

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS
21801 TORRENCE AVENUE, SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS
October 15, 2024, 7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

On Roll Call

Present: Trustees: Burns, Johnson, Coleman, Williams

Absent: Trustee Carter

3. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- **Administrator Ken Johnson**

- Presentation and Proposal by the Southland Development Authority to Bring a Small-format Grocery Store to Sauk Village.

VA Johnson introduced Nick Greifer, consultant from SDA, who provided a presentation on a small-format grocery store. He spoke on:

- The absence of a quality food source in Sauk ~~Village~~ *Village*
- Programs and solutions through a Power Point presentation provided to the Board. It outlined eight key questions answered by the project
- The impact of a food desert on a community
- Provided an overview and rationale of the project.

Bo Kemp followed and discussed:

- Who would implement the project
- Project financing – SDA, a non-profit organization would own the land and the building and would exercise their choices of operators who would operate the business.
- There is equity funding available
- The need for the Trustees to approve the sale of the land and explained the repercussions to note if not approved as the grants would have to be returned

Questions/Discussions

- The size and occupancy of the building was asked. It would be 10-15,000 sq ft and could encompass a couple of offices, a pharmacy, fresh foods, produce, meat and cheese.
- The timeline was project to be the breaking of ground in the spring, and opening in 2026
- The builders have yet to be chosen. Trustees asked for a list of potential builders
- The criterion for the operators has yet to be established
- Pay as you Go was described as Sales Tax Sharing
- The location of the land is the one that the anticipated medical center was to be located
- As the property is in a TIF District, there would be minimum impact on the Village

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- F. Harvey appealed to everyone to work together on the project
- T. Winston spoke on the presentation and provided questions for consideration; what are the deliverables for the grant, what are the timeframes, who are the funders, who would be the administrator of the grant, is there a match cost and if the Zoning Board been engaged?
- K. Boens commented that it was a strategic plan and asked if a Co-op been considered
- F. Anderson commented that she hoped that Trustees would consider the store
- J. Tense spoke on a housing assistance program
- J. Burns asked about the importance of those working in the Village to have a contract; are attorney bills current; asked if the Mayor would undergo a lie detector test
 - Mayor Burgess' Responses
 - Grants are awarded to individuals and that SDA would be awarded the grant and would be its administrator
 - DECO would pay off the invoices as the funds would not go to the Village
 - He was not certain if it is a Match Grant
 - Before the Groundbreaking, the Zoning Board would be engaged
 - A Co-Op would be nice, but at the moment, the Mayor wants it to be a non-profit
 - Mayor stated he had nothing to hide, therefore no lie detector test was needed
 - Contracts to work in the Village are needed
 - Mayor Burgess opted not to answer the question concerning payment to attorneys

5. GENERAL COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES & MAYOR

- Trustee Williams announced that Sauk Talk Articles were due that day, a Blood Drive on 10/26 during Trunk or Treat and a 3-3 Basketball Tournament
- Trust Coleman questioned the Budget Review and asked for a copy of the budget before the next review. He called the Mayor childish for not sharing it
- Trustee Burns asked Trustee Johnson for a copy of the budget she received; she stated that the Co-Op should be researched and mentioned an Onion Market; expressed her concerns with the amount the Village would sell the land as it is one of few revenue sources; asked why the Village pay a consultant \$108,000 without a contract; announced the next meeting on 10/25, and announced scholarships and awards
- Trustee Sapp announced a Thanksgiving dinner on 11/12 at BFF. The purpose was Just to Give Back; Diane's Closet is on November 2nd and in December a planned Blanket Drive
- Trustee Johnson announced a meeting on 10/23 at 7:00 p.m.; she addressed that she received a budget as she attended the Budget Review Meeting; announced the Halloween Dance
- Mayor Burgess stated that General Comments should focus on committee work and it is the expectation going forward, Trustees cannot promote their own business at a meeting

6. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

NONE

7. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Burns moved, and Trustee Coleman seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. The roll call vote was unanimously approved.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE

October 15, 2024

Immediately following the Regular 7:00 pm Committee of the Whole Meeting
Sauk Village Municipal Center
21801 Torrence Avenue Sauk Village, Ill 60411

Notice of the Special Committee Meeting called by three Trustees of the Corporate Authorities: Burns, Sapp, and Coleman was issued in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act

1. CALL TO ORDER

Motion to appoint a Mayor Pro Temp was called by the Village Clerk upon evidence that Mayor Burgess had vacated the building after calling for a five-minute recess between the regular Committee of the Whole Meeting and the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting. Trustee Burns moved, and Trustee Williams seconded the motion to appoint Trustee Coleman as Mayor Pro Temp

On Roll Call

Present: Trustees: Burns, Coleman, Sapp, and Williams

Absent: Trustee Carter, Johnson

Motion Carried

Mayor Pro Temp Coleman called to order the Special Committee Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Trustees: Burns, Coleman, Sapp, and Williams

Absent: Trustee Carter, Johnson

3. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

- a) A motion to recess to Closed Session to discuss Personnel Matters and Update Pending Litigation was made by Trustee Williams and seconded by Trustee Burns at 8:47 p.m.

