

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
APRIL 4, 2016**

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Trustees Greco, Host, Militello, Scaggs, Slocum, and McMillin present.

Also present were Village Administrator Thomas Durkin, Finance Director Heather Wagonblott, Director of Public Works Ed Dolezal, Director of Community Development and Information Systems Mike Petrick, Village Attorney Jim Murphy, and Village Clerk Patricia Perinar. Chief of Police Jeff Wold was not present.

**VP Moorman Schumacher informed everyone present that anyone who speaks at the meeting shall be deemed to have given his/her consent to the recording of their likeness and speech. This meeting is being recorded.**

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**

**Establishing an Honorary Street Name Program**

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher informed the Board that Lieutenant Ryan Jandura, EMS Administrator, and Chief Petrakis from the Channahon Fire Protection District are present to propose the establishing of an Honorary Street Name Program. Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher would like to get the Board's opinion on establishing an Honorary Street Program and some parameters the Board feels would be appropriate. Ryan Jandura spoke to the Board about an individual who has earned the honor of having a street named after him.

Ken Frayne was born on January 25, 1973. Ken joined the Channahon Volunteer Fire Department in 1999 and was assigned to Station 2. He was a very active member of the department, spending what little of his free time that he had joining the Dive Team, Technical Rescue Team, and going through basic firefighter training. He also responded to many calls as a volunteer. He would be the first to volunteer for a special assignment, and also utilized his skills as a carpenter to do various repairs around the fire stations.

Ken left us on October 13, 2001. He was participating in a multi agency dive training in Coal City. After a couple of hours at the training, something went wrong and Ken did not come to the surface. His body was found and resuscitation efforts were attempted by on scene EMS and at the local hospital where he was transported. Shortly after 1p.m., Ken was pronounced dead.

Ken was spoken of as being the "poster child for the Channahon Fire Department". This could not be said any better. He always had a smile on his face, was always willing to help others in need, always putting others before him. Looking back on the 15 years that have passed since his death, I can only speculate on what a huge impact he would have made on our department and our community.

I do not want Ken Frayne to ever be forgotten. Ken gave his life for his department and for his community. He became a diver to try to save lives. There aren't many of us left on the

department that remember the days of Ken Frayne, and sadly there are probably not many members of the community who know of his great sacrifice. It is my honor to ask the Village board members to consider creating a memorial roadway after our brother Ken. Decades from now, when those of us who were there that day are gone, the members of this great community will have a constant reminder of the sacrifice that Kenneth J. Frayne made for the Village of Channahon. Lt. Ryan Jandura thanked the Board for taking the time to listen to his proposal and consider the nomination.

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher informed the Board of her thoughts regarding this. It should be a post hummus award. She did look up current legislation regarding this matter and informed the Board of the current regulations in place. It would have to be a Channahon Municipal Streets which are not currently named after someone. The Board was in favor of looking into setting up this program. Village Administrator Tom Durkin will come up with ideas for the parameters.

**A Resolution Addressing the Concerns of the Units of Local Government  
Comprising Western Will County Communication Center (“WESCOM”)  
Regarding the Consolidation of Answering Points in Will County and the  
Subsidizing of the New Laraway Road PSAP in Eastern Will County**

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher stated at the April 21, 2016 WESCOM Board meeting, the WESCOM Board will consider approval of the resolution included in the Board Packet. Please fully review the resolution. The resolution was unanimously approved by the Chiefs Operating Committee on March 25. Absent at the Chiefs Operating Committee were representatives from the Braidwood Police Department, Braidwood Fire, Channahon Police, Channahon Fire and the Homer Twp. FPD. It was the intent of the Chiefs Committee to forward this draft resolution to the WESCOM Board for consideration and adoption as an official Resolution. It is being suggested that should this resolution be approved by the full WESCOM Board, that each participating agency pass a similar resolution.

The issue at hand is the proposed construction of the new Laraway Road PSAP and how this will be funded. The concern of the Chiefs Operating Committee is that residents of the WESCOM service area will be held financially responsible for the cost of the construction of the both the WESCOM building and the Laraway Road PSAP construction. They believe this will result in a financial imbalance of support for the 9-1-1 county wide system. This resolution seeks to find an equitable solution to reconcile the debt services WESCOM has been supporting for its facility and the financial imbalance created by the building at the Laraway Road project for 31 other Will County agencies representing 33.7% of the residents of the system.

