

VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING – APRIL 6, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

President Kolosh called the Committee Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE – President Kolosh; Trustees Kaye, Hudson, Ehlers, Pisarzewski, Kolosh, Atkinson; Recreation Director Dunlop; Deputy Fire Chief Eaker; Public Works Superintendent Oberman; ~~Police Chief G. Beckman~~.

Also in attendance: Administrator D. Beckman; Attorney S. Dillner; Engineer Hus.

Absent: Police Chief G. Beckman.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Connie Simon brought the Board up to date on the plans for the “Come Home to Thornton” weekend. She also encouraged everyone to go onto the “Grew Up In Thornton” page and reference the Wolcott Reunion 2015 info available on that site. Ms. Simon distributed an updated flyer to the Board members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tri-State Disposal Contract – Trustee Pisarzewski stated the Tri-State contract is before the Board for approval at the Regular meeting this evening. There is one change to the contract – on page five, it should read five years instead of seven years.

Police Contract – Trustee Kolosh stated the revised police contract will be presented to the Board for approval at the Regular Board meeting. The contract has been re-written to drop the first two steps of the scale off, and step three would become the starting pay.

Officer of the Year Presentation – Officer Houts of the Thornton Police Association summarized Greg Eggebrecht’s history with the Village of Thornton as a Police Officer. He then presented Officer Eggebrecht with a plaque honoring him as 2013 Officer of the Year.

Officer Eggebrecht stated he was sworn in as a Police Officer on May 15, 1978. He enjoyed working in Thornton; and he thanked his peers from the association for this presentation.

On behalf of the Village Board and the entire administration of Thornton, President Kolosh thanked Officer Eggebrecht for everything he’s done during his 6-1/2 years with the Village.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

No report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Special Use Appeal – Attorney Dillner informed the Board that Mr. Boston had requested a Special Use permit at 587 North Williams. The Building Commissioner/ Zoning Administrative Officer, Mr. Oberman, denied the request because there were several of the same uses already there and the parking was tight. Mr. Boston then, under Village ordinances, filed an appeal of the administrative decision of the zoning officer, which is before the Board this evening.

Mr. Oberman stated there have already been a couple denials for the same space based on the fact that there is already one type of automotive use within that facility. The denial is also based on the deficient parking in that area.

Mr. Boston commented he is a District Manager of an insurance company but he is a car guy as well. The space at 587-589 is very unique for a couple reasons. He wants to use it to showcase the vehicles he has for sale -- not rebuilding or fixing vehicles there. He does finance and insurance, so he would like to have the vehicles there for sale, have the customers that want financing or insurance come to that location, do their paperwork and be on their way. The landlord told Mr. Boston he made the adjustments needed for parking.

Mr. Boston stated he will do what is necessary to comply to be a good business to the Village. Trustee Kaye clarified he is not going to be doing any repair work at all – only selling cars which will be stored inside. Mr. Boston clarified he wants to also bring his insurance business to this location without driving across town. Mr. Oberman asked if he was withdrawing his request to be rebuilding automobiles at that location. Mr. Boston responded yes, unless the Village will allow him to do it.

Mr. Oberman stated, with rebuilding cars, it becomes a whole separate issue of enforcement and licensing. The landlord can't assign this many parking spots for the unit because he is only allowed so many units per square foot. The original request changed from fixing cars to selling cars. Trustee Atkinson asked for clarification of how many vehicles will be parked inside verses outside. Mr. Boston doesn't want any cars parked outside. If he is running a special, he may take up to four vehicles and park them outside for the day. Trustee Atkinson would like to see the landlord's commitment to certain spaces, which Mr. Boston stated he will include with his application. Mr. Oberman stated the building itself is already deficit in required spaces. Each unit has to have so many spaces per square footage per Village code. By allowing him to go over his allotted amount would cause problems and take spaces away from other businesses. The building needs to be measured again to determine how many spaces he could be allotted without impeding on the other businesses and taking spaces away from them.

Working within the letter of the code is what Mr. Oberman is trying to do; and with him changing the request, it puts a different light on everything. If Mr. Boston is just parking vehicles inside and there is going to be only himself and another employee where he is using his allotted vehicle spaces, that's probably within acceptance of the special use.

But based on rebuilding, possible outside storage, parking, vehicles being dropped off, this is a bit different from the original request. Attorney Dillner stated Mr. Boston needs to submit a new application with the new request. That would then be set up for a special use hearing and go through the normal channels with Planning and Zoning.

Mad Bomber Contract – Attorney Dillner stated the Village’s insurance company wanted a contract amendment with Mad Bomber for the fireworks. The original contract says Mad Bomber will cover us. Basically, Mad Bomber has agreed to list the Village on the actual policy; but IMLRMA wanted an amendment to the contract that says that Mad Bomber is going to list the Village specifically on their insurance as an endorsement. That is an amendment for approval before the Board this evening.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

No report.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Kolosh will be asking for the formal appointment of Fred Walker to the Planning and Development Commission and there will be a proclamation for Joe Gallagher presented at the Regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Ehlers stated he just received new information today about ComEd releasing some figures that take effect in June. He would like to place this discussion on the agenda for Board review in May.

NEW BUSINESS

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Pisarzewski, seconded by Trustee Atkinson , to adjourn the Committee meeting.

All in favor.

Motion carried.

President Kolosh adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Debra L. Pisarzewski, Village Clerk