

**VILLAGE OF ROUND LAKE HEIGHTS  
619 W. PONTIAC COURT – BOARD ROOM  
COMMITTEE MEETING – JUNE 5, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Village of Round Lake Heights Committee Meeting was called to order by Mayor Lumpkins at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Trustee Meeks = Present	Trustee Mahoney = Present
Trustee Walker = Present	Trustee Katzel = Present
Trustee Faught = Present	Trustee Germann = Present
Mayor Lumpkins = Present	Village Clerk Mahoney = Absent

Mayor Lumpkins requested to amend the agenda to add E. Village Ponds and F. Internet Gang Enforcement Bill on the Floor under Administration.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Trustee Meeks, Seconded by Trustee Faught and unanimously passed to approve the amendment to the agenda as requested by Mayor Lumpkins.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**BOCA 2003**

Mayor Lumpkins stated that the village inspector should be done with his review of the BOCA 2003 and should have something before the Board by next week for review.

**Speed Bumps**

Mayor Lumpkins stated that we contacted another village in regards to speed bumps. Mayor Lumpkins passed pictures of paved speed bumps to the Board and stated that this village has had success with these and they have not caused any problems with the snowplows. Trustee Walker stated that Libertyville has since removed their temporary speed bumps and does not know the reasoning behind the removal. Mayor Lumpkins stated that the bolts and screws pop out of the temporary speed bumps. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he does not have a cost on these yet. Trustee Faught stated that these speed bumps appear to be more of a gradual bump instead of a sharper hit like the temporary speed bumps they looked at before. Mayor Lumpkins stated that Evanston has a detailed report on their speed bumps and offered to share this with the Board. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he would have a cost for this type of speed bump by next week for discussion.

**Census**

Mayor Lumpkins stated that we received a letter from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding the special census we recently completed. Our total cost for the special census was \$50,291.20, which left a balance refunded to us of \$8,943.80. In this short time we have already received this much in additional funds paid to us so it was well worth doing the special census.

Resort Siding Co. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we received a quote for siding on the old village hall. A local company quoted \$5,400.00 for labor only to put on the siding, roof and gutters. Mayor Lumpkins stated that if we receive the internet gang grant that we would utilize the upstairs of that building for that reason. Mayor Lumpkins asked the Board if they would be interested in having some work done on that building and if so we would get a couple more estimates. Trustee Mahoney questioned if the radio station was supposed to be maintaining the building per our agreement. Mayor Lumpkins stated that the radio station is not asking for this and that this is our building if we would like to keep it up. The Board agreed to get more estimates.

Village Ponds Mayor Lumpkins stated that we have a landscaping company coming out to look at our ponds. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we have been getting complaints more from the Pasquinelli development than the Neumann development because of the size of the ponds. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he would hopefully have some estimates by next week on treating the ponds.

Trustee Mahoney stated that he received some phone calls, as well as the village, from residents around a pond area and they are asking the village to mow an access area alongside the back of the pond. Trustee Mahoney stated that they are not looking for the entire area around the pond to be mowed and he does not see a problem with the village mowing the area they are asking for. Mayor Lumpkins stated that Bud Kowalski stated that he could not access the area they are requesting without traveling through someone's personal property and therefore would not be able to mow that area. Mayor Lumpkins asked Trustee Mahoney to speak with Bud Kowalski to clarify the situation.

#### Internet Gang Enforcement Bill on the Floor

Mayor Lumpkins stated that the Internet Gang Enforcement Bill did pass the House and Senate and is on the governor's desk awaiting a signature. If they fund all three years it would be just under one million dollars. This is a three-year pilot program.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was nothing to report.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Public Safety Trustee Meeks reported that she received a memo from Chief Johnson that one of our officers made a DUI stop.

Public Works There was nothing to report.

Building & Zoning There was nothing to report.

Sewer & Water            There was nothing to report.

Administration            There was nothing to report.

Ordinances                There was nothing to report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Village Newsletter        Mayor Lumpkins stated that our newsletter went out today and was delayed because our copier was down.

**NEW BUSINESS**        There was nothing to report.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Officer Crawford        A resident stated that there is a million-dollar lawsuit against Officer Crawford and feels that the village should not hire someone with that background. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he could have Chief Johnson and Officer Crawford hear next week so that he could hear his side of the story since it is not fair to make accusations without hearing both sides. Another resident stated that the community is concerned and that there is a video that is pretty overwhelming and it is not excusable to hit someone. Mayor Lumpkins asked the residents to hear both sides of the story before making accusations. Trustee Meeks asked the resident why she was not concerned when this showed up in the paper a long time ago and the resident stated that she did not see it. The resident stated that she was very disturbed when she found out what happened in Marengo and realized that the officer was here in our village and Mayor Lumpkins stated that this was a case where they lied. Mayor Lumpkins asked the residents to please wait for further discussion until next week when he can have Chief Johnson and Officer Crawford here.

Directory                 Jeff Kissinger asked Mayor Lumpkins if he is not going to respond to him regarding a directory. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he responded to him with a letter from our attorney and that when he receives and responds to the letter that we are already responding to that. Mayor Lumpkins explained to everyone else that Jeff Kissinger is looking for the village to have a directory so that when someone comes into the village hall they can look through the directory to find out what part of the directory that they want the freedom of information act. We have never had this and our attorney felt that hardly any villages have this and it would be difficult for villages of our size to do this. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we would create a directory. Mayor Lumpkins told Jeff Kissinger that he just needs to relate to us what he needs so that we can get it to him now so that he does not need to wait for a directory.

Police Complaint        Jeff Kissinger stated that an officer went back into the room and slammed a door and there was no reason for it. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he does not know why he slammed the door and that he was not here on that day.