Trustee Slocum asked if there was a chance of groups with WESCOM leaving and go to the other building. Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher stated that this is definitely a possibility. The Village currently holds the bond on the building.

Trustee Militello mentioned legislation which is requiring consolidation. Fire Chief John Petrakis explained the current situation to the Board.

Village Administrator Tom Durkin stated the goal is to find an equitable approach to compensate for those involved. This will be brought to a Board vote on the 18<sup>th</sup> to give authorization on how the Village should vote.

### **ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT**

#### **An Ordinance Amending the Channahon Code of Ordinances with Respect to the Village Privilege Tax on the Purchase of Motor Fuel at Retail – 2<sup>nd</sup> Read**

Village Administrator Tom Durkin informed the Board that at the budget workshop meeting held on Saturday, March 12, 2016, the Village Board discussed various ways to increase revenue in order to properly fund service levels and various programs provided by the Village of Channahon. The Village has experienced a major loss of sales tax revenue with the elimination of the rebate sales tax program due to an amendment to the rules regarding the reporting of sales taxes. One of the suggestions made was to elevate the Village privilege tax on the purchase of motor fuel at retail sale.

The Board Packet included the ordinance that provides for the addition of \$.03/gallon on the sale of diesel and the addition of \$.03 on the sale of all other motor fuels. These additions will result in the a total Village sales tax on diesel fuel of \$.09/gallon and all other motor fuels of \$.04/gallon. It is anticipated that this increase will result in approximately \$540,000 of additional revenue to the Village.

Trustee McMillin's question from the last Board meeting and it was discussed and resolved after that meeting.

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher informed the Board of a new property tax exemption for disabled veterans that will go into effect this year. She gave some comparables she found from other areas. It is important to keep in mind that other areas of revenue may be declining due to regulations such as these going into effect. Trustee Host asked if this is something that the individuals have to apply for each year with the answer being yes.

Village Administrator Tom Durkin stated that there will always be challenges and struggles and great programs but if it results in a loss of revenue all the more reason to keep coming up with ideas for increasing the revenue stream.

Village Administrator Tom Durkin stated he received a legislative update from WCGL which he will forward to the Board. He also met last week with the President of the Canal Corridor Association. New Signs and Markers are going to be added to the trail at the mile markers which will allow people to scan to get information of the local area.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

No Formal Items for Discussion.

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

### **Budget 2016-2017**

Finance Director Heather Wagonblott stated that if Ordinance is passes at tonight's meeting, letters can be sent out to the fueling stations, as early as tomorrow, informing them that effective May1st the increase will take effect and the Village would see that in June for the month of May.

Budget year 2017 must be focused on generating new revenue sources to replace the loss of revenue. As previously communicated, the Village has experienced a major loss of revenue which began in fiscal year 2016. In years past, the sales tax rebate revenues afforded the Village opportunities for growth, expansion and fiscal stability. As previously explained, the sales tax rebate money was used over the years to pay outstanding bond obligations, fund the extensive annual road projects, fund general capital projects and at times support other fund obligations outside of the General Fund. It is unfortunate that this revenue stream is no longer available to the Village as a result of changes in the Department of Revenue regulations. There is no simple solution to the financial challenges that the Village is currently faced with. The Village must either replace the previous revenue stream with other revenue sources, significantly decrease resident services and Village staff or find alternate means to continue Village operations as in years past. The Village cannot rely on Sales Tax Rebate fund reserves in future budget years as the reserves cannot be utilized once they have been depleted.

The revenue that the Village once was accustomed to receiving on an annual basis no longer exists. However, debt payments, capital projects and operating expenses continue to exist and require revenue streams to offset the expenses. In the upcoming months, the Village Board will be presented with several revenue generating options. Some of these options will be new revenue sources that the Village has not previously implemented and some of these options will propose increases to current fines or fees.

The proposed 2017 budget includes a transfer of \$620,000 from the Sales Tax Rebate Fund reserves (which will cause a drawdown of prior year reserves). In addition to the transfer of funds from the Sales Tax Rebate fund, it is important to note that there are additional reserves being drawn down from the Sales Tax Rebate fund for payment of the 2011 GO bonds and other miscellaneous expenses. In fiscal years 2016 and 2017, the amounts of \$438,296 and \$437,876, respectively, are paid from the Sales Tax Rebate Fund reserves. These amounts represent the total principal, interest and related bond costs for the portion of the 2011 GO bonds related to the construction of the Village Hall and will draw down the prior year reserves of the Sales Tax Rebate Fund. There are also miscellaneous expenses charged to the Sales Tax Rebate fund such as legal fees and expenses related to economic development.

