

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE VILLAGE OF FORSYTH, IL**

**Held at the Village Hall
March 1, 2010**

Call to Order

Mayor Harold Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Upon call of the roll, the following Trustees were physically present:

Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.

Absent: None.

Also Physically Present

Darrell Woolums, Larry Coloni, Rhonda Stewart, Chuck Hunsinger, Kathy Mizer, Charlyn Brautigam, Deb Kirchner, Deputy Halk.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

*** Consideration of items listed on the Consent Agenda under the omnibus vote designation:*

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Village Board meeting held February 16, 2010.
2. Approval of Minutes of the Special Village Board meeting held February 25, 2010.
3. Approval of Bills presented for payment, March 1, 2010. ***Invoices are always available for review upon request.*
4. Approval of Ordinance No. 787: Variance for 2 Woodland Drive.
5. Approval of Ordinance No. 788: Special Use Permit for 920 S. Rt 51.
6. Approval of Ordinance No. 789: Major Change to Hickory Point Christian Village Planned Unit Development.

Trustee Morr mentioned that the vote taken at the conclusion of the February 25, 2010 meeting was recorded incorrectly. It should have read as follows:

“Allsup moved, and Rasho seconded, to authorize paying mileage only for candidates interview for the Village Administrator position. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 4—Johnson, Rasho, Morr, Allsup.

Nays: 2—Reed, Hubbard.

Absent: 0—None.

Motion declared carried.”

Trustee Allsup moved, and Trustee Hubbard seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented with the exception of the above-mentioned correction to Item No. 2, the February 25, 2010 Special Meeting Minutes. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.

Nays: 0—None.

Absent: 0—None.

Motion declared carried by omnibus vote.

Public Comment

There was no public comment presented.

Mayor Gilbert reported that the Forsyth Post Office property has been sold. The new owners have asked that an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to introduce themselves to the Trustees.

LAW ENFORCEMENT—

Deputy Halk was in attendance at the meeting to comment on recent activity in the Village that officers have responded to. He remarked that overall things have been pretty quiet. Deputy Halk did report that one case of identity theft occurred in the Village recently and is under investigation. He also mentioned that individuals believed to be involved in the burglary at the Verizon Wireless store located in Hickory Point Commons, has been apprehended and is in jail. The suspects were from the Chicago area.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

ENGINEERING—

Engineer Chuck Hunsinger was present to comment on items listed in his Engineering Status Report provided for Trustees to review.

Weaver Road Bridge

Chuck mentioned that SKS Engineering plans to have a report on the condition of the bridge ready to review at the March 15, 2010 meeting.

Oreana Water Main Project

Chuck mentioned that the Village of Oreana continues easement negotiations for the project. Court action may be needed to procure the site where the pumping station will be located. Chuck reported that he did speak with Oreana officials about Forsyth's plans to extend the water line only to a mid-point between the two communities that was identified in the Intergovernmental Agreement between the two municipalities. He commented that he does not anticipate any problem with this plan.

Mayor Gilbert commented that it was always planned for the Village of Forsyth to only pay the costs associated with extending the water line to a mid-point between Forsyth and Oreana. He added that he also does not see any problem with these plans.

County Highway 20 Road Improvement Project

Chuck reported that the County is reviewing the plans for this project, and noted that once the review is complete a copy will be provided to the Village. Chuck mentioned that officials are trying to decide when is the appropriate time to hold a public information meeting about the project. Chuck

commented that in his opinion, it may be too soon to have a meeting without any schedule for construction. Trustee Morr asked if the Village was required to have a public meeting before construction begins. Chuck replied that in his experience, it would be better. Mayor Gilbert mentioned that in his opinion, funding for the road project has not yet been finalized. Trustee Rasho commented that the Public Works Committee would be discussing this item at its next meeting scheduled for March 8, 2010.

US Rt 51 and Barnett Avenue Intersection

Chuck mentioned that he had nothing new to report on this item. Trustee Morr asked if a drawing of any of the restriping changes planned for the intersection could be sent to the Village to review prior to implementation. Chuck replied that he would ask Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) officials, but could not guarantee IDOT would provide the information requested.

