

VILLAGE OF ROCKTON
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OCTOBER 5, 2010

Mayor Adams called the Rockton Village Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:00 P. M. Present were: Mayor Adams, Mr. Peterson, Mrs. Bloodworth, Mr. Fridly, Mr. Winters, and Ms. Davey. Also present: Atty. Galluzzo.

Motion by Winters, second by Peterson to waive the reading of the September 21, 2010, Village Board minutes. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Fridly, second by Bloodworth, to approve the minutes of September 21, 2010, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

AMENDMENTS

Winters – Add a consensus to allow the attorneys to draft a Social Hosting Ordinance

Peterson – Add a consensus to spend up to \$350 for fall decorations in the planters on Main St.

Mayor – Remove Items 2 and 3 under him dealing with First Readings for Wind Energy Systems and Communications Towers

Mayor – Remove Item 4 – Appointment to Police Pension Board no appointee at this time

Motion by Winters, second by Peterson to approve the amended agenda. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Olive Samuels. Mrs. Samuels stated that she came here because you are all her friends and you have already approved a proposal for pre-annexation next to my property and no one talked to me about it. Mayor Adams stated that we have not done that. She stated that she is not sure what the Village has done. She stated she was here regarding the land use change of the 20 acre parcel on Yale Bridge Rd. known as the Grimaudo Plan. She is the owner of 80 acres of active agricultural property that is directly adjacent to the and fully borders the east side of this proposed site. It is her understanding that the Rockton Village Board chose to approve the Grimaudo plan in a unanimous vote at your last regular board meeting, September 21, 2010, without any input from

adjacent property owners. She stated that the Grimaudo plan lacked important facts about the zoning and existing usage rights on my agricultural property. Her neighboring farm has an active, private, restricted landing area which is directly adjacent to the Grimaudo multi-building commercial residence site. Her property on Yale Bridge Road has been active in farming for 58 years, a property she has had since 1970. She stated my property has formally had a private, restricted landing area with licensing through the State of Illinois and a circuit court decision in favor of 16 private air fields in Winnebago County as well as specific zoning ordinance in 1993 where the county board granted my property an unconditional Special Use Permit ordinance for our private, restricted landing area. This air strip has been on my property for over four decades. The landing strip on my property is certainly not a secret and has been known by all my Rockton Township neighbors for decades. Copies of all this information are attached for reference. When comparing readily available aerial maps to the proposed Grimaudo preliminary plans, you will notice that there 12 building residential complex that your board endorsed has multiple buildings directly at the end of her air strip. This was missed apparently by your board. Her landing strip would certainly be a local condition worthy of consideration for the 12 building commercial residential complex shown in the Grimaudo plan. She found out about this in the Beloit Daily News. She came also because the Village ignored her routine request for public information regarding the zoning approval process it has in place for the Grimaudo plan. On September 24, three days after your vote, she sent an e-mail request to the Village asking for clarification of the facts and the meeting process that would be moving forward as a result of the vote of the Village Board. This information was not sent to her because we have not had contact from the Grimaudos since and no further meetings have been set at this time in regard to this pre-annexation. This Grimaudo plan would represent a drastic change to the character and usage of her existing neighborhood as well as an infrastructure and service area for the Village of Rockton. What was your rush? As a taxpayer of the Village of Rockton for 25 years, she is extremely sad and offended that the board would receive these plans and approve them the same night without informing the adjacent property owners. You denied me and the other adjacent property owners the common courtesy of notification prior to making your affirmative vote in support of the plan. She feels that vote will unduly influence the succeeding meetings by the Village and citizen committees that will now be scheduled to take place. The State of Illinois requires specific procedures to be followed when the Village will be the body to hear and grant pre-annexation agreement and zoning on requested changes in

extraterritorial areas. These laws offer basic protection to adjacent properties owners and village residents as well as the petitioner. For whatever reason the Village board chose to have a vote of approval and public comment of unanimous support prior to having these required procedural hearings. It is highly unusual and likely illegal for the final approval board to issue a positive vote and publicly voice enthusiastic supportive opinions prior to the completion of the full statutory process where all sides will be heard. My rights and my adjacent neighbors were violated by your pre-emptive vote and public supported comments. She asked the board to vote tonight to rescind the previous positive action regarding the Grimaudo preliminary plans.

