

**VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
April 3, 2008
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER:

A meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Huntley was called to order on Thursday, April 3, 2008 at 7:00 p m. in the Municipal Complex Village Board Room 10987 Main St, Huntley, Illinois 60142.

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Mayor Charles H. Sass, Trustees: Pam Fender, Jay Kadakia, Niko Kanakaris, Paul Mercer, and John Piwko.

ABSENT: Trustee Harry Leopold

IN ATTENDANCE: Village Manager Carl Tomaso, Assistant Village Manager David Johnson, Village Attorney Mike Coppedge, Management Assistant Barb Read, and Recording Secretary Anita Powers of Karick & Associates.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sass led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

A. Approval of March 1, 2008 Liquor Commission; March 6, 2008 Village Board Meeting; March 13, 2008 Village Board Meeting Minutes

A MOTION was made to approve the March 1, 2008 Liquor Commission; March 6, 2008 Village Board Meeting; and March 13, 2008 Village Board Meeting Minutes as amended

MOTION:	Trustee Piwko
SECOND:	Trustee Fender
AYES:	Trustees Fender, Kadakia, Kanakaris, Mercer, and Piwko
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Trustee Leopold
Motion carried	5:0:1

B. Policy Direction – Village of Huntley Public Relations

Mayor Sass reported that pursuant to Trustee Mercer’s inquiries and discussions with the Village Board over the past year regarding the need to hire a public relations firm to assist Village staff in preparing public relations information, a discussion of this item is

being brought forward at his request. A consultant firm could assist staff in creating marketing tools for economic development progress, information brochures, and newsletters informing residents on current events and the status of ongoing policy issues.

Staff has been requested to conduct preliminary fact finding and information meetings with firms that provide public relation services. During the last six months, approximately four firms have been interviewed and consulted with regarding their services to provide professional assistance and consultation.

Over the course of the last ten years, public relations information has been administered in-house by village staff. The process has been enhanced by adding professional personnel and equipment necessary to assist in formulating the Village newsletter, calendar, information brochures and marketing information. This information has been well received and has been very useful based on the feedback that staff has received from residents, the business community and other government agencies.

It was reported by the Mayor that a second aspect of public relations is the speaker circuit and information meetings that the executive staff of the Village has been requested to attend regarding the following events:

- Neighborhood meetings
- Chamber and business events
- Presentations to local and state government agencies and officials
- National and State commercial/business conventions

Mayor Sass suggested that Staff choose a public relations firm to use in the future, if needed.

Trustee Mercer distributed a letter to each Trustee regarding his opinion for considering hiring a public relations firm. Trustee Piwko noted that staff has done a good job with public relations and agreed that in certain cases a professional firm would be helpful.

Trustee Fender stated that if the Village needs to address sensitive issues it would be good to have a firm on reserve. She agreed that Staff has done an excellent job. Trustee Mercer stated that knowledge of presenting a case, including newsletters, is better left to professionals trained in advertising and journalism.

Trustee Kadakia stated that Staff is doing a good job and it is a good idea to let Staff pick a public relations firm to have on hand. Trustee Kanakaris agreed.

There was a consensus of the Village Board to direct Staff to choose a public relations firm to use in the future, if needed.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

No report

VILLAGE MANAGER’S REPORT:

No Report

VILLAGE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Mayor Sass congratulated Trustee Kanakaris on the birth of his son.

Mayor Sass gave meeting reminders including the MCCG dinner on April 1 and an upcoming meeting with IDOT in Springfield to discuss Tollway construction.

Mayor Sass announced that on Monday the Appellate Court Second District upheld the lower court’s ruling in favor of the Village of Huntley regarding the Horizon Group’s appeal of the circuit court case that previously ruled in favor of the Village of Huntley.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was a motion made at 7:14pm. to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss litigation and property acquisition.

MOTION: Trustee Piwko

SECOND: Trustee Kanakaris

Motion carried unanimously

ADJOURNMENT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was a motion made to exit Executive Session at 8:29pm.

MOTION: Trustee Mercer

SECOND: Trustee Kadakia

Motion carried unanimously

ADJOURNMENT:

There was a MOTION made to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm.

MOTION: Trustee Mercer

SECOND: Trustee Kadakia

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Anita M. Powers
Recording Secretary
Karick & Associates.