

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF STEGER, WILL & COOK
COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

The Board of Trustees convened in regular session at 8:04 P.M. on this 2nd day of March 2026 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger, Illinois. Mayor Joyce led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The roll was called. The following Trustees were present; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Trustee Kaminski and Village Clerk Zagone were absent.

Deputy Clerk DaVanna Terry was in attendance.

Also present: Village Administrator Joseph Wiszowaty, Police Chief Greg Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Roy Stone, Fire Chief Mike Long, Community Center Director Fay Kiaurakis, EMA Chief Jason Stevenson, Code Enforcement Officer Paul Myers and Village Attorney Vlado Vranjes. Village Engineer Melanie Arnold and was absent.

RECOGNITIONS

None.

MINUTES

Trustee Thurmond made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17th meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.
Voice vote; All ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Connie Lundin of Cottage Grove Ave. asked if there was an update on the fence across the street from her that has been in dispute for three years. Mayor Joyce responded that there is nothing that will happen until he is done going through what we can legally do because it appears that someone from the Village did sign off on it, but I am still going through the paperwork. So, at the moment, nothing is going to happen to it. We are working on it.

Matt Polanski of Butler Ave asked about the Solar Project going on near Rt. 394. Mayor Joyce explained that a private company that the Village gave approval to, two years ago. They have finally moved forward with it. So, the Solar Farm is almost ready to go online and their next step is they are going to introduce 10 goats to maintain the grass in the fenced area where the solar farm is. Mr. Polanski asked if the Village benefitted from the farm. Mayor Joyce stated that he has to read through the agreement. We get something out of it, but I don't know what it is.

Joe Dore of 1252 229th St. asked about the condition of his road which he has called numerous times. I am the only house on a dead end street. It has huge pot holes, can't go around them anymore there are so many. The road that leads in from Cottage Grove was repaired recently by the Village, however, they skipped my road all together. Mayor Joyce asked Mr. Dore to give his phone number to Roy Stone and before the end of the week we will take care of the potholes. Mr. Dore said thank you.

REPORTS

MAYORS REPORT

Today is Dr. Seuss Day, so it is National Read Across America Day. When I am done here I get to go read a book for the School District where they will video me to put in the schools. If anyone else would like to read a book, you are more than welcome to come with me. This morning I met with the elected officials from the Southland Area. We met with Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle at Wind Creek Casino. It was a nice day for interacting with other elected officials in the area. Steger-South Chicago Heights Library is celebrating the 100th Birthday of Marie lafollo. She is one of the founding board members of the Library from 50 years ago. They have an event at the library on Saturday March 21st from 1-4 pm. Everyone is welcome to come. At the next board meeting I have invited her and her nephew to come where we will present her with a proclamation. You are all welcome to come, I am sure we will have a cake for her as well. Remodeling at the Elmer Joyce Memorial Fire Station was completed for the portion of the building being used by Cook County for Early Voting. Trustee Perchinski: How much was the cost on that? Mayor Joyce: I don't have all the final numbers, but it is under \$8,000. Early Voting site in Steger is now open. It is open seven days a week and will be available until 5 pm on March 16th, the day before the primary. Steger 250 Committee is continuing and has been successful in getting upcoming events planned and put together. Their Daytona 500 Watch Party Fundraiser raffles raised over \$3,000 for their planned activities. As of today, the owners of Party Liquors have donated the money, \$2,000 for the bands for that weekends events.

VILLAGE CLERK No report.

Village Administrator Just a couple quick things for all staff members: The Department Head Level, Board Members and Committee Members, your Statement of Economic Interest, you should have received an email today. If you have not, check with me. Everyone's name here was submitted for that to be done. Additionally, since the Village Engineer is not here: The 2026 MFT resurfacing project will begin, it's progress and payment cores were collected today. The design will be finalized once the processing of the payment core has been completed. We anticipate advertising for the project in late March and awarding the project in April. We will be starting construction sometime in May depending on weather. The total construction costs for this project is \$750,000. Priority roads are: Kings Road from Steger Road to Richton Road, Florence Avenue from 31st St. to 33rd St. And, the ally's to the east of Chicago Road from 34th Place to 35th Street. Additional roadways have been identified for replacement if additional funds are

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remaining and the pending results of the payment core analysis. That is all she had to report for tonight. Mayor Joyce: Just so everyone is aware, we did the initial core samples, but we went ahead and took them from additional roads that may become able to be done.

Village Attorney No Report

Village Engineer Reported by Village Administrator.

Police Chief Greg Smith No report.

Fire Chief Mike Long I just want to let everyone know that March 29th this year will be our Easter Egg Hunt here at the Fire House. It will be from 8-noon and is free for everyone who wants to attend. We will get more information out on our Facebook page soon. All ages through 13 are welcome.

Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Roy Stone

Good evening everyone,

DPW continues to patch potholes, as the weather allows.