On Roll Call

Present: Trustees: Burns, Coleman, Sapp, and Williams

Absent: Trustee Carter, Johnson

Motion Carried

- b) Reconvene the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting

On Roll Call

Present: Trustees: Burns, Coleman, Sapp, and Williams

Absent: Trustee Carter, Johnson

Motion Carried

4. Discussion of the Temporary Appointment of Proven IT on an emergency basis until the new RFP is posted and a new bid process is conducted.

- Tom Zunn <sp> presented the services that Proven could provide. He indicated that in order to determine the need, the following would be needed: an assessment of the network, Access to the control room. Acknowledging the obstacles was discussed. Atty McGrath recommended that Proven work collaboratively with the Mayor and Village Administrator to gain access.
 - The deliverables needed:
 - A general assessment
 - Cost
 - Hourly rate
 - Statement of the security and data.
5. Review the Official Notice of the Illinois Labor Relations Board Case No. S-CA-24-014 filed 8-30-24

Trustee Williams provided the Notice ordered demanding the Village to post the document. It was discussed that at a recent meeting, Mayor Burgess did not acknowledge receipt of the 8/30 2024 Notice to post or of any grievances. Trustee Williams advised that the purpose of the agenda item was to inform residents that the Village had not followed what was dictated. Trustees were not in favor of the number of grievances and that they were not being addressed. It was suggested that a letter be written to the Illinois Relations Board attesting to that fact.

6. Discussion of Union Grievances Filed by Public Works Employees
It was acknowledged that this item is the same as the previous, therefore not discussed.

According to Trustee Burns, the following items need not be discussed during the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting, rather they were addressed in Closed Session, and will be voted upon during the Special Board Meeting.

- 7. Review Formal Charges Against Interim Finance Director Laquisha Renee Lewis
- 8. Review Formal Charges Against Interim Village Manager Kenneth Johnson
- 9. Review Formal Charges Against Interim Public Works Director Dante' James

10. Adjournment

Trustee Burns moved and Trustee Williams seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS



Village of Sauk Village
Board Meeting Corporate Authorities
Municipal Center
21801 Torrence Avenue, Sauk Village, Illinois
Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Derrick Burgess led the constituency in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call:

Present: Trustees: Carter Coleman, Johnson, Sapp and Williams

Absent: Trustee Burns was not on Roll Call but arrived shortly after

Staff Present:

Interim Village Administrator Johnson Interim Director Lewis, Chief Barrett, Chief White,

Others in Attendance:

Clerk Marva Campbell-Pruitt

2) EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

None

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None presented

4) PUBLIC COMMENT

- K. Boettcher was pleased to know of the grocery store with hopes that it would be provided due diligence; she asked about TIF Meetings...when was the last and when is the next one; Is there a budget or audit planned.
- R. Williams-Baig announced the Library's Trunk or Treat. She requested updated invoices for the water bills as the library has an upcoming audit.
- J. Willis of the United Steel Worker Union questioned when would the Village respond to employees' filed grievances?
- J. Howard requested a special meeting to provide updates on his findings. He reported that he was running background checks on the seated officials and those seeking office as there were there were those with felonies, criminal histories and the like. He called out many be name, not listed in this record as it is unverified and may present as a legal issue. He informed that he would expect payment and that he would engage an attorney.
- V. K. questioned the disparity of some Trustees receiving the budget and not others, and asked for an update on the dispensary
- D Mehlert a DNC contractor stated that he had completed work, submitted invoices, but has not been paid. He need resolution

- D. Smith cited the unprofessional behavior of the OIG as his name had been slandered and has opened the door for the Village to a lawsuit. He appealed to the Trustees to take corrective action
- F. Anderson spoke to the OIG unprofessionalism
- J. Burns commended the Board for doing a great job as residents should know who criminals are. He questioned what happened to the million dollars and what account were the funds?
 - Mayor Burgess' Responses
 - The TIF Meeting will be publicized once planned
 - He thought the Library billing issue was resolved
 - The dispensary must answer some questions and provide follow up
 - The budget was distributed to those who attended the meeting
 - The concrete work was likely taken off the Accounts/Payable and advised to let him know when the work is completed
 - He asked for the address and number to be shared with the VA
 - The OIG position is in court. The Village does not have an OIG
 - The check from DECO was a grant, invoices are sent to them to pay, and not given to the Village

5) NEW BUSINESS

a) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- i. Motion to Approve Transfers, Payroll, Accounts Payable Distributions in the Combined Amount of \$692, 94.39 and authorize the Finance Department to Remit Payments

Trustee Johnson moved, and Trustee Carter seconded the motion

Trustee Coleman asked to amend the amount of Accounts/Payable by removing invoices for Sonya Douglas for \$99,190.00 and Eco Clean for \$3,481. Trustee Williams seconded the motion

On Roll Call

AYES: Trustees Burns, Coleman, Sapp, Williams

NAYS: Trustee Johnson, Carter

ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Trustee Burns moved to amend the Accounts Payable to remove Larrell Service Landscapes in the amount of \$8,750.25

On Roll Call

AYES: Trustees Burns, Sapp, Williams

NAYS: Trustee Johnson, Carter

Abstention: Trustee Coleman

ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Special Note: A motion to amend the Accounts/Payable was not brought forth before the final motion to approve the final amount.