LEGAL—

Attorney Darrell Woolums reported that he has been working on revisions to the water tower maintenance agreement discussed a few weeks ago. Company representatives appear to be agreeable to the proposed changes and have been easy to work with. Darrell stated that he expects to have a final draft ready for the Board to review at its next meeting.

The Union Drainage District case has been set for trial on June 18, 2010. More information will be provided on this item as it becomes available.

Darrell also mentioned that he has been talking to Federal representatives of the old railroad right-of-way property and intentions the Village has concerning this land. He added that he has also been researching the history on this property.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT—

Public Works Director Larry Coloni provided a written activities report for Trustees to review regarding the status of ongoing projects in the Village.

Items mentioned included:

- *Work has been suspended on the relocation of the sand volleyball pit.*
- *Working on the Water Storage Tank Maintenance agreement with Caldwell Tank.*
- *Public Works Employees are removing trees and brush along Village right-of-ways in an effort to enhance Forsyth's appearance.*
- *Continuing with sump pump inspections and changing out old meters. Larry reported that eight illegal connections have been found to date.*
- *The tree limb chipping program resumes March 1.*
- *Employees have been patching pot holes in streets throughout the Village.*
- *A cross-connection control survey will be mailed to all residents this week as part of an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandate. A cross-connection is any situation that allows a potable (safe) water source and a non-potable (contaminated) water source the opportunity to come into contact with each other. This may result in contamination of plumbing, sickness, and even death to consumers. The surveys are required by ordinance and must be completed. Larry stated that if completed forms are not returned to the Village, homeowners will be individually contacted.*
- *Larry reported that he attended a Geographical Information System (GIS) training session in Champaign recently. He noted that the City of Champaign, Savoy, and Urbana, are working together with the University of Illinois in development of a GIS database for the area. The*

system includes water/sewer lines, streets, and other infrastructure within each municipality. Larry commented that a system could be helpful in Forsyth, but may be costly to develop. Champaign has input all of their valves, water lines, sewer lines, manholes, etc. in their system. Larry mentioned that to maintain the City's database, two full-time employees have been hired.

Engineer Chuck Hunsinger mentioned that the City of Decatur, Macon County, and the Decatur Sanitary District also have individual GIS databases, but noted that some of the information pertaining to each governmental entity can be accessed by all three. It may be possible for the Village to work with Macon County on this issue rather than try and develop a separate database.

Trustees asked Larry to contact County officials to inquire about what it may cost for including Forsyth information in their database, and what other information that might be available before discussing this issue further.

COMMITTEES—

There were no committee reports presented, but meeting dates were provided.

- Finance Committee: Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
- Health and Safety Committee: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
- Library Committee: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Committee: Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
- Economic Development Committee: Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
- Activities and Events Committee: Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Funding Requests – Hotel/Motel Tax

Mayor Gilbert referred to an information memo provided by Treasurer Rhonda Stewart concerning each of the funding requests received. The memo included what the Village contributed last year, and what each organization has requested be contributed this year.

- *Futures Charity Golf Tournament*

Mayor Gilbert mentioned that he is hopeful that Trustees have had time to review the information provided by Cindy Diedrick, regarding different sponsorship levels available and what benefits the Village would receive from each one. He suggested the Village contribute \$10,000 to the Futures this year.

Trustee Morr asked if the Village would be providing goody bags again this year. Mayor Gilbert replied that, yes the Economic Development Committee is planning to do so. He mentioned that the Futures organization has recommended that instead of giving the goodies to each player at registration time this year, the organization suggests the elected officials distribute them on Tuesday evening from the booth inside of the Corporate Village.

In the information submitted, Cindy explained that for a \$10,000 contribution, the Village of Forsyth would be the primary sponsor of the expo area leading into the pavilion. This sponsorship provides a high-traffic location through which hundreds of fans pass through each day of the tournament.

Some of the benefits received for the sponsorship package include:

- (2) Platinum Pro Am Teams
- (2) Afternoon Pro Am Teams
- (24) Hospitality Pavilion Passes
- (40) General Admission Tickets
- (2) VIP Parking Passes
- (24) Par-Tee Tickets
- (1) Corporate Village Expo Booth, including three (3) six foot tables
- Logo on Website and Website link
- Logo on Corporate Village, Driving Range and Putting Green
- Logo on promotional media and tournament materials

In addition, it was strongly recommended a commitment from the Village of Forsyth to solicit merchandise for booth, goody bags and encourage staffing of booth by local business owners.

