

MINUTES OF THE **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING** OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE, HELD IN THE SAUK VILLAGE MUNICIPAL CENTER, **DECEMBER 1, 2009.**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Towers called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Present On Roll Call: Trustees Anderson, Benson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams

1. Met-Life Dental Renewal- Lambent Insurance- Kevin Mies

Kevin shopped the market for Dental carriers and provided a Dental Cost Analysis spreadsheet that included current carrier Met Life, Aetna and American General. Met Life presented with a renewal rate that included a 5% increase; Kevin stated the norm is usually between 3-6%. Kevin worked with Met Life to reduce that increase to 0%. Competitive carrier Aetna would save the Village 5.81 % (\$2,937.72) with a 24 month rate guarantee. The best rate was from American General with only a 12 month rate guarantee but at a savings of 9.48% (\$4,791.60). Kevin warned that American General is known to give a great rate for new business but the increase can be steep. All plans are a PPO and benefits are the same; the only difference between the three carriers is the rate guarantee term, the out of pocket expenses and waiting periods. Kevin did point out that Aetna also is unique in the fact that they allow 2 additional cleanings per year for patients with high bacterial levels due to diabetes, chemotherapy, pregnancy, dialysis, etc... Village Attorney Vasselli asked Kevin to check that the language of the Union contracts is compatible with all three plans. This item will be placed on next week's agenda for vote as an individual item pending verification of language of Union contracts.

2. Village Financial Matters

a. Weekly Update- Finance Director Beverly Sterrett

DH Sterrett presented Board members with a Weekly Cash and Financial Analysis memo. Property tax revenue of \$156,000.00 was received this week; weekly distributions should be received for the next 4-5 weeks. Past accounts payables are still being paid on a as needed basis with payroll, insurance and services at risk of disconnection being the priority. DH Sterrett is working with Kane, McKenna on securing bank loans. The banks are still looking for additional information; the two tier loan process we are seeking is difficult for the banks to understand. The plan is to borrow \$575,000.00 now and \$1.5 million later. DH Sterrett is working on the tax levy that is due the last Tuesday in December. The tax levy will be under a 5% increase and therefore will not require a special meeting. COS Corley stated that the application for financing of the Fire Pumper has been approved with some changes. The first payment of approximately \$74,000 should be in January 2010. This fire pumper has no extras included; the equipment was retained from the old pumper.

b. Financial Engagement Letter – Chief of Staff Brunetta Hill- Corley

COS Corley presented a Financial Engagement Letter from Jacobs Group stating this is another option if the banks do not provide the loans. COS Corley stated that the group has stated that they have secured a \$2 million loan for the Village but will not provide any information until the financial engagement letter is signed and approved by the Board. Jacobs Group would like to make a presentation to the Board; there will be no obligation by signing the letter. The letter does state that the finder's fee would be 2% and the loan interest could be as high as 7.5%; the Jacobs Group will have to certify that they have no financial interest other than the finder's fee.

The engagement letter has been reviewed and revised by Village Attorney Vasselli and Financial Advisors Kane, McKenna. Concerns were that the 7.5% interest rate seemed high, if they use private investors as funding sources and that no one is familiar with the Jacobs Group. The Board also agreed that Kane, McKenna should be more proactive in securing loans for the Village especially with the large amounts of money available in TIF funds. The Jacobs Group will be placed on the agenda for the next Committee of the Whole meeting on December 15, 2009; Kane, McKenna will be present. Background information of the Jacobs group will be given to the Board prior to that meeting. That information will include a track record of business operations and recommendations from other businesses they have worked with including who those businesses are and the size of the loans.

