursement.

Surplus Property Disposal Ord. 08-04 - Trustee Gohl motioned to approve the disposal of surplus Village property on E-Bay as needed. Trustee Smithe seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Ordinance 08-04 Approved

BUILDING AND ZONING – George L. Schueppert

Building Permit Report – Trustee Schueppert reported that four building permits were issued during the month of February, 2008. They included permits for one pool, two additions and one single family residence, with a total of seven permits issued for the first two months of 2008.

ZBA Report – Trustee Schueppert reported that the majority of this month's meeting was spent in a hearing discussing whether or not to overturn the Village's denial of a building permit to the LeComptes. The hearing was continued to the next meeting, and in a future meeting, the ZBA will also be hearing another appeal by the LeComptes about the cease and desist order on commercial horse boarding on the same property.

Lake Otis Woods Special Use Resolution 08-08 - Trustee Schueppert motioned to approve the special use for this property. Attorney Robert Best and property owner Lee Norton explained that they were unaware of the existence of the Heritage Tree Ordinance. Since last month's Village Board meeting they have met with Village representatives and have determined that they removed 16 Heritage trees from the site, totaling 217 combined caliper inches. Mr. Norton has agreed to replace every inch of improperly removed trees, and is working with the Village's tree consultant to formulate the plan for tree replacements. President Abboud requested that Chief Murphy consult with Mr. Norton and the Fire Chief on the possibility of creating a dry hydrant on Mr. Norton's property for use by the Fire Department. In addition, President Abboud is concerned about the process gaps within the Village that resulted in the builder's lack of awareness of the Heritage Tree ordinance. He asked Director of Administration Bob

Kosin to conduct an analysis and report back on those breakdowns. Trustee Mallen seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 5 (Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)

Nays: 1 (Ramesh)

Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Resolution 08-08 Approved

Equestrian Commission Report – Trustee Mallen presented a list of definitions regarding the boarding of horses within our Village, the result of work completed this month by members of the Equestrian Committee. Trustee Mallen requested that this work be sent on to the ZBA for further work in clarifying Village ordinances with respect to commercial boarding of horses within the Village. She mentioned that the Equestrian Committee is concerned about maintaining both the residential tranquility of our Village and the existing trail system. President Abboud encouraged the ZBA to also consider the issue of enforcement when considering all suggestions.

PLANNING – Steven E. Knoop

Monthly Report – In Trustee Knoop's absence, President Abboud gave an update about the Canadian National Railway situation. One of the largest concerns right now is regarding what would be acceptable mitigation in a situation like this. In the absence of acceptable mitigation, opposition to the merger is the only acceptable solution. Another open public meeting is scheduled for 4/11 at Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington.

Village Engineer Dan Strahan gave an update on the last Plan Commission meeting. During the meeting, an overview was given by past members of the Commission on the topic of External Lighting. They presented the previous work that had been done several years ago on this topic and was not adopted by the ZBA at that time. President Abboud asked the Board on Trustee Knoop's behalf whether or not the issue was of a serious enough nature to warrant further research and discussion. Trustee Schueppert indicated that the topic of External Lighting is on the ZBA's list for review following the completion of the horse boarding issue. The Board replied in the affirmative for work to continue on the topic.

The other issue discussed by the Plan Commission was suggested amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. This work will be reviewed at the next Plan Commission meeting.

INSURANCE – George L. Schueppert

Monthly Report – Trustee Schueppert reported that he has finalized negotiations for renewal of all insurance at a rate less than last year’s expense and less than this year’s budgeted amount. In addition, our insurance company has agreed to align our renewal year to be coincident with our fiscal year on January 1, 2009 at no additional charge. Trustee Schueppert recommended that the Village not buy the Excess Terrorism coverage. Trustee Mallen motioned approval. Trustee Gohl seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Motion Approved

HEALTH, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, ENVIRONMENT – Beth Mallen

Monthly Report -Trustee Mallen reported that due to cash flow issues, while design can occur this year, the purchase of new furniture should be postponed until next year. She also reported that the Village has signed a service contract for grounds upkeep for this year. At this time a letter from a resident regarding landscape burning issues was also discussed. Chief Murphy and others will discuss how to best address the resident’s situation.

ATTORNEY – Douglas Wambach

Attorney Wambach stated that matters of litigation had been addressed in Executive Session.

ADMINISTRATION – Robert G. Abboud

Appointments – President Abboud announced appointments and realignment of Trustee Committee assignments to fill vacancies created by the resignation of former Trustee Julie McKeivitt and other existing committee vacancies. Trustee Smithe motioned to accept Trustee Committee assignments. Trustee Schueppert seconded. All present said aye, with the exception of Trustee Mallen who said nay.

Motion Approved

President Abboud recommended the appointment of existing Plan Commission Chairman, Ken Bosworth, to an additional one-year term. Trustee Smithe motioned approval. Trustee Gohl seconded. All present said aye.

Motion Approved

There was additional discussion about a Plan Commission vacancy and a ZBA vacancy. The Board agreed that further discussion will occur with appointments to be made at a future meeting.

Deputy Treasurer Position Ordinance 08-05 - Trustee Smithe motioned to approve creation of a Deputy Treasurer position as Treasurer Rosemary Ryba faces maternity leave to ensure movement of key financial issues in her absence. Trustee Schueppert seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 6 (Ramesh, Mallen, Schueppert, Smithe, Gohl, Abboud)
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Knoop)

Ordinance 08-05 Approved

Deputy Treasurer Appointment Res.08-09 - President Abboud nominated Trustee Gohl for the position. Trustee Gohl declined. After further discussion, Trustee Schueppert was nominated for the position for a period of 180 days, and he accepted. Trustee Smithe motioned to approve the appointment. Trustee Gohl seconded. All present said aye.

Resolution 08-09 Approved

Trustee Ramesh motioned to adjourn the Public Session at 11:10 p.m. Trustee Smithe seconded. All present said Aye.

Meeting Adjourned

Approved _____