Also recommended was that the Village of Forsyth, in conjunction with the Tate & Lyle Players Championship, work together in developing a branding campaign designed to highlight those businesses supporting the Corporate Village.

Trustee Allsup mentioned that he would suggest contributing \$10,000 to the Futures organization, but give the passes and other items included in the sponsorship to the Village employees. He explained that in his opinion, this would be a small way to recognize employees for their hard work during the past year, and to clearly indicate that although the Board has voted to make this contribution, Trustees will not be in any way benefiting from it.

Trustee Reed remarked that although he doesn't have a problem with giving these passes and other items to the employees, he has questions about the proposal. He asked if employees have not received some of these items in the past. Mayor Gilbert replied that yes they have, but noted that the number of passes given to the Village will be a lot less than in past years.

Mayor Gilbert commented that he was hopeful that he and Trustees could put together a golf team this year to challenge the City of Decatur elected officials. Trustee Morr asked if any members of the Decatur City Council play golf. Mayor Gilbert replied that he is not sure. Following a lengthy discussion Trustee Allsup moved, and Trustee Rasho seconded, to approve contributing \$10,000 to the Futures Charity Golf Tournament, using Hotel/Motel Tax receipts, contingent upon all of the benefits from the sponsorship be given to employees, and not to any of the elected officials. If any of the passes or other items are not used by employees, they should then be offered to committee volunteers. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

o *Decatur Celebration*

Mayor Gilbert mentioned that last year the Village contributed \$8,000 to this organization. He commented that he would support the request again this year.

Trustee Rasho remarked that at this uncertain economic time, he does not see a need to increase funding for the Decatur Celebration. He commented that this may be the last year the festival is held due to a lack of funding. Trustee Rasho stated that with the economic challenges the Village is facing, the contribution should remain at \$8,000. Another concern he mentioned is what impact the State budget may have on local hotel/motel tax receipts.

Mayor Gilbert commented that in his opinion, the Village needs to try and find ways to use the money in the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund.

Trustee Rasho stated that in his opinion, these funds should not be used as a slush fund. He suggested that if the Board feels there is too much in that fund, Trustees should consider decreasing the amount of tax charged to individuals staying at Forsyth hotels as an added attraction for the Village.

Trustee Reed mentioned that the public would never see the reduction in tax receipts. He suggested the Board consider increasing their contribution by \$1,000 over what was given last year, for a total of \$9,000.

Trustee Rasho stated he would not support a \$1,000 increase.

Trustee Hubbard moved, and Trustee Reed seconded, to contribute \$9,000 to the Decatur Celebration using Hotel/Motel Tax receipts. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 4—Reed, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup.
Nays: 2—Rasho, Johnson.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

o *Decatur Area Convention & Visitors Bureau*

Mayor Gilbert mentioned that the Village contributed \$55,000 to the Decatur Area Convention & Visitors Bureau (DACVB) last year, but has requested a \$75,000 contribution this year. He recommended the Board make a \$65,000 contribution this year.

Trustee Rasho suggested the Board consider reducing its contribution by 10% this year. This would result in a \$50,000 contribution. He mentioned that he contacted the City of Decatur to see what they have given to this organization for the past two years, and also what is planned for this year. Numbers indicated the City continues to decrease contribution. Trustee Rasho stated that in his opinion, this show consistency. He mentioned that another concern he has, is what impact the State budget is going to have on all the Village receives.

Mayor Gilbert commented that he believes Trustee Rasho is being short sighted. Money given to the DACVB promotes efforts to bring visitors into the local area and promotes Village hotels. Mayor Gilbert stated that this organization needs the money to operate and continue various marketing campaigns.

Trustee Morr stated that although he agrees with Mayor Gilbert's suggestion, a nice compromise between it and what Trustee Rasho has suggested would be \$55,000. This amount is was what was given last year.

Trustee Allsup commented that financially, this has been a tough year. The Village will be setting a precedent if the Board chooses to contribute any more than \$55,000.

Mayor Gilbert stated that all of the money the DACVB receives comes from the City of Decatur and the Village of Forsyth. The Village of Mt. Zion does not have any hotels in it.