There have been six water main breaks since our last meeting on February 17th.

Special thanks to Jack Willett from EMA and Paul Meyers, Code Enforcement, for their assistance with traffic control on Saturday while DPW repaired a water-main break into the evening hours.

Lead Line Update:

Since the last board meeting, Five Star has done 64 home inspections, replaced 43 services, and hydrovac'd 90 holes.

Community Center Fay Kiaurakis

Good Evening Everyone,

March is looking to be an even busier month than February here at the Community Center. On top of the programs we already have:

Walkers, Chair Fitness, Tai Chi, Yoga, Cart Wheel Club, Fitness Frenzy, and Dance & Trim; The programs Kris & I started: Senior Balance, Painting, Matchbox Play Time, Floor Is Lava, Sculpting, Intro to Cricut, Game Night, New Year New You, and Sewing; We have added: Story time, Nutrition & You, Balance Class, and Exercise With Kris. We are also going to be hosting the Election as always. That will be March 17th, as a reminder Will County will be coming to setup for the Election on March 16th. This may or may not cause disruptions to our programs. We were not given an exact time as to when they will come and set up, so we plan to run our programs as scheduled, however if they come during the afternoon we may have to cancel the evening programs. Once the equipment is setup, we MUST lock the Gym and we can

NOT enter again until all equipment has been removed, so I apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause to our scheduling. Lastly, we are going to have a fun kid event called, "Leprechaun Traps & Treats" for St. Patrick's Day. The kids are going to set Leprechaun traps all over our Hall on March 13th from 3:30-7:30pm we will also be having a pizza party with pizzas from Austin's in town. Once the traps are set the kids are asked to come back March 18th to see if we caught one, where they will receive one last treasure whether we caught one or not. We have also changed the exercise room around a bit with help from the "Public Works Dept." to make it feel a little larger and less cramped. In addition, we have added a cooling towels cooler and Cucumber water station that we hope to have fully operational by the middle of this week. Our AED is now at the appropriate level per our Code Enforcers request. We had our Recreational Basketball All Star game on Saturday. It was very busy and the kids looked like they were having a great time. We were even able to have some of the siblings in the Hall for their own Matchbox play time. For the Entire Month of February our attendance was as follows: 100 – Tops Club, 20 – sewing, 63 – Chair Fitness, 127 – Senior Balance, 137 Fitness Classes, 4 – New Year New You, 14 Homework Help, 27 – Cart Wheel Club, 22- Floor is Lava, 28 – Matchbox Play time, 10- Girl Scouts, 2 – Movie, 15 – Intro to Painting, 2 – Intro to sculpting, 1 – Intro to sewing, 3 – Intro to Cricut, 325 – Hall Parties, 1,172 – Members visited for a Total of 2,072 People that have come in and out of our little slice of heaven.

EMA Chief Jason Stevenson No report.

Code Enforcement Paul Myers Good evening Mr. Mayor. So far, Code Enforcement has issued 25 – 48 Hour Warning Tickets, 5 dog calls, all were retrieved by the owners. I have issued 10 tickets, 16 Stop Work Orders and have assisted Steger PD, EMA and DPW. That's all I have.

Mayor Joyce: Our judgement that go cancelled at the last minute, how many people were supposed to be there that night? Code Enforcement: There was supposed to be 60 at the first one and 70 at the second one.

Mayor Joyce: For those of you, our judgement hearing, that is how many needed to appear to answer for tickets or fines that they are getting from the Village. These numbers have increased quiet a bit since Mr. Myers joined the Village. Thank you.

TRUSTEES REPORTS

BILLS

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to pay the bills as listed when funds become available. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Thurmond made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 1342-2026: THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STEGER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: I had a lot of questions last meeting and none of them got answered. Start with Clerical line, we are bringing some of the money over from water for a total of \$260,076, but our payroll and we created another position in the past year, is \$280,000. So, are we losing someone? Mayor Joyce: We are not losing anybody. Trustee Perchinski: We are budgeting less than we did last year. VA

Wisowaty: The only difference was we apportioned in the budget for the first time, the amount of salary for general fund and the water fund. That is the only change that we have done to the budget. Trustee Perchinski: It was almost \$87,000 coming from Water and then \$174,000 coming from general which is \$260,000 which is about \$20,000

lighter than where we were at last year, and we do have another person in there. VA Wisowaty: Everyone is accounted for within the budget in those numbers. They have been validated by our financial advisors.

