

**Rantoul Village Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Study Session**  
**April 3, 2012**

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LOUIS B. SCHELLING MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM  
RANTOUL MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 333 S. TANNER, RANTOUL, IL.

A regular Study Session of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rantoul was held at 6:15 P.M., President Neal Williams presiding. President Williams called the proceeding to order.

**Roll Call**

The Village Clerk called the roll, finding the following members physically present:

President Neal Williams and Trustees, Roger Jones, Tony Brown, Margurette Carter, Jennifer Fox, Hank Gamel, and Herman Fogal – 7.

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:

Bruce Sandahl, Administrator; Kenneth Beth, Attorney; Scot Brandon, Comptroller; Ken Waters, Fire Chief; Rich Thomas, Recreation; Greg Hazel, Public Works Director; Mike Loschen, Community Development; Dan Culkin, Inspection; and Village Clerk Mike Graham.

**Public Participation**

Lorraine Wirges spoke about attending the recent conference of Tree City USA. Mrs. Wirges indicated that they learned many things at this conference. Further the Village of Rantoul was named a Tree City USA Municipality for the twenty-sixth consecutive year. Also, there was much discussion with respect to Ash Borer disease infecting many trees in the Midwest and suggestions for dealing with this outbreak.

Lori Kistler from 1444 Pine Street asked when the Bethany Park Sidewalk was scheduled to be restored. Mayor Williams indicated that there was no set date but that J.U.L.I.E. had marked the area in question. Mrs. Kistler indicated that the markings went up three weeks ago and she wanted to know when the sidewalk would be restored pursuant to action taken by the Board in February 2012. Mayor Williams assured Mrs. Kistler that the project would be completed soon and that he would look into it for her.

Billie Hunsucker of 1417 Fairway Drive spoke in opposition to allowing golf carts on public streets. Mr. Hunsucker indicated that in his neighborhood adjacent to the Willow Pond Golf Course that allowing Golf Carts on the public streets would be very dangerous as there was a heavy traffic flow and a densely populated neighborhood.

### **Items from the Mayor**

Mayor Williams brought, Gwen McMorris' name to the Board to replace Larry Harmon on the Police Pension Board for a term ending May of 2014.

The Board had no problems with this appointment and this will be taken to the Regular Board Meeting April 10, 2012.

### **Items from Trustees**

There were no items offered up to the Board for discussion.

### **Items from the Clerk**

The Clerk had the following Addendum items to add to the agenda;

- Refurbishment of Waste Water bridge filter.
- Acceptance of certain real estate (1000 and 1002 East Grove Avenue).

Mayor Williams indicated that with the Board's concurrence that Greg Hazel would handle the discussion of the Wastewater item and Bruce Sandahl volunteered to discuss the real estate under items from the Administrator.

Mike Graham, Village Clerk, told Mayor Williams that in keeping with proper form the current Study Session Agenda should be approved by the Village Board as Amended.

### **Approval of the April 3, 2012 Study Session Agenda as Amended**

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Study Session Agenda as Amended. Trustee Fogal moved for approval and Trustee Carter seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Fogal, Jones, Brown, Carter, Fox & Gamel – 6

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

**The Motion carried by a Vote of 6 – 0.**

### **Presentation from Burns and McDonnell on the Phosphorous Nitrate Removal Study**

Randy Patchett, Project Manager, Curt Craigmile, Consulting Engineer and Joe Darlington, Senior Engineer, from Burns and McDonnell presented a lengthy Power Point presentation with respect to the Phosphorous Nitrate Removal Study and their recommendations on how to proceed so that the Village could

comply with the deadline established in their recently approved Wastewater Treatment Permit received from the Illinois Department of Environmental Protection. The gentlemen recommended a chemical process change to remove the Phosphorous which could cost \$950,000. Furthermore, they recommended the Village consider installation of a second anaerobic digester since the current digester is at ninety percent capacity which would cost approximately \$3,700,000 or \$4,600,000 for both recommendations. In addition, Mr. Patchett indicated that there were proposals being studied currently that would require the Village to reduce Nitrate levels significantly in the future. If this action were to come to pass the Village would have to invest an additional \$10,900,000 million dollars at today's costs to comply with these mandates. Mr. Patchett, under Board questioning, indicated while the reduction of Phosphorous limits were firm the additional reduction of Nitrate levels has not been determined by the IEPA at this time, but this would be something to consider in the future should action on lowering Nitrate levels at the Waste Water Plant be mandated in some future time period. A colored copy of the Power Point presentation by Burns and McDonnell is in the official Board Packet part and parcel of the Rantoul Village Board Study Session, Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

