

**Village of Gilberts
87 Galligan Road
Gilberts, IL. 60136
Village Board
Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2015**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President Zirk called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He proceeded to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call/Establish Quorum

Village Clerk Meadows called the roll. Roll call: Members present: Trustees Corbett, Mierisch, Farrell, Hacker and President Zirk. 2-absent: Trustees LeClercq and Trustee Zambetti. Trustee Zambetti arrived at 7:02 p.m. Others present: Administrator Keller, Assistant Administrator Beith, Chief of Police Rossi, and Village Clerk Meadows. For members of the audience please see the attached sign-in sheet.

Recognition

Shop with a Cop Award

Chief Rossi recognized Trustee Corbett, Rob Lange owner of Cruisin Rt. 72, Mr. Jim Hill, Mobil Mart owner and the Eagles Club for their generosity and outstanding dedication to the Dundee Township Shop with a Cop program.

Chief Rossi thanked them for their commitment and dedication to the Shop with a Cop program. He noted that their continued support allows the Police Department to continue to build positive relationships between the police officers and families in the community. During the holiday season the Shop with a Cop program provides the families with an opportunity to have breakfast and to go holiday shopping with the officers. Shop with a Cop sponsors the breakfast and provides the funds to purchase gifts and without their generosity this program would not be possible.

Chief Rossi presented each individual with an appreciation plaque which read, "In appreciation for outstanding dedication and generosity to the people in your community". The Board Members thanked all the award recipients for their community service.

Public Comment

President Zirk asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Board Members. Mr. Tom Trier owner of Pub 72 approached the podium. Mr. Trier reported that he will be hosting a special event on June 5th-6th to celebrate their first year anniversary. He asked If the Board Members would consider allowing him to deviate from the Noise Ordinance and have outdoor activities until 11:00 p.m. Trustee Mierisch inquired if the adjacent neighborhoods have been notified of this request and had no objections. Mr. Trier reported that Mr. Coleman owner of the two properties adjacent to the liquor establishment had spoken to both of the renters, and the renters expressed no objections to the celebration or the extended hours.

There were no other comments offered from any member of the audience.

Consent Agenda

- A. A Motion to approve Minutes from the February 24, 2015 Village Board Meeting**
- B. A Motion to approve Bills & Salaries dated March 3, 2015 as follows: General Fund \$33,302.61, Performance Bonds and Escrows \$529.00, Water Fund \$13,896.95**
- C. A Motion to approve Ordinance 05-2015, an Ordinance establishing a Water System Connection Incentive Program for the Central Area TIF**
- D. A Motion to approve the updated salary structure and job description for Utilities Technicians positions**

President Zirk asked the Board Members if there were any items they wished to remove from the Consent Agenda. There were no comments from any of the Board Members. **A Motion was made by Trustee Zambetti and seconded by Trustee Corbett to approve the consent agenda items A-D as presented.** Roll call: Vote: 5-ayes: Trustees Corbett, Mierisch, Zambetti, Farrell, and Hacker. 0-nays, 0-abstained. Motion carried.

Items for Approval

A Motion to approve Resolution 12-2015, a Resolution urging the Governor and General Assembly to protect the full funding of Local Government Distributive Fund Revenues

President Zirk reported that he had directed Clerk Meadows to add this item to the agenda. He inquired if the Board Members were comfortable with the language in the Resolution. The Board Members provided no comments on Resolution 12-2015. **A Motion was made by Trustee Zambetti and seconded by Trustee Farrell to approve Resolution 12-2015, a Resolution urging the Governor and General Assembly to protect the full funding of Local Government Distributive Fund Revenues.** Roll call: Vote: 5-ayes: Trustees Mierisch, Zambetti, Farrell, Hacker and Corbett. 0-nays, 0-abstained. Motion carried.

Items for Discussion

Fiber project referendum question

Administrator Keller introduced Faith Behr. He reported that Ms. Behr is a communication specialist and has been contracted to assist Staff in drafting the educational referendum message and communication materials.

Consultant Behr provided those in attendance with a brief overview of her previous professional experience. She reported that for over twenty years she has been providing organizations and non-profits with consultant services; prior to that she was a journalist covering municipal meetings.

