

**RANTOUL VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
PUBLIC HEARING  
APRIL 7, 2009**

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

A Public Hearing was convened by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Rantoul at 6:10 P.M. President Neal Williams called the hearing to order at 6:10 P.M.

**Roll Call**

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

President Neal Williams; and Trustees Herman Fogal, Clifford White, Margurette Carter, Charles Smith, and Jim Stubblefield – 6.

The following member was found to be absent:

Trustee Joe Bolser – 1.

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:

Bruce W. Sandahl, Administrator; Kenneth Beth, Attorney; Paul Farber, Police Chief; Robert Bruce, Economic Development; Scot Brandon, Comptroller; William Clayton, Aviation; Ken Waters, Fire Chief; Rich Thomas, Recreation; David Coffey, Human Resources; Greg Hazel, Public Works Director; Pete Passarelli, Asst. Public Works Director; Mike Loschen, Community Development; Dan Culkin, Inspection; and Village Clerk Jeremy Reale.

**Statement of Notice**

Mr. Brandon announced that the public hearing was being held for the purpose of allowing citizen comment on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2009-2010. He reminded the Board that state law mandates that a public hearing must be held prior to official action on the proposed budget.

**Public Comment Period**

President Williams then opened the floor to any citizens seeking to comment on the pending matter.

**Adjournment**

There being no citizens seeking recognition to comment on the pending matter, Trustee Fogal moved to adjourn the hearing. Trustee White seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce vote.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeremy A. Reale  
Clerk of the Village of Rantoul

APPROVED MAY 12, 2009

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Neal Williams  
Village President

ATTEST:

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Jeremy A. Reale  
Village Clerk

**RANTOUL VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR STUDY SESSION  
APRIL 7, 2009**

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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 at 6:13 P.M.

**Roll Call**

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

President Neal Williams and Trustees Herman Fogal, Clifford White, Margurette Carter, Charles Smith, and Jim Stubblefield – 6.

The following member was found to be absent:

Trustee Joe Bolser – 1.

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:

Bruce W. Sandahl, Administrator; Paul Farber, Police Chief; Robert Bruce, Economic Development; Kenneth Beth, Attorney; Scot Brandon, Comptroller; William Clayton, Aviation; Ken Waters, Fire Chief; Rich Thomas, Recreation; David Coffey, Human Resources; Greg Hazel, Public Works Director; Pete Passarelli, Asst. Public Works Director; Mike Loschen, Community Development; Dan Culkin, Inspection; and Village Clerk Jeremy Reale.

**Items from Trustees**

(A) Trustee Carter noted that Trustee Smith had requested during a previous meeting that he be provided with data from the Police Department on citations issued as a result of the new noise control ordinance (Ordinance No. 2157) adopted in August 2008. She likewise requested a copy of that enforcement data, which Chief Farber agreed to provide for her.

**Items from the Administrator**

(A) Mr. Sandahl reported that staff continued to work on the development of an ordinance to address vacant buildings. At this point, staff was weighing the benefits of creating an entirely new ordinance versus implementing stronger enforcement of the language in the rental property ordinance. Officials would continue to research the issue to determine whether or not a new vacant buildings program would be legally enforceable and beneficial to the community.

**Monthly Department Reports**

*1) Police*

Chief Farber reported that the Village had completed approximately 95 percent of its training requirements for department heads and other officials under the National Incident Management System (NIMS). He anticipated that the Village would be in total compliance with these requirements in advance of the December 2009 deadline. He also reported that the department had been preparing applications for various grants through the federal economic stimulus program for the purchase of a new police vehicle and other equipment. The Village was also looking at securing funding for the replacement of police officer positions by developing an application to the federal COPS program, in which the federal government pays for the first three years of an officer's salary.

## 2) Economic Development

Mr. Bruce reported that department staff had participated in two industrial retention calls during the month of March, as well as fielding inquiries from three new commercial prospects. He had represented the Village at several area organizations, including the Rantoul Area Chamber of Commerce, Champaign County Economic Development Commission, and the Regional Planning Commission. He also reported that the Rantoul Business Center had hosted an employment education seminar in conjunction with the RACC.

## 3) Comptroller

Mr. Brandon reported on the status of the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone system upgrade, noting that all phones were now live and set up in each office. User training would be necessary for the Village employees before the conversion was completed, and there continued to be issues with incorporating phones from remote buildings into the VoIP system. He also reported that bid packets were out for the Village's boiler machinery insurance policy, with a likely recommendation coming to the Board at its June meeting. Finally, he told the Board that late notices for unpaid storm tax bills had been sent in March, with approximately 500 parcels receiving intent to lien notices for unpaid bills last week. The property owners would be given approximately three to four weeks to pay those bills.

## 4) Inspection

Mr. Culkin reported that staff had met with representatives from the Fountain Valley mobile home park regarding the possibility of subdividing the park due to zoning issues with Champaign County. It was proposed that the park would remain outside of the Rantoul corporate limits; however, he expressed concern that the Village needed to annex two commercial lots along U.S. Route 45, immediately west of the park. Mr. Culkin also informed the trustees that he had met with officials from the Champaign County Housing Authority to discuss the possibility of constructing a new senior citizen housing complex on property in Rantoul. He also reported that staff continued to work on the proposed annexation of thirty-five acres of land east of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

## 5) Community Development

Mr. Loschen reported that the Village had submitted its grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in March, while his department continued to work on a grant application to the Illinois Housing Development Authority for funds that could be applied toward building demolitions. Finally, he told the Board that he had been working with area financial institutions to develop programs for Illinois' "Money Smart Week". He distributed a calendar of events for the week (April 18-25, 2009), which was designed to better educate the public about spending, saving, and borrowing money through a series of free classes and seminars.

