

“This is a draft of the minutes of Regular Session of the Meeting on Monday, January 26, 2015. It has not been reviewed by the Board of Trustees, has not been approved by the Board as an official document, may be revised in whole or in part and hence should be viewed only as a tentative and possibly inaccurate recitation of Board action. It is not an official document of the Village of Barrington Hills and should not be relied upon as such.”

These minutes are merely a summary and an attempt to reference comments that took place on the Board.

VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees Monday, January 26, 2015

President McLaughlin called the Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Roll Call.

Present

Martin J. McLaughlin, President
Fritz H. Gohl, President Pro Tem
Joseph S. Messer, Trustee
Karen S. Selman, Trustee
Patty Meroni, Trustee
Colleen Konicek, Trustee
Michael Harrington, Trustee

Rich Semelsberger, Acting Chief
Joseph Colditz, Deputy Chief
Patrick Bond, Temporary Village Attorney
Robert Kosin, Village Administrator
Dolores Trandel, Village Clerk

PUBLIC SESSION

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public Comments were given by the following:

Steve Knoop
J. R. Davis
Jack Reich
Barb Kemp

Dominic Caputo
P. Denise Israel
Mary Naumann
Jean Maddrell

Kevin Colosia
John Pappas
David Stieper
Laura Ekstrom

Guests

Steve Knoop
J. R. Davis
Mary Naumann
Jack Reich
Cindy & Russ Schuman
Dominic Caputo, BHPD
Jim O'Donnell
Dede Wamberg
Linda Fox
Emily McHugh
Barbara Kemp
David Stieper
P. Denise Israel
Kevin Colosia
Jonathan Knight
Tami Huls, dispatch
Elaine Ramesh
John Rosene
Bryan Croll
John Pappas
Laura Ekstrom
Bridget O'Shea, Pioneer Press
Jean Maddrell
Barb Kemp

Audio on these comments can be located at the Village Web Site – www.vbhil.gov. Any written comments handed to the Village Clerk will be posted as an attachment to the Agenda.

ComEd – Mr. Jim Dudek, External Affairs Manager, along with Mike McMahan, Vice President, Advanced Metering Infrastructure Implementation made a presentation to the Board, and answered questions on the upcoming installation of Smart Meters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Meroni motioned to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 15, 2014. Trustee Harrington seconded. Trustee Konicek motioned to approve the December 15, 2014 meeting with changes. Trustee Harrington seconded. Trustees Harrington, Konicek, Meroni, Selman, Messer and Gohl said Aye. President McLaughlin abstained.

Motion Approved

Trustee Selman motioned to approve the Ascension of Executive Minutes. Trustee Konicek seconded. Village Administrator, Robert Kosin stated that this procedure is the maintenance of those archived records of the Executive Session and will bring forward an index for the Board to review and approve. Attorney Bond added that the Board is required pursuant to the Open Meetings Act to conduct a semi-annual review of the meeting minutes and determine which of those minute items will remain confidential and which are going to be released. Trustee Selman motioned to table approval to the February 23, 2015 meeting. Trustee Gohl seconded. All present said Aye.

Motion Tabled

Trustee Gohl motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 18, 2014. Trustee Konicek seconded. Trustees Konicek and Harrington had several changes which they wanted incorporated into the minutes. Trustee Konicek motioned to table the approval of these minutes to the February 23, 2015 meeting. All present said Aye.

Motion Tabled

FINANCE – Karen S. Selman

Treasurer's Report - Trustee Selman motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report for December, 2014. Trustee Harrington seconded. All present said Aye.

Motion Approved

Police Pension Board Report - Trustee Selman motioned to accept the Police Pension Board Report for December, 2014. Trustee Gohl seconded. All present said Aye.