**The fiscal year 2016 budget included a total drawdown of \$1,049,296 from the Sales Tax Rebate reserves and similarly, the fiscal year 2017 proposed budget includes a drawdown of \$1,143,876 of the Sales Tax Rebate reserves.** There has not been a significant increase in General Fund expenses from year to year. Minor increases such as health insurance expenses for both union and non-union employees, a 2 ½ percent increase in payroll for union and non-union staff and a 24% increase in repairs and maintenance expenses due to the aging of the Village fleet vehicles, equipment and buildings are included in the 2017 budget. These minor increases

in expenses in addition to very conservative revenue estimates account for the additional drawdown of reserves from 2016 to 2017.

The estimated \$12.9 million of budgeted revenues includes \$1,727,992 of transfers from the following funds: the water fund is budgeted to transfer \$67,992 for the water fund's portion of shared expenses that are paid by the General Fund; the Village fuel and diesel fund is budgeted to transfer \$1,040,000 to assist the General Fund to defray the deficit; and the \$620,000 is being transferred from the Sales Tax Rebate reserves.

It is important to note that the following initially proposed expenses are **NOT** included in the proposed 2017 budget:

- Public Works Laborer \$43,120
- Finance Department Accountant \$65,000
- Administration Office Assistant \$37,806
- Code Enforcement Officer \$61,000
- Public Works Clerk \$37,806
- Police Department Office Assistant Wage Adjustment \$12,000 (not an additional hire, but only variation of job duties and movement from current staff)
- Administration Vehicle for Code Enforcement \$30,000
- Beautification Project \$20,000
- Police Patrol Vehicle \$40,000
- Dump Truck with Plow and Salt Spreader \$190,000

Also, the road program is proposed to include only \$375,000 in expenses for fiscal year 2017. The road program was significantly cut in fiscal year 2016 (budgeted at \$500,000).

The Village must prepare for the future needs of the Village and address the loss of revenue currently being realized. The initial step is increasing the Village fuel and diesel tax to generate additional revenue for general operations and for future road projects.

Trustee Scaggs asked for clarity regarding the use of the reserves.

At the next Board meeting there will be a Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget along with the Final Budget Approval.

Finance Director Heather Wagonblott stated that drawing down from reserves helped to keep the Village going at its current level. The Village definitely needs to look into new revenue streams, possible cuts, and/or reorganization.

Village Administrator Tom Durkin stated that it stresses the importance of the development occurring. We need to look to provide assistance to help increase our daytime population which would help in so many other facets regarding revenue. It is important to keep a close eye on proposed property tax freezes and the importance of exempting undeveloped property from being frozen.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No Formal Items for Discussion.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**An Ordinance Amending Title V, “Public Works” Chapter 52, “Water” of the Village of Channahon Code of Ordinances- 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

Director of Public Works, Ed Dolezal, stated that in situations where wells existed to serve properties prior to the properties being connected to the Village potable water system, the wells were allowed to remain in service. Per Village code, they must be disconnected from the dwelling and only used for landscape irrigation and car washing. The Village inspects these properties at least annually to monitor conformance with code. The requirement exists to protect the Village owned water supply from an unregulated source.

The Village contracts the inspection at a cost of \$62.50 per inspection. The proposed fee increase is intended to cover that charge plus administration of the program.

Building Inspector Steve Kuczkowski was present to give the Board an update and answer any questions from the Board. Mr. Kuczkowski gave an optimistic report to the Board regarding increased interest in property within the Village.

Trustee McMillin asked about the Lone Star. The Village had the tarps removed from the structure since they were serving no purpose.

It was mentioned that it would be beneficial to look into the updating the Village 2015 Building Codes where additions could be made and revisions could be made.

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher mentioned that it would be beneficial to get together with the fire department regarding criteria boarding up and securing structures after a fire.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Limit to 5 Minutes)**

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

**Submitted by  
Patricia Perinar  
Village Clerk**