#### **Items from the Administrator**

Mr. Sandahl had the following items to bring to the Board;

- Tuition Reimbursement Policy: Mr. Sandahl briefly explained the changes to the current Tuition Reimbursement Policy as a clarification of the vagueness of the old Tuition Reimbursement Policy which the Village has had for quite some time. After Mr. Sandahl was finished there ensued a lengthy discussion of why the policy had to be changed. Trustee Brown was concerned that in the new policy there were eight steps for approval that employees would have to secure in order to get reimbursement and it appeared to him that Mr. Sandahl was trying to restrict Tuition Reimbursement to all Village Employees forever by adopting this strict policy. Trustee Gamel agreed. Mr. Sandahl repeatedly denied this intent and indicated again that this change in the policy was more a procedural definition of what qualified for Tuition Reimbursement as to specific job related training. Trustee Carter stated that the new policy was similar to the Tuition Reimbursement Policy at both school systems in the Village and would allow the Administration and Department heads more authority to grant Tuition Reimbursement for job related functions rather than just allowing employees to be reimbursed for any educational training at the expense of the Taxpayers of the Village. Trustee Brown and Gamel strongly disagreed with the changes. After considerable discussion, Mayor Williams, indicated that this change in policy would be taken to the Regular Board Meeting on April 10, 2012. Trustee Brown then indicated that this Policy would probably pass despite his objections and those of Trustee Gamel. Mayor Williams had no other comment other than to

instruct the Village Clerk, Mike Graham to place this item on the Regular Board Meeting Agenda, Tuesday, April 10, 2012 for an up or down vote.

- Shared Leave Policy: Mr. Sandahl indicated that the Administration wanted to set-up an organized shared leave pool wherein employees could donate unused or unwanted leave time into the pool for those employees who were in need of additional time off of their jobs because of medical issues or other problems. The Board had no objection to this change and this will be taken to the Board on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.
- Addendum item number 2, to accept certain real estate (1000 and 1002 East Grove Avenue): Mr. Sandahl indicated that the Bonacorsi Family had recently purchased these two lots next to the laundry mat and across from Mitchell Court and desired to donate these two parcels of real estate to the Village for a future park or other green space. Mr. Sandahl said the loss of Real Estate Tax Revenue by accepting these properties would be very minimal. The Board had no objections to accepting these two parcels of real estate and this would be taken to the Board Meeting, Tuesday, April 10, 2012 for action.

### **Monthly Department Reports**

The Department Heads in attendance presented their respective oral departmental reports. The Department Heads written reports were included in the Board packets distributed to the Trustees prior to the Study Session. Those reports are in the official board file.

### **Items from the Consent Agenda**

The Trustees had no comment on these items and these will be taken to the Regular Board Meeting for action.

### **Items from Comptroller**

- Adoption of Annual Budget and Pay Plan.
- Approval of Employee Health Insurance Group Plan.
- Budget Amendment (Street Maintenance).

The Board had no objections or discussion with respect to these items and these items will be taken to the Board Meeting, Tuesday, April 10, 2012 for final action.

### **Items from Public Works**

The Public Works Department presented the following items for Board discussion;

- Bi-Annual Contract for Sale of Scrap Metal and Scrap Wire.
- MFT Resolution – Annual Street Maintenance Allocation.
- Addendum Item No. 1, Refurbishment of Waste Water Bridge Filter. Greg Hazel explained that the filter in question after a detailed examination must be repaired as soon as possible. Mr. Hazel further

indicated that the Public Works Department wanted to waive the bidding policy and award the contract to Aqua-Aerobic Systems – AMS as a sole source vendor as explained in the Board Packet for a cost of approximately \$151,993. The Board had a few questions about this proposal which Mr. Hazel answered successfully.

The Trustees had very little discussion on these items and all of these items will be taken to the Regular Board Meeting April 10, 2012 for action.

**Items from Inspection**

- General Variance request by Prominic.Net for one hundred foot antenna tower.

There was no objection by the Trustees and this will be taken to the Regular Board Meeting next Tuesday, April 10, 2012 for approval.

**Items from Counsel**

Mr. Beth had no items for the Board to consider at this time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Williams declared the proceeding adjourned.

METTING ADJOURNED AT 7:46 P.M.

Mike Graham  
Village Clerk

**APPROVED May 8, 2012**

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Neal Williams  
Village President

**ATTEST:**

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Mike Graham  
Village Clerk

I, Mike Graham, Village Clerk of the Village of Rantoul, Illinois do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Study Session of the Board of Trustees held April 3, 2012, as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

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Mike Graham  
Village Clerk