Motion Approved

Overtime Reports - Trustee Selman made the motion to approve the Overtime Report from December 16, 2014 through January 15, 2015 totaling \$14,667.14. Trustee Gohl seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 7 (Harrington, Konicek, Selman, Meroni, Messer, Gohl, McLaughlin)
Nays: 0
Absent: 0

Motion Approved

Bills for Approval - Trustee Selman motioned to approve the bills for the month of December 16, 2014 to January 15, 2015, totaling \$204,751.43. Trustee Gohl seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 2 (Konicek, McLaughlin)
Nays: 5 (Harrington, Selman, Meroni, Messer, Gohl)
Absent: 0

Motion Denied

Trustee Harrington motioned to pay the bills for the month of December including Invoice #14524 for the ZBA, and not pay the Bond Dickson invoices #14525, 14526, 14527, 14529, 14529 and 14530 totaling \$14,640.00. Trustee Gohl seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 5 (Harrington, Selman, Meroni, Messer, Gohl)
Nays: 2 (Konicek, McLaughlin)
Absent: 0

Motion Approved

ROADS & BRIDGES – Patty Meroni

Monthly Report

The Roads and Bridges Committee Meeting was held on January 20, 2015, and the road program was established based on earlier discussions at the Board of Trustees meeting.

President McLaughlin added that the Roads and Bridges Committee will now hold monthly meeting in the afternoon at 3:00 p.m. and he welcomes residents who have questions to attend these meetings.

2014 Road Program - The 2014 Road Program has been completed with only pothole patching remaining to be done as weather permits.

2015 Road Program - The 2015 Road Program has been revised to reflect the approved budget amount and includes: rebuilding and/or resurfacing Meadow Hill Road (from Fox Hunt to Spring Creek), Haeger's Bend Road (County Line Road to Chapel), Plum Tree Road (Ridge Road to village limits) for a total of 3.51 miles.

Cuba Road Bridge Replacement - Final engineering plans, specifications and estimates were submitted to IDOT on December 15, 2014. Revisions have been submitted and the bid letting date will be moved back and a start date anticipated of August 1, 2015. The cost estimate for construction cost is \$1,016,106.00 with the Village's share approximately \$203,226.

2015 Drainage Program - Copenhagen Construction plans to pursue most of the work in winter, weather permitting.

FAU Route Reclassification - The Village attended the McHenry County Council of Mayors Meeting on January 15th, where the Council unanimously voted to deny the remaining requests for reclassification out of concern by the affected communities that the reclassifications would negatively impact their funding requests. All documents pertaining to the Roads and Bridges Meeting are posted in the meeting packet.

Trustee Konicek questioned how the Village is going to approach the 3.2 road resurfacing to keep our roads on a schedule for the next twelve years. She stated there were two options, one to maintain current pavement conditions and two, to eliminate backlog in five years, and are we, at some point, going to vote on this or will it be determined by Roads & Bridges. Trustee Meroni replied that they have gone with the accelerated program for 2015 and our Village Engineer recommended that we not go with anything longer than a seven year program as anything past seven years gets to be problematic for anticipating unexpected situations. The road maintenance contracts are for \$986,846 in the budget for 2015. Trustee Meroni suggested that at the February 23, 2015 Board meeting, an agenda item should be added as to whether the Village goes for a five or seven year accelerated program.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Fritz H. Gohl

Monthly Report – Trustee Gohl presented the monthly report which was included in the Board of Trustees meeting packet.

Dispatch Outsource Resolution – Trustee Gohl stated that at this time, he would motion to table this resolution to the February 23, 2015 Board meeting because of the questions that came up pertaining to insurance and also the Grand Jury Indictment. Trustee Harrington seconded. Trustees Harrington, Konicek, Selman, Messer, Gohl and President McLaughlin said Aye. Trustee Meroni said Nay.

Resolution Tabled

Police Vehicles Purchase Resolution – Trustee Gohl motioned to approve this resolution to purchase two police vehicles. Trustee Harrington seconded. Roll Call.

Ayes: 7 (Harrington, Konicek, Selman, Meroni, Messer, Gohl, McLaughlin)

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Resolution 15-01

BUILDING AND ZONING – Joseph S. Messer

Permit Report – Five building permits were issued in December, 2014.

Enforcement Report

266 Steeplechase – Building Department has received complaints regarding the condition of residence being unsecured, broken windows and yard unmaintained. Police Department checked and property is secured. Messages have been left with bank representatives and Code Enforcement Officer will issue citations.

261 Steeplechase Rd Update – Village Prosecutor has filed a motion for default judgment against Mr. Koulouris and Chase Bank, which would prevent them from contesting the demolition. Court date for this motion is January 30, 2015. Village Prosecutor to seek order allowing service by posting and publication for Mr. Saltourous.