Consultant Behr discussed the focus group meeting and phone interviews she recently conducted. The goal of the focus group meeting and phone survey was to understand what select residents knew about the referendum, what their concerns were and how best to inform the community of the fiber optics project.

Consultant Behr provided the Board Members with a synopsis of the project timeline. She discussed the educational materials and dates in which the materials will be rolled out.

Administrator Keller provided the Board Members with a draft educational flyer. There was some discussion on the flyer. Trustee Hacker inquired if the question noted on the flyer was the question that would appear on the ballot. He expressed concern that the question did not explicitly state that voting yes on this question would increase residents' property taxes for twenty years. Trustee Hacker stated he was very uncomfortable with the wording of the referendum question. He noted that most communities when drafting referendum questions specifically stated that voting yes to the public question is a vote to increase property taxes. Consultant Behr stated that the educational material will clearly inform voters that voting yes on the referendum question will result in a property tax increase.

President Zirk commented on the fact that the fiber optic conversation has been ongoing for over two years. Now an opportunity arose with the development of the Conservancy. The developer of the Conservancy is extending a fiber-optic line through Gilberts to provide his development with high-speed broadband services. The developer is making the investment to make his subdivision unique. This "backbone" fiber optic network is being installed by the developer at no cost to the Village. The Board Members believed the voters should have the opportunity to vote on acquiring fiber-optics. President Zirk continued on to say that the fiber-optic network would provide open access to any service provider. The open access should produce competition and competitive pricing.

Trustee Mierisch noted that although AT&T does not offer U-verse service to all of the community the fiber has been installed.

There was some discussion on the service providers that have expressed an interest in leasing the fiber optic lines and the cost associated with their services. Staff reported that they are still working with service providers on the details. Trustee Hacker believes at this time asking the voters the question is premature. A lengthy discussion ensued with respect to crafting the educational message. The Board Members directed Staff to place the educational information on Facebook and to also have a dedicated website that is linked to the Village's website. Staff will work with Consultant Behr on drafting all the educational materials. Once completed Staff will forward a copy of the materials to the Board Members for review.

Staff Reports

Administrator Keller commented on a Legislative meeting that took place on Monday. Several Senators and Representatives along with City Managers were in attendance. The focus of the meeting was to discuss the Governor's budget proposal and its impacts on local government. The proposed 50% reduction in LGDF revenues constitutes approximately 22% of the Village of Gilberts annual General Fund revenue. The proposed reduction would result in the loss of \$340,510.00, which is roughly the size of the entire Public Works budget. Administrator Keller reported that he will continue to monitor the discussion regarding the LGDF revenues.

Chief Rossi reported that the Tyrrell Bridge temporary signals had recently malfunctioned. However, they have been repaired and are operating properly. The Police Department will continue to monitor the signals. He went on to report that he had recently met with Sheriff Kramer during the meeting Sheriff Kramer agreed to assist directing traffic on Tyrrell Bridge when needed.

Village Clerk Meadows on behalf of the Community Days Committee thanked Trustee Hacker for his donation to Community Days.

Board of Trustees Reports

Trustee Zambetti inquired on the status of Ryland Homes with respect to the final build-out of the Town Center Development. Administrator Keller reported that the Village will be hosting a neighborhood meeting to discuss the residents' expectations with regards to the open and unfinished lots. Trustee Mierisch reminded everyone if a new builder were to finish the development there are no guarantees the housing product would be similar to the current housing products.

Trustee Hacker inquired if Staff knew who was going to be the fiber-optic provider. Administrator Keller stated that IFiber is one of the interested providers. The Board Members asked Staff several other questions with respect to the fiber project. The Board Members noted that the voters will be asking similar questions and Staff should be prepared to provide the answers. Administrator Keller noted that this is an infrastructure project similar to road and water/sewer line construction projects. Some of the service related questions at this time are difficult to define.

President's Report

President Zirk inquired on when a certain settlement agreement could be released to the public. Administrator Keller stated he would check with Attorney Tappendorf.

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Adjournment

There being no further public business to discuss, **a Motion was made by Trustee Hacker and seconded by Trustee Zambetti to adjourn from the public meeting at 8:15 p.m.** Roll call: Vote: 5-ayes by unanimous voice vote. 0-nays, 0-abstained. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Meadows