Trustee Rasho remarked that if in a year from now, he is wrong in his thinking, he will be happy to admit it. The economy is in a dire situation. Trustee Rasho stated that he believes it is important for the Village to send a consistent message to the DACVB and not increase any funding for the organization. He again suggested the Village reduce their contribution this year, for a total of \$50,000.

Following a lengthy discussion, Trustee Rasho stated that he could vote for giving the DACVB \$55,000, but nothing more.

Trustee Rasho moved, and Trustee Allsup seconded, to contribute \$55,000 to the DACVB using Hotel/Motel Tax receipts. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 3—Rasho, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 4—Reed, Morr, Hubbard, Gilbert.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared failed.

Trustee Hubbard moved, and Trustee Reed seconded, to contribute \$60,000 to the DACVB using Hotel/Motel Tax receipts. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was

Yeas: 4—Reed, Morr, Hubbard, Gilbert.
Nays: 3—Rasho, Allsup, Johnson.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

- *Lakeside Music & Arts Festival*
Trustees acknowledged that a formal request has not been received for this organization. There was a consensus to table this request.

Funding Requests – General Fund

- *Economic Development Corporation (EDC)*
Mayor Gilbert mentioned that, in his opinion, it is important for the Village to support the efforts of the EDC. The \$17,550 funding request was at the same level as was requested last year.

Trustee Rasho stated that he looked into funding for this organization as well as the ones previously discussed. He commented that if any community needs economic development, it is the City of Decatur. Trustee Rasho mentioned that the City has reduced its funding over the past few years, specifically for 2009-2010, from \$100,000 to \$60,000. According to their by-laws the funding cannot be decreased any further than this amount. He remarked that he does not believe that Forsyth gets anything from this organization. Trustee Rasho also pointed out that in his opinion does not know how the EDC benefits the Village of Forsyth.

There have never been any meeting notes or other information provided to the Board to review from the EDC Director or its Board.

Trustee Morr asked the Mayor if there was any way Trustees could get some type of information on EDC activities or something about this organization. Mayor Gilbert replied that a lot of the information discussed at EDC meetings is confidential. He mentioned that he would speak Craig Coil to see what may be available.

Trustee Rasho acknowledged that Mayor Gilbert serves on the EDC Board of Directors, and yet, never provides any reports to the Trustees on what is happening with this group.

Trustee Morr asked if there are minutes from any of EDC meetings that might be available for Trustees to see. Mayor Gilbert replied that yes, minutes are taken, but the contents are confidential.

Mayor Gilbert emphasized the goal for the EDC is to bring industrial jobs to the area. The organization does not work with any retail development. Mayor Gilbert added that in his opinion, it is difficult to measure the impact on the area as a result of the EDC, but the efforts from the corporation benefit the entire region.

Trustee Rasho mentioned that the amount that Forsyth contributes to the EDC is about 30% of what the City of Decatur gives. He stated that in his opinion there has to be some type of measurable progress report given to the Village. Trustee Rasho added that he believes the Board has a right to ask for this information.

Trustee Allsup commented that he thought when this request was submitted this year, the Board would hear directly from the EDC. Mayor Gilbert responded by noting that a letter was submitted concerning this request. He also mentioned that at the last meeting, Craig Coil called to let the Village know he was sick, but if needed would be happy to attend tonight's meeting. Mayor Gilbert commented that none of the Trustees said anything, one way or the other.

Following a lengthy discussion, Trustee Hubbard moved, and Trustee Reed seconded, to authorize a contribution in the amount of \$17,550 be made to the Economic Development Corporation, using funds taken from the General Fund. The amount is to be paid quarterly.

Yeas: 4—Reed, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup.

Nays: 2—Rasho, Johnson.

Absent: 0—None.

Motion declared carried.

o *Maroa/Forsyth Post Prom Committee*

Trustee Hubbard moved, and Trustee Johnson seconded, to authorize contributing \$1,200 to the Maroa/Forsyth Post Prom, using funds from the General Fund. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.

Nays: 0—None.

Absent: 0—None.

Motion declared carried.

○ *Warrensburg/Latham Post Prom Committee*

Trustee Morr moved, and Trustee Rasho seconded, to authorize contributing \$250 to the Warrensburg/Latham Post Prom, using money from the General Fund. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.

