

WILL COUNTY BOARD
REPUBLICAN CAUCUS MEETING
MINUTES

June 17, 2010

8:35 a.m.

Will County Office Building
Will County Board Committee Room
302 N. Chicago Street
Joliet, IL

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Moustis called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Bilotta, Dralle, Goodson, Gould, Konicki, Kusta, Maher, McPhillips, Moustis, Rozak, L. Smith and Weigel.

Absent were: Blackburn, Singer, B. Smith and Wisniewski

Also Present: Deputy Chief of Staff M. Johannsen, David DuBois and Tom Carroll, Land Use.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Mary Tatroe.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mrs. Dralle led the caucus in the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, second by Ms. McPhillips, to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2010 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

PROCLAMATIONS

This was discussed later in the agenda.

DISCUSSION OF JUNE 17, 2010 COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Case #5902-M

Mr. Weigel advised that the first zoning case was tabled last month. We will have to remove it from the table and vote on it. The committee recommended approval. There are some

issues regarding enforcement. They are keeping junk on the property and the County is trying to get them to clean it up. It is zoning from A-1 to R-4 so the applicant can build a house.

Mr. Moustis stated this is a map amendment which isn't a problem, it probably should be a residential zoning. Regarding building a house, the applicant will still have to bring that property into compliance, correct?

ASA Tatroe replied that was correct. It was a demolition case pending in regard to the structure that was on the property. That structure was blown down by the wind and the owner did clean up all the debris from the building so that case has been dismissed since the last committee meeting.

David DuBois advised that if it was not taken care of through the demolition process the department will go through the necessary process in order to clean it up. There will not be any permits issued until he is out of violation.

Mrs. Rozak stated the problem with this case was if we didn't grant the map amendment, nothing was going to happen with the property.

Mr. Weigel asked if there were any questions regarding the 4 other zoning cases. He advised there were 6 resolutions. One of the resolutions was on the water resource ordinance which is coming back. It was sent back to committee last month because of the special service area provisions. We have deleted that from the ordinance until we can fine tune that portion of it. We would like to pass it without the SSA in there but we will bring that portion back in the future.

Resolution #10-167-Palomino Trace

Mr. Moustis stated there was one other issue regarding the bond that was foreclosed on and we received the money which we are now going to give back. They will reissue another letter of credit. This does not normally happen.

Tom Carroll from Land Use advised that the County foreclosed on the letter of credit for Palomino Trace subdivision in Green Garden Township. It was approximately \$2 million. After we foreclosed on the letter of credit, the bank foreclosed on the developer and took the subdivision back. The bank approached us a few months ago stating they wanted to finish all the improvements in the subdivision, clean it up and then put it back on the market to sell it. They requested that we refund that letter of credit back to them and they would resubmit a letter of credit for the same amount and finish the improvements. The County could do the improvements with the foreclosed funds but we are giving it back to the bank so they can do the improvements. This takes us out of the general contractor business.

Mr. Gould inquired otherwise the County would be doing the improvements and have we ever done that?

Mr. Moustis replied on a small scale, such as fixing sidewalks or finish part of a street.

Mr. Carroll advised that there is a final surface of asphalt to be put down, retesting the water main, sanitary, sewer and some trails, general landscaping. If the County had completed the improvements any money left over would have to be refunded back to the bank anyway. There are about \$800,000.00 worth of improvements left. We will receive a letter of credit from the bank for the full \$2 million so we will have more than enough security.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kusta advised that we are offering the voluntary furlough and voluntary severance plans again. It is the same as last time which was somewhat successful and we are encouraging all the department heads to take part in this.

Mr. Bilotta arrived at this juncture.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr. Bilotta stated that there are a lot of speed limit changes so ASA Tatroe concurred that a motion for a consent agenda for the resolutions-there are about 30 of them, could be made. He advised that they are all from Frankfort Township.

Chief Engineer Bruce Gould advised that there will probably be 2 or 3 similar to this amount from the Frankfort Township highway commissioner. He is planning on doing all of the streets in Frankfort Square.

Mr. Moustis advised that the Frankfort Township highway commissioner's plan is to post 25 MPH speed limits on all the side streets throughout all the unincorporated area.

Resolution #10-180

CE Gould inquired if he should explain the rescinding resolution, 10-180. He explained that this is for the noise walls on Naperville Road. When we set the specifications up we modeled them after the City of Naperville. At the public hearings they had noise walls on 75th Street and we had the people look at them and choose which they liked. Unknown to us part of the specifications say that they shall be state inspected, state approved suppliers which we always do. Naperville waived that requirement on the noise walls that they have. We were unaware of that, put the project out for bid and then found out that the supplier we called out was not state approved. For the contractor to get similar state approved materials it would have cost us an additional \$40,000.00. In the best interest of the County, we are going to rescind this award and put it out for bid again. If the County Board approves the rescinding the bid award, we have it ready out for bid for the 30th of June and will be able to award it at the July board meeting and get this work done.

Mr. Moustis verified that he has spoken with the State's Attorney to ensure there would be no problems.

CE Gould replied that he asked the County Board if another rescinding of an award had been done and staff provided a resolution. I did not confer with the State's Attorney.

Mr. Bilotta advised that it was discussed at committee though.

Mr. Moustis stated his concern was the County's liability.

ASA Tatroe advised that we do have verbiage in every bid that we reserve the right to rescind any bid.

Deputy Chief of Staff Johannsen requested that County Engineer Gould explain the issue to the Democratic caucus also.

Ms. Konicki inquired on all the changes with the speed limits, does that involve any costs to us as the County.

CE Gould replied yes, staff going out to do it so it is staff hours. Staff has to measure the roads and put all the documents together.

Ms. Konicki clarified that it is not the highway department posting the speed limits.

CE Gould and Mr. Moustis advised that the signs are posted by the townships.

Mr. Moustis advised that even though we have township highway commissioners, the County Engineer still has to approve what they are doing.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Ms. Dralle advised that she has one resolution for the Memorandum of Understanding.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mr. Gould stated he has 2 bid awards.

Mr. Maher arrived at this juncture.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Goodson stated that she has a written report today which is a compilation of bills that we discussed at Legislative Committee during the last session and those that have come up which have an effect on the county.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Mr. Maher advised that he will do a report on the comprehensive assessment and open it up for questions. That report will be used for strategic planning over the next several months.

Staff advised that there were 6 copies of the main report, 2/3 of the building report. One copy has to be filed with the County Clerk, one is the County Board office copy, a few were distributed to board members and Ms. Rozak should have hers either in her mail box or we were holding it. All board members received a disc.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE- No questions

APPOINTMENTS

PROCLAMATIONS

Mr. Bilotta advised there was one proclamation recognizing spelling bee champion from Peotone. District 6 would be presenting it.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, second by Ms. Goodson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.