Motion to Approve Transfers, Payroll, Accounts Payable Distributions in the Combined Amount of \$ 604,800.05, and authorize the Finance Department to Remit Payments

Trustee Williams moved, and Trustee Coleman seconded the motion

On Roll Call

AYES: Trustees: Carter, Coleman, Johnson, Sapp, Williams

NAYS: None

Abstention: Trustee Burns

ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Questions/Comments

Trustee Willams stated that she reviewed an invoice for \$2,96 that was not on A/P . Other comments included ???McKay for \$15,000, DNC payment for \$14,130. Was approved two weeks' ago and that \$11,000 was approved that night. She noted a discrepancy on the payroll and question double payment in Dept. 1 and Dept. 2. She stated that she was not seeking an answer that night.

Mayor Burgess responded that he would not answer and did not allow the Interim Finance Director to respond

b) PETITIONS, AGREEMENTS, AND ACTION ITEMS
NONE

6) REPORTS OF OFFICERS

- a) Mayor - Derrick Burgess announced day and time for Trunk or Treat
- b) Village Clerk - Marva Campbell-Pruitt:
 - i. Announced the Thanksgiving Dinner on 11/23/2024
 - ii. Provided Voter Education pertaining to the 2025 Consolidated Elections Calendar, Early Voting and the locations nearest Sauk Village for the November Presidential Elections.
- c) Interim Village Administrator – Mr. Kenneth Johnson:
 - i. Distributed his written report read it discussing Cook County Water Affordability Program

7) REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS

- a) Corporation Counsel – Ancel Glink Attorney was not present
- b) Village Engineer – Mayor Burgess read the Robinson Engineering report provided an update on the Roadway Construction Project
- c) Police Department - Chief Malcolm White:
 - i. Calls for Service – 395 Arrest 11
 - ii. Reported that he had attended a session on Restorative Justice
 - iii. Announced that he had been sworn in as President for SA Chief of Police

- iv. Spoke with audience members concerning the need for respect and decorum. He advised of arrest and physical restraints of future altercations
- d) Fire Department – Chief Stephen Barrett
 - i. Reported CFS 1
 - ii. Reported on two fires
 - iii. Provided safety tips
- e) Finance Department – Interim Director Renee Lewis reported that the department was wrapping up a MFT Report
- f) Public Works – Director Dante' James was not present

8) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

- a) Senior Advisory Committee – Chairperson Emmett Farmer announced the standard events for the Seniors and a Sneaker Ball on the 26th
- b) Board of Fire and Police Commissioner – Chairperson Francine Anderson stated that there would soon be recruitment activity
- c) Zoning Board of Appeals/Plan Commission – Chairperson Charles Pondexter was not present

9) PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None

10) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

11) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND TRUSTEE COMMENTS

- a) Budget, Finance & Audit – Trustee Eugene Carter had no report
- b) Ordinance Review - Trustee Arnold Coleman had no report
- c) Public Services - Trustee Raven Johnson announce the next meeting would be 11/25 at 7:00
- d) Housing and Intergovernmental Relations - Trustee Diane Sapp announced Diane's Closet event on 11/2 and a dinner at BFF on 11/12
- e) Community Development - Trustee Debra Williams announced a blood drive on 12/28 at the Library, the next meeting would be 11/12 and that the Sauk Talk would be released the next day
- f) Public Health & Safety - Trustee Aretha Burns Thanked Chief White for his comments, asked the Mayor to communicate with the VA about the dispensary; asked when the budget and audit would wrap up?

Trustee Williams departed the meeting at 8:40. Trustee Coleman left but returned.

12) GENERAL COMMENTS FROM MAYOR BURGESS

He commented on not personalizing individual's names and name-calling during standing reports and comments, no name-calling. He announced that Halloween hours would be 3-6 or 3-7

13) ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the business of the day, Mayor Burgess called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Trustee Burns moved, and Trustee Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

21801 TORRENCE AVENUE, SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS

October 29, 2024

The special meeting called by Mayor Derrick Burgess of the Village of Sauk Village with Notices were issued in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act

Mayor Derrick Burgess announced the apparent lack of a quorum. A Call to Order or Roll Call did not take place. He stated, both meetings scheduled to address the proposal to finalize dissolution of the agreement with the previous organization, Dardur, and to hear proposed final plans to convey the land to build a mini mart could not be addressed.