Trustee Perchinski: Under New Vehicles, I see here, there is one here for you VA Wisowaty for \$7,860 for the year, but we are budgeting \$18,720. Is there a plan to buy other vehicles? VA Wisowaty: No. Not at this time. Trustee Perchinski: So why did we budget \$18,720? VA Wisowaty: because we may have some additional costs for the Police Department that we need to cover. Trustee Perchinski: Shouldn't that be under PD? VA Wisowaty: We do have portions of that covered under that, but we also have a

\$19,000 amount that we are getting on a totaled-out vehicle that we are concerned about. There is no additional vehicle coming out of that. Trustee Thurmond: Mr. Mayor, I would like to motion to the question. Trustee Perchinski: I'd like to ask another question here Joe. We talked about this Admin and Building Code and moving expense, have we figured out what that \$18,000 is? VA Wisowaty: That is for the cost for plan reviews for our permits for our outside contractors. Trustee Perchinski: So, that is just plan review. VA Wisowaty: yes. Mayor Joyce: Second to your motion. Trustee Stewart: second the motion. Mayor Joyce: roll call. Trustee Trotier: I did not hear the motion. Mayor Joyce: the motion is to call the question of, you have a motion and second to pass the ordinance No. 1342. Trustee Perchinski: You aren't going to let me ask these questions?

Mayor Joyce: I didn't call the motion. Trustee Perchinski: I am really surprised, this is \$8 million more than our budget last year, I am surprised there are six elected officials up here that did not ask one question. Mayor Joyce: There is no debate here. Roll call. The call to question is either vote yes or no for the Ordinance No. 1342-2026

Trustee Perchinski: You're going to do a roll call here? Mayor Joyce: We are.

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Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond and Trotier. Trustee Perchinski voted no. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1208-2026: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG TO COOK COUNTY. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1209-2026: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF 44 EAST 30TH PLACE, VILLAGE OF STEGER.

Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: So this building is in horrible shape, the roof is falling in, there is junk in it that probably take a week to clean out. What funds do we have setup to make sure that this is a safe building? Mayor Joyce: Currently we have no funds, but I am going to Cook County to ask for help or we are going to look to reallocate one of our DECO grants to get it emptied. The eventual thing is, if the building is repairable, we'd like to repair it and put it back on the market to see if we can get someone in there, put it back on the tax rolls. That would be the ultimate goal. Right now it is an unsafe building in our town that if we don't go forward with this, it will end up in the hands of Cook County who will put it in a tax sale and then we will spend the next 5 -10 years fighting with whoever gets it trying to get it cleaned up. This assures us that we can clean it up.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond and Trotier. Trustee Perchinski voted no. Motion carried.

Trustee Hanus made a motion to approve an Engagement Letter between Bernardi Securities and the Village of Steger for Underwriting Bonds for 2026.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: We have already seen that this is going to put us pretty far into debt. You are looking to use \$4 million for a Village Hall with no plan. We do need to get moving forward, but I think we should be spending our money on our infrastructure: our water and our roads. I am thoroughly against spending money on a new Village Hall, especially when you spent \$40,000 on this building with no village board approval.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond and Trotier. Trustee Perchinski voted no. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve a Master Equity Lease Agreement between Enterprise Fleet Management and the Village of Steger subject to legal review. Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

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Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve an Agreement to Sell Customer Vehicles between Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. and the Village of Steger pending legal review. Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to approve the Village Owned Vehicle Services Agreement between Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. and the Village of Steger. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Consignment Auction Agreement between Enterprise Fleet Management and the Village of Steger.

Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Full Maintenance Agreement between Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. and the Village of Steger.

Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to approve the acquisition of a 2026 Dodge Durango through Enterprise Fleet Management for the Village of Steger.

Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to approve the acquisition of a 2026 Dodge Pickup through Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. for the Village of Steger.

Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to approve the acquisition of (4) 2026 Ford Explorer Police Interceptors through Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. for the Village of Steger. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

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Trustee Thurmond made a motion to approve the acquisition of (2) pre-owned (2019) and (2017) Chevrolet Cargo Vans G2500 through town and Country Motors for the sum of \$17,500 for Public Works.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to Authorize the Village Administrator and/or Mayor to participate in a Joint Participation agreement with the State of Illinois for purchase of road salt for 2026-2027. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Hanus made a motion to approve a Business License for Steger Coins & Collectibles, Inc. at 3412 Chicago Road; pending inspections.

Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to accept a proposal from Desiderio Landscaping for Landscape Maintenance on a bi-weekly basis for vacant properties at \$45 per standard size lots pending legal review. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept a proposal from Desiderio Landscaping for Tree Trimming and Tree Removal pursuant to their proposal pending legal review.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to accept a proposal from Desiderio Landscaping for weed control and fertilization for Spring, Fall and Winter for Fireman's Park, Veteran's Park, Police Station, Fire Station, Louis Sherman Community Center and Halsted Boulevard between Steger Road and 35th Street for \$3,850.00 and fertilization for \$445 per application pending legal review. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

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Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve a proposal for a Zero-Turn Scag Turf Tiger II Mower from Keith's Power Equipment, Inc. of Steger in the amount of \$15,839.00.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Being no further business:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

William Joyce, Village President

DaVanna Terry, Deputy Village Clerk