Nays: 0—None.

Absent: 0—None.

Motion declared carried.

Phillip Circle Drainage

Mayor Gilbert asked if Trustees had anything to discuss on this matter. There were no comments expressed.

Sanitary Sewer Backup Problems

Mayor Gilbert asked Trustees whether this item should remain on future meeting agendas. He pointed out that the letters Trustees approved have been sent to the property owners who submitted claims to the Village as a result of damage to their homes from the heavy rain event that occurred on September 14, 2008.

Trustee Morr commented that he believes the Village has stepped up to the plate and did all that it could to prevent any future problems with the sanitary sewer system.

Trustees agree to monitor the Phillip Circle drainage problem, and continue with maintenance and inspections of its infrastructure. There was a consensus to delete both of these items from future meeting agendas.

Review Revised Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Mayor Gilbert referred to a memo written by Treasurer Rhonda Stewart concerning the revised Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. He asked Rhonda to explain the information provided. Rhonda stated that prior to the funding contributions approved earlier in the meeting, the negative balance indicated on the spreadsheets presented was \$125,345. After the contributions have been deducted from that amount, the deficit will be \$131,695 in the General Fund.

Trustee Rasho stated that from what he is hearing the Board is trying to balance the General Fund only. The Board is not discussing balancing the entire Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget. Mayor Gilbert replied that is correct.

Mayor Gilbert pointed out that the task tonight was to reduce the proposed budget by \$131,695 if the Board wants to balance its accounts as it proceeds into next year.

Trustees asked if the following three items were correctly reflected in the budget numbers presented:

\$40,000 engineering costs for the four street overlay projects

\$24,000 for the Weaver Road Bridge design

\$487,000 for the Oreana Water Line Extension Project

Rhonda replied that the numbers are correct and have been included in the information presented for review.

Mayor Gilbert suggested the Board consider not including the Lucile paving project in the street overlay projects to balance the budget. That street project is estimated to cost \$121,000.

Trustee Reed remarked that he has been a Trustee for eight year now, and noted that the Board has never spent all the money budgeted for capital projects in the past. He suggested the Board consider taking \$100,000 out of the Oreana water line project to make help reduce the deficit. Another idea was to take money either from the community center line item or the Building Fund. Trustee Reed commented that he does not believe the Village can build a community center that quick.

Mayor Gilbert replied that he doesn't know if this will happen, but noted that anything is possible.

Trustee Johnson referred to the \$75,000 that is budgeted for expansion of the library. She stated that in her opinion, if the Village plans to move forward with building a community center, the Board should concentrate on doing so. Spending funds for plans on a project that is not going to be completed now is simply a waste of money.

Mayor Gilbert stated that he believes it is important to go ahead and have the schematics done on the library expansion. Once the design has been completed, the Library Long Range Plan Committee can begin working this on the next step in preparation of the actual construction phase. Mayor Gilbert commented that just approving the schematics for the library expansion project, doesn't mean the construction is going to be completed this year. He added that the Village needs to be ready when the time is right.

Trustee Johnson emphasized the need to focus on one large project. If the Board wants to build a community center, then move forward with that. If Trustees decide to build or expand the library, than they should focus on that project. Trustee Johnson stated that in her opinion, that is the problem, the Village starts too many big projects at one time and tries to do them all at the same time.

Trustee Rasho stated that what the Board is really talking about is setting priorities. He referred to the Strategic Plan the Board is working on and pointed out that is where priorities are set. That plan should be the roadmap for the Village to follow. The projects that we have listed in the budget are not automatically approved and further stated the Staff should present justification and a detail for implementation and seek Board approval. He concluded by stating that it doesn't matter at this time which project the Board should reduce or eliminate to arrive at a balanced budget. Trustee Rasho mentioned that if the Board really wants to look at a project, the Oreana water line extension specific project has been lingering on for a very long time. The delay is costing Forsyth money.

Mayor Gilbert expressed his disappointment in the Board and noted that none of the Trustees appear to want to balance the budget. He emphasized that this is 'our' budget.

Trustee Rasho responded to the Mayor's statements about balancing the budget and emphasized that he takes exception to what the Mayor said. He pointed out that priorities for the capital projects should be part of the Strategic Plan discussion as indicated earlier. Trustee Rasho also stated that he stands by his record of being fiscally responsible since being elected to serve as a Trustee.