## 6) Public Works

Mr. Hazel reported that the Village would be observing Arbor Day on April 24 with a tree planting ceremony at Constitution Park. He also mentioned that the annual flushing of the Village's water system infrastructure was beginning this week. The department had prepared a schedule of its seasonal brush and leaf collection dates along with other relevant information, which had been mailed out to Village residents during the month of March. He also reported that it was anticipated that the Water Treatment Plant construction project should reach substantial completion within the coming week. Finally, he noted that the Exline contractor was on site and working on the repair of the turbocharger for Generator No. 8.

## 7) Human Resources

Mr. Coffey reported that the series of employee meetings had concluded in March, with administrative officials receiving a large amount of positive, useful feedback from participants.

He added that the Village's new performance management and evaluation program was beginning this week. The Village was presently recruiting for new police officers, with applicant testing scheduled to begin in May. He also reported that recruitment for seasonal, part-time employees for the Recreation Department had begun.

#### 8) Recreation

Mr. Thomas reported that the department was busy assembling its summer workforce. Recreation continued to offer successful programs for all ages, including: junior high nights at the Youth Center; co-rec volleyball; the upcoming softball and baseball sports programs; and very well-attended aerobics courses at the Forum. Crews had completed the cleanup of the area around Hangar No. 2, and grounds maintenance had begun spraying for weeds at Village parks and properties.

#### 9) Fire

Chief Waters reported a total of 32 calls during the month of March, including two mutual aid calls and a 130-acre field fire in the southeastern section of the former base property. During the month, the department would also be completing its annual mask fitting for all firefighters as well as hosting Emergency Vehicle Operator (EVOC) training on April 28-29, 2009. Finally, he reported that the department had responded to 13 carbon-monoxide calls in March, including five in which high levels of the gas were detected.

#### 10) Aviation

Mr. Clayton reported that Runway No. 927 was now closed for the lighting upgrade project. He also noted that the airport would be closed for 12 days during the month of April for runway intersection repairs. Later this year, the airport would need to be closed for approximately 53 days while major improvements were being made to the intersection. The tentative start date for that project was set at September 1, 2009, so as not to interfere with crop dusting activities at the airport.

### **Items from Public Works**

(A) Mr. Hazel presented a request for the reallocation of currently unobligated wastewater bond funds for use on non-wastewater infrastructure projects. He noted that, at the present time, there was roughly \$475,000.00 remaining in unobligated bond funds that would not be used for improvements at the wastewater treatment plant. The unobligated balance was due in part to the cancellation or deferral of projects that had been originally anticipated to be completed when the bond was first issued, including the Ludlow sanitary sewer extension. The bond covenants required the funds to be spent by the end of the 2009 calendar year and failure to do so would likely jeopardize the tax-exempt status of the bonds and could impair the Village's future credit rating. As such, he proposed that the remaining bond funds be reallocated to the following projects:

- (1) \$200,000.00 for street improvements in the Illinois Drive area
- (2) \$225,000.00 for the construction of a block wall and security fencing along the Public Works Veterans Parkway complex and store yard. This project would provide physical security for the electric store yard, materials and equipment in accordance with the terms of the new community design standards.
- (3) \$75,000.00 for miscellaneous building demolitions

Mr. Hazel also recommended reallocation of \$190,000.00 of unobligated storm water bond funds to the Water Fund for expenses related to the Water Plant reconstruction project. Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was to place this item upon the formal agenda for its regular meeting.

**Items from the Comptroller**

(A) Mr. Brandon presented a budget amendment for the Water Fund to account for the accumulated change orders related to the Water Plant reconstruction project and to adjust the revenues to reflect the \$1,000,000.00 in insurance proceeds received as a result of the Water Plant roof collapse claim. Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was to place this item upon the formal agenda for its regular meeting.

(B) Mr. Brandon presented the proposed annual budget ordinance for FY 2009-2010. The proposed total budget was \$34,107,749.00. He briefly reviewed the changes that had been made to the budget proposal since the Board's March 17<sup>th</sup> budget review session. Among the most significant changes were the revenue adjustments made to the Airport Fund to account for the fact that the facility would continue to be serviced by a private Fixed Base Operator (FBO). In original budget proposals, the assumption had been made that the Village would assume operations of the FBO during the next fiscal year. Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was to place this item upon the formal agenda for its regular meeting.

**Items from Counsel**

(A) Mr. Beth noted that the Village Board annually allocates the volume cap associated with private activity bonds to a mortgage program for low-income families. Given the current economic climate and issues with the housing market, he recommended that the Board depart from its past practice of allocating the volume cap authority to any mortgage program and instead reserve that authority for the Village itself on a temporary basis. The Board would need to allocate that authority to another municipality or entity before the end of the year, as this arrangement would serve as a temporary "holding pattern". Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was to place this item upon the formal agenda for its regular meeting.

**Adjournment**

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:01 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeremy A. Reale  
Clerk of the Village of Rantoul

APPROVED MAY 12, 2009

ATTEST:

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Neal Williams  
Village President

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Jeremy A. Reale  
Village Clerk