385 Spring Creek Road Update – Resident's engineer has completed topographic data collection and storm water calculations and will submit drawings and application for Village Engineer's review. Resident's engineer intends to complete work before seasonal road restrictions are posted.

ZBA Report – The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting of January 21, 2015 was cancelled.

Special Counsel Ordinance – Trustee Messer motioned to approve this Ordinance that would repeal and replace Section 1-6-6 (D) of the Village Code. Trustee Meroni seconded.

Trustee Konicek felt that the way this Ordinance is worded under Section 2, paragraph 1. says Legal Counsel in addition to Village Attorney may be appointed by the Board of Trustees. Our Code and State Statutes says that the Village Attorney shall be appointed by the President, by and with the approval of the Board of Trustees. The way this ordinance is worded, it seems to imply that the Board would supplant the Village President in his ability to appoint. Trustee Messer disagreed and stated it pertains only to Special Counsel under Section 1-16-6(D). Village Administrator suggested the wording be "Special Counsel, other than the Village Attorney, may be appointed by the Board of Trustees". Trustee Messer suggested removing the wording "other than the Village Attorney."

Trustee Harrington motioned to amend the motion on the floor with the change [Special Counsel may be appointed by the Board of Trustees]. Trustee Meroni seconded.

Roll Call.

Ayes: 5 (Harrington, Selman, Meroni, Messer, Gohl,)

Nays: 2 (Konicek, McLaughlin)

Absent: 0

Ordinance 15-01 Approved

PLANNING – Colleen Konicek

The Plan Commission meeting of January 12, 2015 was cancelled.

INSURANCE – Michael Harrington

Monthly Report – Trustee Harrington stated there were no action items on insurance.

HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Michael Harrington

Monthly Report - None report received.

Board of Health Report – Trustee Harrington stated that at the most recent meeting, changes to the Septic Code were discussed. The State made changes to the Septic Code effective January, 2014. Some changes dealt with design, maintenance and record keeping. The Village needs to update the Code to be consistent with these new regulations. A draft of the updated code has been circulated to the Board of Health. The Board also brought up the issue of design specification for a barn or stable and asked the Village Engineer's to investigate. The Village Engineers came up with some ideas. The Board made a motion, which was approved, to have the Engineers come back with guidance with reasonable flow rates for septic systems for commercial boarding uses.

They reviewed the horse grazing density from Dr. Debra Hagstrom, who is the Ag Extension Specialist from the University of Illinois. She opined on horse density standards in semi urban areas and she sent a very detailed memo which is available on the Village website.

VBH Well Program –The Board of Health has requested the concurrence of the Board of Trustees in a water well testing program of the public wells in the Village. The extent of the testing is referred to as Level 2 which provides quantitative values of known elements in the water. The testing is done by BACOG with samples analyzed by the Illinois State Water Survey. The number of public wells, that is a well that provides potable water to 25 or more unrelated individuals, is approximately twelve. Such wells by state statute undertake an annual test of the presence of fecal coliform bacteria, and nitrates. The Level 2 test is separate and voluntary as proposed by the Board of Health. It is proposed to be annually and the cost in the BACOG Program is \$35.00 per well tested. If the Board concurs through the office of the Village Engineer through BACOG the Level 2 testing would proceed in 2015.

Trustee Harrington motioned to approve Level 2 testing of public wells in the Village of Barrington Hills on an annual basis. Trustee Meroni seconded. All present said Aye.

Motion Approved

ATTORNEY – Temporary, Patrick Bond

Pending Litigation – No report.

Pending OMA/FOIA Pack – No report.

Public Comment Rules Amendment – Attorney Bond stated that the Public Comment Rules Amendment provided that the public, when make public comment, no longer obligated to provide their address. Also, previously, if a person wanted to tender a document for purposes of adding to their comments, those documents were required to be turned into the Village Clerk forty-eight hours in advance of the presentation. That has been removed and that document can now be handed to the Clerk at the meeting.

Trustee Meroni motioned to approve the amended Public Comment Rules. Trustee Selman seconded. Trustees Harrington, , Meroni, Selman, Messer, Gohl and President McLaughlin said Aye. Trustee Konicek said Nay.

