

Village of Harristown Special Board Meeting

February 15, 2022

The Village of Harristown Board of Trustees held a Special Board meeting on February 15, 2022, at 185 N. Kembark St. Decatur, IL. Trustees Teresa Acree, Larry Ditty, Jay Trusser, Kourt Mooney, Les Jenkins, Deputy Clerk Stephanie Netterville and Mayor Evelyn Deverell were present. Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Kevin Vessels arrived to meeting at 5:35 pm.

VISITORS

There were five visitors present: Bob Byers, Brenda Mooney, Sissy Trusner, Dan Carr, and Mike Sorrentino

Mayor addressed visitors and stated the agenda will be followed closely and only items listed on the agenda will be discussed. 3 Trustees called this Special meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

ZONING REGULATIONS

Trustee Trusser began the discussion with explaining current zoning procedures and expressed the need for change in many of the procedures. Records and zoning hearing meeting minutes need to be kept up to date, and all be in one place. Trustee Trusser recommended all these records to be at Village office and available to the public. Trustee Trusser expressed his concerns with the zoning hearing being scheduled on the same nights before Board meetings and the Trustees expected to vote so quickly on the matter at hand. Discussion was about clearer definitions, simpler and less confusing codes for the zoning board and Board of Trustees and the public. Trustee Trusser is recommending updating the ordinance regarding the timeline for a Zoning Hearing. Recommendation of Ordinance to give the zoning board 15 days to review any plan before the hearing, including maps of development. During this time, the notice would be published as previously done. Then, after hearing the zoning board would have 15 days to report the hearing minutes and make recommendation of decision. The next 10 days the minutes and decision will be available in the office for public review before being voted on at the next Trustee Board meeting. Discussion was made regarding changing the Ordinance regarding the timeline of a Zoning Hearing. Mayor included that a new Ordinance will be needed. Trustee Trusser motioned to vote on the changes. Trustee Mooney seconded the motion. Trustee Jenkins, Trustee Ditty, Trustee Trusser, Trustee Mooney and Trustee Acree voted in favor. Trustee Vessels abstained from the vote. A new Ordinance will need to be voted on at future meeting. Trustee Trusser began discussion on adding limitations to Zone B-3 and below for certain business operations and add specifications for Zone M-3. Discussion of more details and information being added to these Zones. Mayor ask the Trustees to do more research on these specific Zones and be reviewed at next Board meeting. Zoning Commissioner, Jeremy Phillips was not present at this meeting.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Discussion regarding resident complaints about the Zoning Commissioner and a Zoning Board member not being a resident in the Village. Trustee Acree will research further about the residency of the Zoning

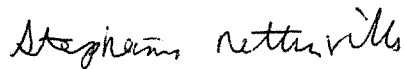
Board member. Questions were asked about having qualifications put in place for the Zoning Board Commissioner. The Mayor begins discussion of compensation for the Zoning Board and Commissioner. Trustee Trusner adds the fees of pay need to be added to Ordinance. Trustee Mooney adds that compensation should be discussed in open meeting. Trustees discussed whether the Zoning Commissioner's fee should match the Building Inspector's fee. The Mayor objects and questions if pay should be discussed in closed meeting. Attorney Weatherford was not present at the meeting. Items C, D, E of section #2(Planning and Zoning Board) were discussed, not voting on anything. New ordinances need to be prepared and voted on.

COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS IN THE VILLAGE

Trustee Mooney addressed that the public communication needs to meet and comply with the Open Meetings Act. The Village website needs to be easier to navigate and modified to have easier access of information. The Village needs to take advantage of Facebook.

Trustee Mooney starts discussion on the protocol for perspective new businesses coming to the Village. Trustee Mooney recommends there needs to be a standard of conduct for all Board members. Trustee Mooney is putting items that should be researched for this conduct together. Then, it will be looked at by Village Attorney and IML before being voted on and posted.

Discussions ended and no more questions were asked. Trustee Jenkins motioned to be adjourned. Trustee Vessels seconded the motion. All other Trustees were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.



Stephanie Netterville
Deputy Clerk