Mayor Adams stated that you are in error on several fronts. It was not enthusiastic support. The Grimaudos came to us and asked if we approved of the "concept". The Village Board agreed on the conceptual idea of having this in place. We did nothing to approve zoning, we did nothing to approve pre-annexation. You are correct, there is a process that we have to follow and we intend to follow that process which has not started yet. It went to the Planning boards to see if they had any comments or anything that would negatively affect their ability to move forward. They wanted to know if they should make an offer to purchase. Mrs. Samuels asked what did your vote actually say? Mayor Adams stated that we basically took no action whatsoever because we know there is a process we need to follow and that process includes publication and public hearings. It includes going back before the Planning and Zoning Committee again with at least two public hearings. Atty. Galluzzo stated that a lot of questions arose after that meeting that people still need to think about. The Grimaudos have not submitted a formal annexation petition. Mayor Adams stated that we will keep you in the loop as we move forward as we had intended to do.

2. Mary Ann Eshelman. Mary Ann Eshelman from the Stateline YMCA stated that she took over the Lickety Splits Triathlon this year. Everyone in the Village of Rockton helped us pull this off. We had 125 participants with 18 of them being teens. With the money received, which we stated we would split with the Hut Program, she presented the Mayor a check for \$1,238.50. The Y is planning to do this again next year.

MAYOR ADAMS

1. Resolution #2010-113. Mayor Adams read Resolution #2010-113 honoring Eagle Scout Matthew Valenti and recognizing him for his

successful completion of requirements for the National Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

2. Trick or Treat Hours. Motion by Winters, second by Peterson to set the Halloween Trick or Treat Hours for October 31 from 5 to 8PM. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Domestic Violence Proclamation. Mayor Adams read a Proclamation designating the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

POLICE & LEGAL – MR. WINTERS

1. Social Hosting Ordinance. Mr. Winters authorized the attorneys to use the Lake Zurich model to create a Social Hosting ordinance for the Village to be presented at the next meeting.

BUILDINGS & PARKS – MRS. BLOODWORTH

1. Weed & Feed – Rockton Athletic Fields. Motion by Bloodworth, second by Peterson to authorize the expenditure of \$1,200 to S&H Lawn Care to Weed and Feed the Rockton Athletic Fields diamonds. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

SEWER, WATER & GARBAGE – MR. FRIDLY

1. Employee Benefit Policy Amendment. Motion by Fridly, second by Peterson to approve the amendments to the Public Works Employee Benefit Policy in reference to sick time. Paragraph 2 under Accumulation and Separation to read “No compensation will be paid to salaried full-time employees for any “unused” sick time”. This previously read “used” sick time. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

2. 8’ Pro Plow. Motion by Fridly, second by Peterson to purchase a new 8’ snow plow for \$4,478.00 from the low bidder, Northland Equipment, for the 2001 GMC ¾ ton. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

STREETS & WALKS – MR. PETERSON

1. Drainage Issues - Wenlock Place. Mr. Peterson explained that the drainage issue on Wenlock Place with the 14% grade will be taken

care of in the Spring as we want to use MFT for the costs of \$8-\$10,000 for the trench drain to prevent water erosion in the resident's yards.

Mr. Peterson asked for and received a consensus from the board for the expenditure of \$350 to place fall decorations in the planters on Main St. This will be approved at the next Public Works Committee meeting.

Motion by Winters, second by Peterson to adjourn to executive session at 7:33 P.M. to review executive minutes. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

The Rockton Village Board of Trustees meeting was called back to order at 7:40 P.M. Present were: Mayor Adams, Ms. Davey, Mr. Winters, Mr. Fridly, Mrs. Bloodworth, and Mr. Peterson.

Motion by Winters, second by Peterson to pay bills in the amount of \$182,509.90. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Winters, second by Peterson to adjourn at 8:41 P.M. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Rossi
Village Clerk