Motion Approved

ADMINISTRATION – President McLaughlin

Barrington Hills Farms – At the last Board meeting, Trustee Selman stated that she wanted to recognize Barrington Hills Farms and the Board wants to formally acknowledge our appreciation of their land acquisition of the former Strathmore Farms. President McLaughlin read a memo into the record welcoming this acquisition by Barrington Hills Farms LLC and extended an invitation to BHF and their representatives, to contact his office, our Board of Trustees and the staff of this Village, when appropriate as a resource, to assist them in any way that we can as they move forward.

Trustee Selman stated that she did write a letter to BHF after last month's meeting and asked if she should send it. President McLaughlin said she should.

Collective Bargain Negotiations Report – Acting Chief Semelsberger stated that they last met on January 9th, and the process is tedious and slow. They made some limited progress on simple contract language issues. Labor Attorney, Ted Clark, has requested mediation which was agreed to by both parties. The next scheduled meetings are on February 2nd and February 16th.

Horse Boarding Text amendment Ordinance – President's Veto Report – President McLaughlin stated that he vetoed Ordinance 14-19 on January 6th and read the following statement.

In accordance with Sections 1-5-4 and 1-5-12 of the Village Code and Sections 3.1-45-5 and 3.1-40-45 of the Illinois Municipal Code, I hereby veto Ordinance No. 14-19 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5, ZONING REGULATIONS SET

FORTH IN CHAPTERS 2, 3 AND 5 REGARDING HORSE BOARDING”, which was passed by the Village Board of Trustees on December 15, 2014.

My opposition to this Text Amendment is well known, and I believe supported by a majority of the residents of the Village of Barrington Hills as evidenced by testimony and written submission to the Clerk. I join my fellow residents in being suspect about the reasons for the speed at which the majority of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Board of Trustees determined to adopt the Text Amendment at issue – particularly when this issue had been the subject of lengthy debate in 2011, but never formally addressed. I believe the only change in circumstance which forced the series of special meetings to adopt the Text Amendment was a change in legal circumstances for one property owner in the Village. This is not a good reason to change the Village Code and its effect on all residents of the Village. The fact that the Text Amendment is to serve only one resident is brutally apparent given the retroactive nature of the Text Amendment.

Our Village working with South Barrington just settled 18 years of legal wrangling with Sear’s litigation which cost our taxpayers over \$1.5 million dollars. Now, the majority of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Board of Trustees seem interested in only putting the Village right back, squarely in litigation yet again, because I am sure, like me, that you have heard the repeated threats of litigation should the Village Board adopt the Text Amendment. The temporary Village attorney and special counsel has provided a clear opinion as to the jeopardy a change in the law can cause. Yet, the majority of the Board seems not to care.

Lest there be any question, I want to make clear that I am a supporter of the Village’s equestrian heritage. I support horse boarding. But, I do not support this text amendment.. I believe we should mirror the countless other municipalities in the State of Illinois and allow large scale horse boarding through the grant of a Special Use Permit. Such a process will allow the Village to remain in authority over the operation of these commercial operations to protect the Village and the neighbors of such operations. The Zoning Board of Appeals recognized the value of the Special Use Approval for horse boarding in 2011, but does not now. One should ask, what has changed that we now are forced to allow commercial horse boarding as of right, by amending the definition of agriculture?

I am firmly opposed to this measure. Accordingly, I must return this Ordinance to the Village Board of Trustees with my veto. Pursuant to Sections 1-5-4 and 1-5-12 of the Village Code and Sections 3.1-45-5 and 3.1-40-45 of the Illinois Municipal Code, I hereby return Ordinance No. 14-19 entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5, ZONING REGULATIONS SET FORTH IN CHAPTERS 2, 3 AND 5 REGARDING HORSE BOARDING”, to the next regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, occurring not less than 5 day after the date of passage, with the foregoing objections, vetoed in its entirety.

Sincerely, Martin J. McLaughlin, Village President, Village of Barrington Hills

President McLaughlin stated this will be moved forward to the February 23rd meeting for discussion.

Trustee Messer stated that under section 3.1-40-50 of the Illinois Municipal Code, our Board can override this Veto.

LOA CUSD 220 – Village Administrator, Robert Kosin, stated that the school district has filed with the Village their petition, upon acquisition of Lot 4, as well as the Out Lot Conservation Area, for Tax Exempt Status, and they have shared with us their ownership document for Lot 4. No amendment has yet been received concerning the Intergovernmental Agreement, however, conversation is still occurring.

