

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MARCH 02, 2009**

Village President Joe Cook called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with Trustees Nash, McMillin, Slocum, Militello, Greco, and Davidson present.

Also present were Village Administrator Jamie Bowden, Village Attorney David Silverman, Finance Director Robert Guess, Police Chief Joe Pena, Director of Public Works Ed Dolezal, Director of Community Development Mike McMahan, and Village Clerk Missey Schumacher.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Ordinance Approving the Comcast Cable Television Franchise Renewal

Bowden presented the Board with a proposed ordinance extending the franchise agreement with Comcast Cable for an additional 5 years. The current contract will expire about 1 ½ years from now. The new agreement contains some enhancements to the franchise being replaced, specifically language that allows the Village to more actively take over the programming of our Government Access channel. Comcast has activated a fiber optic return path that allows the Village to broadcast live out of Village Hall. It also allows the Village to add a small fee to Comcast customers as a fundraising mechanism to purchase new or replacement equipment related to our programming the channel. The Village can issue another franchise agreement to a different provider. Representatives from Comcast were present at the meeting to answer any questions.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

No formal items for discussion.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Budget Fiscal Year 09-10

Guess stated that budget books have been distributed. This is a preliminary budget. He will present a Power Point presentation at the next meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency Telephone System Board 9-1-1 Proposed Grant

Pena stated that in 2008 the Village participated in a grant offered by the Will County ETSB, wherein a certain portion of the collected 9-1-1 surcharge funds was returned to individual municipalities. At the time, we received \$9,902.23 and then pooled our grant funds with those of other Wescom users to go toward our Capital Improvements Fund.

In 2009, the ETSB is again offering the grant program, and this year the Village is eligible for \$10,151.80. Pena asked that the Board authorize the Mayor to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement and again pool our funds with the Wescom users to go toward our Capital Improvements Fund. The fund will be used for communications improvements, as well as future cost of relocating Wescom when Plainfield needs their space back.

President Cook added that the telephone charge does not pay for 9-1-1. The County collects the surcharge and the Village has to ask for money.

Approval for Furniture Purchase

Pena stated that due to changes in the Police Department it is necessary to create two new work spaces. In 2008 we appointed a Deputy Chief of Police, created a second full time plain clothes officer and promoted a fourth patrol officer. Money has been budgeted for furniture purchase and Pena asks that the Board approve the purchase of furniture in the amount of \$16,383.61 from Markelz Business Interiors.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Contract with Christopher Burke for Flooding Study

A contract with Christopher Burke Engineering, Ltd. has been proposed to look at basement flooding in Indian Trails. Bowden stated that representatives from Burke were in attendance to answer any questions.

Don Drussel – VP with Burke stated that their main officer is in Rosemont, Illinois. They specialize in water resources. Their proposal is to do an encompassing study, including a questionnaire to residents. They will also meet with residents, and look at the environment. They will study the river elevation, village files and available information and possibly narrow down the cause or causes of the flooding and define possible solutions, including potential costs.

Trustee Militello asked if it was possible to put in pumps and pump ground water into the river

Dolezal stated that it is all ground water and he's not sure that's a viable solution.

Drussel stated that would just be re-circulating water.

Trustee Nash asked if the Village has consulted with Strand to see if they have this service available. They are Village engineers.

President Cook stated that the Village has several engineers. Burke is renowned for water engineering.

Trustee Slocum asked if anyone from the Burke firm has been out to the site yet to take a look to see if it's unusual or if it's just something that's happening up and down the river.

Drussel stated that this type of flooding is usually from flood water/surface water.

Trustee Davidson objected to expending public funds to solve what he believes is a private problem. He stated that he sympathizes, and is not demeaning the problems, but finds it difficult to use public funds to solve a problem for individual homeowners and anyone with a flooding basement. He thinks the study will yield a groundwater problem. He objects to awarding contract to specific firm without bidding the job. As stewards of public funds, he does not see it being in the public interest to expend public funds on a private matter, although these homeowners are clearly having a problem.

Attorney Silverman stated that the selection of engineers, architects & surveyors, unless they have a previous relationship with the Village is based on qualifications. Home rule may supersede that.

Trustee Slocum asked what have been the remedies for similar situations.

Drussel stated that there are various options.

Trustee Greco asked what budget this would come from.

Guess stated that he would look into that.

Trustee McMillin asked by Task #5 of the proposed contract is and option.

Drussel stated that they recommend it, but it is not mandatory.

Grundy County GIS Data Sharing Agreement

Dolezal stated that Grundy County is now in possession of GIS data. The county has compiled a data sharing agreement in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding, to be agreed to by both parties. This agreement limits both parties from redistributing the information, without proper consent. Participation in the agreement will allow the Village to incorporate GIS data that is more complete than current data into its systems. Currently, the Village maintains its own data and geographic representations for Grundy County, while Will County data is provided through Will County Data Sharing Agreements. This agreement will allow overall data composition to be more complete, correct, and up to date. He recommends approval of the agreement between the Village and Grundy County.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

A Resolution Defining Responsible Bidder

Three Rivers Construction Alliance representatives stated that they are looking to help the Village spend money responsibly. The resolution defining a responsible bidder would help to ensure that a bidder is qualified to work within the municipality. The Village would then be better able to contract with the best possible contractor at the best price. It creates an avenue for the Village to judge bidders. The Village could be able to call the Laborer's District Council officer to research bidders.

President Cook asked that the Board consider approval of a resolution defining responsible bidder.

Submitted by
Janet Schumacher
Village Clerk