

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 1, 2009**

A meeting of the Village of Tolono ("Village") Board of Trustees ("Trustees") was held on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, pursuant to notice. The following Trustees were present: Vickie Foley, Mike Golish, Jeff Holt, Jeff Revell and Jim Snodgrass. Trustee Steve Bonner was absent. Others present were: Mayor Plackett, Clerk Dixie Phillips, Attorney Marc Miller, and Engineer Tom Overmeyer. Mayor Plackett called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Public Comments:

None

Reports:

Following a motion was made by Trustee Snodgrass to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 7, 2009 with a correction, seconded by Trustee Revell, the Trustees approved the minutes.

Old Business:

The preliminary audit report was reviewed and Trustee Golish mentioned that the two kinds of sewers should be separated; one being storm sewer and the other streets and alleys. Trustee Holt said that there is a deficit in the Policy Department Account and that consideration should be had for transferring money into that, as well as other deficient accounts. The Police Department has been under-appropriated and will be corrected by either cashing in a Certificate of Deposit, bond or bonding to create new money. It was mentioned that TIF owes the General Fund approximately \$300,000 and that half of that amount could be used to get the Police Department out of the red.

Mr. Overmeyer reported that there had been a slight problem with one of the landowners concerning the southwest drainage project but that that had been resolved. He also reported that the title work should be to Mr. Miller tomorrow and he will report back at the next meeting of the Village Trustees. Trustee Holt will contact the homeowners to see if there are any further questions. Mr. Overmeyer also reported that the agreement is in the contractor's hands but that the drainage district has not been contacted but that he will have the contractor contact the drainage district. Concerning the spotlight at U.S. Route 45 and Walnut that he was trying to schedule a meeting with the Illinois Department of Transportation next week and if so, he'll report back to the Trustees at their next meeting. Mr. Overmeyer then said he believed an easement was still being processed for Jeff and Barbara Holt's property but that Mr. Holt needs to let Mr. Overmeyer know if six feet is enough of an easement and not too close to the Holt's residence. Trustee Holt will get him that information.

A discussion of the vacation of alleys and a portion of George and Strong Streets was held and a public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m., prior to the regular meeting of the Trustees on Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Trustee Golish made a motion to approve the tax levy for 2009-2010 that was seconded by Trustee Snodgrass, and by roll call vote, the motion unanimously passed.

New Business:

Trustee Snodgrass moved to pay sewer credits to the Park District and to Delores Butler in the amounts of \$686.68 and \$38.90, respectively. Following roll call, the Trustees unanimously approved the sewer credits in the amount of \$725.58.

Mayor Plackett advised the Trustees that candidates for the Tolono Police Department will be interviewed in the near future. He suggested an outside impartial decision-maker be hired to review the applicants before selecting possible candidate. The subject of the deficient of the Department was discussed again. Trustee Holt said that we need to hire two new officers. Trustee Foley agreed but added that inappropriate applicants need to be weeded out before any process is started. Trustee Golish said that the Village needs to consider hiring more part-time officers, as well. Mr. Miller said that the Village needs to look at the total income of the Department and its cash flow in order to produce a cost benefit analysis. Trustee Holt said that the Village needs to decide where its priorities lie, in safety issues or other issues. He said his was for the safety of the Village. Trustees Foley and Snodgrass said that the Village needs to make sure it will have enough money for long-term continuation of whatever is decided. Trustees Foley and Holt both expressed their belief for the last two years was that the Village was under 24/7 police protection. They were informed it was not. Both Trustees expressed their need and want for more information to be shared with all Board members. Mr. Miller advised the Trustees that the Chief needs to provide an actual cost per officer, year-to-date, and the actual cost for all and then the Trustees could decide on which route to take.

Trustee Golish presented a Comparison of Village Police Services in Champaign County based on 2008 data. Tolono ranks the fifth highest budget among the 12 police departments presented. Trustee Golish presented information on shift hours of both eight-hour and ten-hour shifts, which is what is being worked now. It was noted that the budget and scheduling alternatives need to be discussed with the Chief for accuracy before a decision is made.

Mayor Plackett advised the Trustees that he had spoken to an insurance agent and had received a proposal that would have the Village \$25,000/year on health insurance for the Village employees. Mayor Plackett also said that he has presented it to Dave Krchak for review for the Police Department but had not heard back from him as of this time. Trustee Holt asked that the proposal be presented to the Trustees. Mayor Plackett said he would have it on the agenda at the next meeting.

Executive Session:

Trustee Holt made a motion, seconded by Trustee Snodgrass to go into Executive Session for the limited purpose of discussing the employment and/or performances of a specific employee. Following roll call, the Trustees unanimously approved the motion and went into Executive Session at 8:06 p.m. Trustee Snodgrass made a motion, seconded by Trustee Golish to return to regular session. Following roll call, the Trustees unanimously approved the motion and returned to regular session at 8:09 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Golish made a motion, seconded by Trustee Snodgrass, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Dixie L. Phillips, Clerk