Trustee Hubbard remarked that if the Board approves the numbers presented, they are accepting the General Fund being in the hole on April 30, 2010.

Following a lengthy discussion, Trustee Morr moved, and Trustee Rasho seconded, to reduce the community center budget by \$131, 695 to allow the budget to balance in the General Fund. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Temporary Outdoor Display Permit – Hometown Buffet

Trustee Allsup moved, and Trustee Hubbard seconded, to approve the Temporary Outdoor Display Permit for Hometown Buffet. Effective dates are March 2, 2010 to June 1, 2010. The 4' x 18' banner advertising breakfast and lunch menus will be placed on the roof of the building. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

Approval of Temporary Outdoor Display Permit – O'Charley's Restaurant

Trustee Hubbard moved, and Trustee Johnson seconded, to approve the Temporary Outdoor Display Permit for O'Charley's Restaurant. Effective dates are March 2, 2010 to June 1, 2010. The banner will be placed on the outside of the east window of the building advertising a new \$14.99 menu. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

Approval of Temporary Outdoor Display Permit – McDonalds

Trustee Johnson moved, and Trustee Hubbard seconded, to approve the Temporary Outdoor Display Permit for McDonalds. Effective dates are March 2, 2010 to June 1, 2010. The banner will be 3 1/2' in height, and 16' in length and will face US Rt 51. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

Washington DC Fly-In

Mayor Gilbert mentioned that Representative Aaron Shock plans to begin the Fly-Ins that some in the area have attended in the past. He reported that the event is scheduled for May 5 through May 8, 2010 this year. Mayor Gilbert asked Trustees to be thinking about authorizing the new administrator and him to attend this year if an individual has been selected in time to, to go. More information on the Fly-In will be provided when available.

Authorization to seek appraisals – Barnett Avenue/Old Village Hall

Mayor Gilbert mentioned that at the last meeting Trustees directed Staff to selected a real estate agent to assist with the sale of Old Village Hall. He recommended that before an agent is chosen, the Village seek an appraisal for this property. Mayor Gilbert also suggested the Village seek appraisals for the two properties on East Barnett Avenue at the same time.

Trustee Rasho stated that any final decision on the sale of these properties must be brought to the Board before any action is taken. Following a short discussion Morr moved, and Rasho seconded, to authorize Staff to seek appraisals for the two properties on Barnett Avenue and Old Village Hall at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.
Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

Discuss Maroa/Forsyth School District Intergovernmental Agreement

Mayor Gilbert referred to a memo written by Treasurer Rhonda Stewart concerning the Intergovernmental Agreement between the School District and the Village of Forsyth, dated January 20, 2009. The agreement outlines the terms for transfer of title to the property where the new elementary school is located, from the Village of Forsyth to the Forsyth Community Unit School District #2. A copy of the agreement was also provided for review.

Rhonda explained that in review of the agreement she discovered a mathematical error in it. She discussed her findings with the Village Attorney, who responded in a letter dated January 12, 2010. A copy of that letter was also provided for Trustees to review. Rhonda asked that Attorney Darrell Woolums to make further comment.

Darrell commented that he does not recollect who put the draft agreements together, but noted that both do contain a mathematical error. If you multiply \$15,960 (the cost per acre), by 20.1 acres of land (the number of acres the Village agreed to sell), the total amount is \$320,796 not \$319,360 as stated in the intergovernmental agreement. Darrell stated that he believes the numbers used in this agreement were forced numbers from the school's bonding company and was used to secure financing for the construction project. Darrell commented that if the Board chooses to amend the agreement, he sees no problems since the bonding issue has been completed. He added that he does not believe the school district would object to an amendment either.

Rhonda asked that something be recorded in the meeting minutes to reflect the Board's decision concerning this issue. Specifically, either the Board should amend the agreement to correct the error, or accept it as is, and acknowledge the error.

Following a lengthy discussion, Trustee Morr moved, and Trustee Rasho seconded, that the Treasurer has been authorized to maintain the records as they are; the Board has been dually advised of the mathematical discrepancy in the agreement, and the Board has chosen not to amend the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Forsyth Community School District #2 and the Village of Forsyth, dated January 20, 2009. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.
Nays: 0—None.