Appointment of Special Counsel – President McLaughlin, in his capacity as the President of the Village of Barrington Hills, hereby invoked his authority pursuant to the Barrington Hills Village Code, Section 1-6-6 (D) to appoint an independent Special Counsel to investigate the allegations of impropriety relative to the text amendment the Village Board recently passed involving the commercial boarding of horses, that is currently subject to his veto. He expects and trusts that each member of this elected body and appointed Board and Committee members and Village Officers, will cooperate fully with Special Counsel's investigation. The identity and scope of the investigation, will be placed for public review, no later than February 1, 2015 on the Village Website.

Trustee Harrington, at this time, read his statement regarding this issue. This statement has been included as an attachment in the Board minutes.

Trustee Selman asked which witness list is she on. President McLaughlin stated that he received a complaint on one of their meetings, where there was a list of people in this community, pertaining to the complaint between the Drury and LeCompte that Mr. Drury presented to Mr. Kosin.

Trustee Messer stated that he called President McLaughlin after Trustee Konicek read the statement prepared by the President at the December 15, 2015 meeting, where the statement read "Will Joe Messer, Karen Selman and Patty Meroni please explain to the public why they believe they are not conflicted from voting or deciding on an issue where each of you is on a witness list to possibly testify regarding allegations of taking donations and improperly reporting them in exchange for changing zoning laws? He asked that President McLaughlin produce that witness list.

President McLaughlin stated that he believed it was in the Burney document that was submitted at the November meeting. Trustee Meroni stated that this document was not a complaint, it was a phoned (sic) up document to make it look like a complaint, that was improperly served at the school, and it is not a complaint. Trustee Messer stated that if you read the complaint, there is no allegation that any of us took money in exchange for changing zoning law.

Trustee Selman asked Attorney Bond if he advised President McLaughlin on appointing Special Counsel. Attorney Bond replied that he did not.

Trustee Gohl motioned to recess into Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2(C)1 for Personnel and 5 ILCS 120/2(C)2 for Collective Bargaining at 9:30 p.m. Trustee Konicek seconded. All present said Aye.

Motion Approved

Trustee Gohl motioned to adjourn the second Public Session at 10:12 p.m. Trustee Meroni seconded. All present said Aye.

Meeting Adjourned

_____ **Approved**

ATTACHMENTS



Statement by Trustee Mike Harrington
On the topic of Appointment of Special Counsel to Investigate Allegations of Impropriety
Village of Barrington Hills
Board of Trustees Meeting
1-26-2015

I believe the Village President's idea to appoint a special counsel to investigate "allegations of impropriety" made against his fellow board members is political theatre pure and simple.

Except under very rare circumstance, the concept is a bad one - for this President, this board and for any future President and future board - and I am against it.

I am especially against investigations, such as the type of investigation that this President proposes to conduct, that are politically motivated and done without proper oversight and free of the checks and balances that are a fundamental principal of democracy and good governance. More simply said, such investigations are too easily abused.

A politically-motivated and vindictive investigation will only serve to further divide this board and this community.

A politically-motivated and vindictive investigation would also clearly be inconsistent with this President's primary campaign pledge, which was to "Unite Barrington Hills."

Moreover, it is improper and a clear abuse of power for this village President (and any other village President) to use village legal resources to further his or her own political agenda in an arbitrary and capricious manner.

What standards is the village President using to unilaterally initiate such an investigation?

What standards is the village President using to determine if anything was done improperly?

What specific allegations of impropriety is the Village President making?

What standards is the village President using to determine the outcome?

What assurances can be provided that counsel unilaterally appointed by the village President is and remains independent?

What checks and balances are in place to oversee the investigation?

What standards will be used to determine the outcome or remedy?

Unless the President can clearly articulate (in writing) the answers to these questions, then the President's actions are arbitrary and capricious and an abuse of power.

I do not want my tax dollars used in this fashion, nor could I ever justify using my neighbors' and fellow residents' tax dollars this way.

It will not only waste village resources but it will also waste the time and energy of this board, which clearly has more pressing matters to contend with.