3. Property Casualty Insurance Renewal

a. Renewal Engagement Letter- Chief of Staff Brunetta Hill-Corley

COS Corley stated that the Property Casual Insurance expires 12/31/09. Arthur Gallagher has presented a letter of engagement and indicated that they could provide the Village with an immediate savings of \$100,000.00. This letter is binding and would make them the exclusive agent to shop for the property casual insurance. Current coverage is with IML with at a 2009 cost of \$351,000.00. The renewal rate for 2010 is \$310,000.00; a savings of \$41,000.00. Concerns were that there are ways to lower insurance costs, higher deductibles, etc and signing the letter of engagement does not indicate how they will save the \$100,000.00. Arthur Gallagher was a past broker that may have been replaced due to better rates from IML. Consensus was to ask IML for any even greater reduction upon renewal.

4. Miscellaneous from the Board

COS Corley thanked the Beautification Committee for decorating the Village Hall for the holidays.

Trustee Burgess stated that he is no longer in communication with Behr Paint; they are not responding to his inquiries. Trustee Burgess asked Mayor Towers to help him with trying to reconnect with Behr. The next Economic Development Committee meeting will be Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 6:30 pm. in the Village Hall.

Village Clerk Williams stated that copies of the weekly Southland Voice newspaper are available tonight. The Southland Voice is a new free newspaper that covers 10 south suburban communities and it is available at local businesses including the Village Hall. There is a subscription available for \$25.00 annually and businesses are encouraged to place ads in the paper in order to keep the paper available to the community. VC Williams also stated that Sauk Village Library and Fire Department activity has been reported in the paper and they are looking for any type of information on current projects or pictures and stories from local activities. Contact Barb at the paper, Village Clerk Williams or Trustee Myers for more information.

Trustee Williams stated that the next Public Relations Committee meeting will be Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 7 pm in the Village Hall; the topic will be Student Government Day. This Public Relations Committee held their first fundraiser for Student Government Day on Friday, November 27th at the Horseshoe Casino; \$200.00 was raised. Twenty people paid and 18 people attended the day long trip. Trustee Williams thanked the residents, Village Clerk Williams, Trustee Myers, Fire Chief Stoffregen and Village Attorney Vasselli for their support. Other fundraisers are being considered including restaurants and candy sales. The Public Relations Committee is looking to raise \$2,000.00 for Student Government Day. Any fundraising ideas

or donations to the Public Relations Committee would be greatly appreciated; no cash donations – please make checks payable to “Sauk Village Public Relations Committee”

Trustee Myers stated that the next Ordinance Review Committee meeting will be December 16, 2009 at 7 pm in the Village Hall.

Trustee Benson stated that Country Style Line Dancing is now available on Thursday from 7-8:30 pm in the Community Center at a cost of \$4.00. There will be no classes on Thursday, December 24, 2009 or Thursday, December 31, 2009. Flora Haynes is the instructor. Trustee Benson thanked the Public Relations Committee for posting the Parks & Recreation Santa Claus Christmas Parade itinerary on the website. The next Parks & Rec meeting will be December 7, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Village Hall.

Trustee Hanks has no Housing Authority report. Trustee Hanks stated that the Lion’s Club did provide baskets for Thanksgiving and would like to provide baskets for 3-4 needy Sauk Village families on Christmas. Trustee Hanks and the Lion’s Club will be accepting donations of non-perishable items through the week before Christmas; the Lion’s Club provides the perishable items. The Lion’s Club meets the 2nd Monday of the month at the Village Hall and donations can be accepted at Village Board meetings as well. Recommendations of Sauk Village families in need of baskets should also be directed to Trustee Hanks.

Trustee Anderson stated that the next Police Alliance Committee meeting will be Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 6pm in the Village Hall. The next Senior Committee meeting will be Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 5 pm in the Senior Center.

Trustee Williams reminded everyone to come at 6:30 pm on December 8, 2009 for pictures for the website; bio’s should also be submitted electronically at this time.

5. Questions from the Audience on Agenda Items Only

There were no questions from the audience.

6. Adjournment

Mayor Towers asked for a motion to adjourn.

The motion was made by Trustee Hanks and seconded by Trustee Williams.

Ayes: Anderson, Benson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams

Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Mayor Lewis Towers

Village Clerk Debra L. Williams