Absent: 0—None.
Motion declared carried.

Discuss Village Administrator Interview Questions

Mayor Gilbert asked Trustees to think about any specific questions they would like to ask candidates during the interview process for the Village Administrator position. He asked that if the Trustees do have any questions, to let the Clerk know so that a final list can be prepared before candidates are interviewed.

Mayor Gilbert also asked Trustees their thoughts on what their expectations are for a new Village Administrator concerning committee meeting attendance. This matter was discussed briefly. Mayor Gilbert provided the Board with a brief history on how former administrators have dealt with this issue.

Another question Mayor Gilbert asked Trustees to consider was if the administrator attends a meeting, should there be compensation given for attendance. Trustee Rasho commented that he believes as a leader, the Administrator should delegate which staff member attends a particular meetings. Trustee Morr stated the issue should be looked at on a case by case basis. Trustee Hubbard stated that he believes attendance should be only as needed. Trustee Reed stated that attendance at Library Committee meetings is expected. Trustee Johnson commented that the Clerk always attended the Activities and Events Committee until former Administrator Austin Edmondson came. Then only Austin attended. Trustee Allsup commented that he believes the Chair of each Committee should make the decision on whether the administrator should be in attendance or not. He added that is should be based on what is on each meeting agenda. Trustees did agree that the Village Administrator should not be compensation for meeting attendance.

Discuss Forsyth Code Recodification

Mayor Gilbert asked the Village Clerk to comment on this issue. Kathy explained that In 2005, the Village signed a contract with American Legal Corporation to recodify our Code of Ordinances. That contract included the initial copy, plus three supplements. Last year was the third and final year of that contract that included Supplement No. 3. Kathy stated that she prepared a Request For Proposal (RFP) for Trustees to review along with a list of five different companies who provide this service. This item has been budgeted for in next year's budget.

Kathy explained that the Board can choose to either negotiate another contract with American Legal, or send the RFPs out to other vendors to compare pricing for this service. She pointed out that re-negotiating a contract with American Legal may result in a lower overall cost than contracting with a new vendor to provide this service. American Legal has all of the files setup and is familiar with Village ordinances. Selecting a new vendor may cost more since the company would essentially have to start from scratch. Kathy asked for direction from the Board on how she should proceed.

Trustee Rasho asked the Village Attorney and Village Clerk if they felt comfortable with American Legal continuing to provide this service. He also asked if there had been any problems with the company during the past three years. Both replied that American Legal has done a good job in preparing of the Village Code.

Trustees discussed this item briefly. There was a consensus to direct the Village Clerk to negotiate a new contract with American Legal for the re-codification of the Village's Code of Ordinances.

Discuss Water Rate Tier-Pricing

Mayor Gilbert asked Trustee Hubbard to comment on this item. Trustee Hubbard mentioned that the Finance Committee has been discussing doing away with the tier-pricing for residential customers. He explained that residents are charged \$2.37 per 1,000 gallons of water usage per month, for the first 20,000 gallons of consumption. For homeowners using more than 20,000 gallons of water per month, the cost is reduced to \$1.98 per 1,000 gallons used. Trustee Hubbard reported that the Finance Committee would like to see the tier-pricing be eliminated. Trustees discussed this idea briefly, and then directed Staff to prepare a presentation on how this change would impact water revenue.

Approval to Purchase/Replace Equipment

Mayor Gilbert asked the Public Works Director to comment on this item. Larry Coloni asked that this request be tabled until the next meeting pending receipt of further information from vendors.

Authorize Engineering for the Street Overlay Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Projects

Trustee Allsup moved, and Trustee Johnson seconded, to authorize the Village Engineer to proceed with the engineering and design for the 2010 Street Improvements, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000 this fiscal year. Roads improvements include: Koester Drive South, Highland Drive, Lucile Avenue, and those in the Forsyth Estates Subdivision. Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Yeas: 6—Reed, Rasho, Morr, Hubbard, Allsup, Johnson.

Nays: 0—None.

Absent: 0—None.

Motion declared carried.

Adjournment

Allsup moved, and Hubbard seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. by voice vote.

By: _____
Village Clerk