Furthermore, using village resources to conduct politically motivated and vindictive "investigations of impropriety" will discourage well-intended and qualified residents from serving in the many non-compensated volunteer roles that our village depends upon to operate.

The result will be a deterioration in the quality of individuals willing to serve because reputable, informed and skilled individuals will wisely choose to steer clear of serving our village in any official capacity. Absent these skilled, unpaid volunteers, the management of this village will deteriorate and the need to fund and hire a substantially larger village staff to fill the gap will cause our taxes to go up.

It is for these reasons that I strongly encourage the village President to refrain from launching any form of investigation by specially appointed counsel. It is not in the best interests of the village and its residents.

If the Village President insists upon continuing in this direction, I will insist that any investigations of allegations of impropriety leveled at this board must, in all fairness, include ALL allegations of impropriety leveled against ALL members of the board, including the President.

I would like to remind the President of some of the allegations of impropriety that I have heard leveled at him, including:

- Allegations that he improperly and illegally orchestrated the forced resignation and/or firing and/or office abandonment of Burke Warren;
- Allegations that his unilateral appointment of Bond Dickson as semi-permanent temporary counsel was improper and illegal;
- Allegations that he wasted village resources by first agreeing to a well-defined and transparent RFP and interview process for selecting new village attorneys but then reneging on his agreement and ultimately disregarding the outcome after completion of the lengthy and time consuming process;
- Allegations that he misrepresented the opinions and statements of prospective village attorneys who appeared before this board;
- Allegations of impropriety relative to reclassifying village roads and his attempts to obstruct or delay this board from reinstituting original road classifications consistent with resident's wishes;
- Allegations of impropriety relative to his role in instructing Village Engineers to design an unnecessary \$7,500 – \$11,200 study of bike traffic;
- Allegations of impropriety related to his acceptance of campaign contributions from Mr. James Drury, which would, according to this President's own definition of conflict as he has tried to apply it to members of this board, create a conflict of interest relative to his involvement in any village government activity related to horse boarding and whether he violated any ethics standards by failing to properly disclose such conflict when repeatedly raising this issue relative to other members of this board;

- Allegations of impropriety as to whether he instructed village employees to disregard or selectively edit trustee requests for items to be included on the agenda for board of trustee meetings, thereby effectively quashing debate and obstructing the board's ability to do their job;
- Allegations that he privately pre-edited the minutes of public meetings to assure that his views were prominently and thoroughly represented while opposing views were minimized or excluded altogether;
- Allegations of impropriety related to his deliberate and systematic attempts to prevent the ZBA and village board from taking action relative to proposed text amendments dealing with horse boarding;
- Allegations of impropriety that he improperly instructed village committees and boards to take certain actions with the specific intent of obstructing or delaying the ZBA and Board of Trustees from taking action on a text amendment relative to horse boarding;
- Allegations of impropriety that he withheld from board members legal opinions and memos from temporary village counsel Bond Dickson related to ZBA appointments, Attorney General Public Access Counselor and other matters that were essential and relevant for board members;
- Allegations of impropriety related to the commandeering of official village communications such as the village newsletter and suppressing viewpoints that may have differed from his own by effectively disbanding or marginalizing the Communications Committee, and precluding the long-standing tradition of Trustee's contributing articles to the village newsletter;
- Allegations of impropriety related to the use of village resources to conduct a village-sponsored party commonly known as "Hills are Alive".
- Allegations of impropriety related to his failure to follow the Attorney General's very specific written direction to remedy public notice violations by reconsidering and re-voting on the April 22, 2013 committee appointments at a properly noticed meeting.
- Allegations of impropriety related to the improper appointment of members to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Again, I will state that I am strongly opposed to appointing special counsel to launch "investigations of alleged improprieties," especially when such investigations are not guided by established principles and standards, are clearly motivated by politics, and are vindictive in nature. Such investigations are fraught with issues related to abuse of power, are likely to result in retribution, lack reasonable oversight and controls, waste the time and resources of our village, and are highly likely to further divide our already divided community. I strongly encourage the members of this board, including the President, to join me in opposing the appointment of special counsel for the purpose of investigating allegations of impropriety. However, if the village President elects to proceed with the appointment of special counsel to investigate alleged improprieties, then I insist that such investigation be inclusive of the numerous allegations of impropriety attributed to him.