## Police Video Request

Jeff Kissinger stated that he was told that the police car video camera automatically goes on when the police lights are turned on. Jeff Kissinger stated that he requested a copy of the video from the night he called 9-1-1 for the tow truck noise and was told that it is not on the hard drive. Mayor Lumpkins stated that it is his understanding that there is not a video of that night. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he understood that there was not a confrontation that evening between Jeff Kissinger, the tow truck driver or the police officer and the camera was never turned on. Jeff Kissinger stated that he was told there was no video and Mayor Lumpkins stated that he was told that because the camera was never turned on so therefore there is no video. Jeff Kissinger repeatedly stated that he was told the camera goes on automatically when the lights go on and Mayor Lumpkins asked Jeff Kissinger to follow up with the officer and he could ask them next week when they are here.

## Parking Ordinance

Jeff Kissinger stated that the parking ordinance states that there is no parking on village streets unless you call CenCom and further stated that the village cannot expect all the residents to contact the Board to express their view on this. Mayor Lumpkins stated that this is an issue that has people wanting parking on the streets and people who do not want parking on the streets. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we have tried to resolve this issue by allowing residents to call CenCom to get permission to park on the street. Trustee Faught stated that you could call CenCom for special circumstances so that you do not get a ticket. Another resident stated that she would like to feel more comfortable by making a legal stance because at the moment they have no legal stance. This resident further stated that if your call is not reported that you have no way of knowing and could get a ticket and that the village does not have a great system. This resident stated that the new law states that you can park on the sidewalk after 9:00 p.m. but does not state when you have to get off and Mayor Lumpkins stated that it does and he could have the ordinance pulled to see the time. A resident stated that the problem with CenCom is that they do not call you back to confirm that you can park on the street and Mayor Lumpkins stated that he believes they only have to call you back if you cannot park on the street. A resident stated that one day people were getting tickets even though they called. As the Board discussed this further it was revealed that it was snowing that day and the snowplows were still out so they would not have been granted permission due to the snow. Trustee Mahoney asked the resident if CenCom returned a call to inform her that she could not park on the street and the resident stated that they called the homeowner. Discussion ensued amongst the Board and residents about parking on the street. Mayor Lumpkins stated that the ordinance is designed so that we do not have cars parked all throughout the village but gives a solution when special circumstances arise and you need to park on the street. The Board agreed to add to the village parking ordinance that

you must call CenCom to be granted permission to park on the street with the police department's approval.

## Village Revenue

A resident stated that he has heard many conversations and is concerned about the village revenue. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we were a part-time village hall, part-time police department and had no public works department and so revenue is very important to this small village. Another resident stated that the village revenue is difficult to see and not clearly described with the information that she has access to like the minutes. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we did not even have a web site until a couple years ago but revenue is very important to this village. Trustee Mahoney stated that there are not many villages around here that put their revenues over the internet. A resident asked if she is allowed to request a copy of the budget and Mayor Lumpkins stated that she could. Discussion ensued about posting the budget in the newsletter and on the web site. Jeff Kissinger asked where the village gets all of its' revenue and if it is from fines. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he would like to give Jeff Kissinger a copy of the budget so he could see where all of our revenue comes from because he is not even close. Mayor Lumpkins stated that our revenue from fines has actually been decreasing every year. Mayor Lumpkins stated that revenue from fines is about sixty to seventy thousand dollars a year. That amount is nothing compared to the money raised from the water department, which we didn't used to have. The water department came about from the new developments and we were able to work this out with Round Lake Beach who owns the water. Before that if you had a water or rate problem you had to go to Round Lake Beach and basically you had no say. Within the next four years we will have all new water mains throughout the whole village, which not too many towns can say they have. We did this without going out for any bonds or raising water rates. We have to purchase our water from both Round Lake Beach and JAWA, whereas most towns only pay one source, and our water rates are very comparable to other towns. This source of revenue funds our public works department and without it we would not have a public works department. Mayor Lumpkins further stated that our residents pay an exorbitant amount of money in property taxes but the municipality gets a very small amount of that. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we do receive sales tax and motor fuel taxes and our motor fuel taxes went up tremendously by conducting the special census. Jeff Kissinger read a quote from a newspaper article and Mayor Lumpkins stated that he did not see the article and he does not remember saying what they quoted him saying. Trustee Faught stated that we did not create an ordinance to raise revenue. The Board explained that the discussion referred to when vehicles are towed if we could keep that revenue ourselves instead of having it paid elsewhere but it was decided that we could not do that because we are not home ruled. Jeff Kissinger stated that he felt it was discussed as a source of revenue for the village. Mayor Lumpkins explained that this Board took away an ordinance requiring village vehicle

stickers, which raised a lot of revenue, because they felt that Round Lake Heights residents did not want these. Trustee Faught stated that Jeff Kissinger questions why this Board discusses revenue and she stated that most everything that has a decision has a discussion if there is a cost or revenue associated with it and there needs to be a balance of the two. Jeff Kissinger commented that police officers issue citations to get revenue and Trustee Mahoney stated that our officers are never instructed to go out and get citations to bring in revenue. Jeff Kissinger stated that we give awards to some of the officers and Trustee Germann stated that the awards are for ten years of service and not for writing tickets.

#### Speed Bumps/Police Patrol/Parking

A resident stated that she is very much in favor of speed bumps. Discussion ensued about the police officers patrolling the village and Mayor Lumpkins stated that there is more visibility of the police officers now than we have ever had. A resident questioned about writing tickets for parking on the street and Mayor Lumpkins stated that now that the newsletter went out that we would be writing tickets. This Board had previously agreed to give notice about the parking on the water bill and in the newsletter so now all notice has been given and tickets will be written.

Trustee Mahoney left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

#### Ponds

A resident stated that he has an important meeting to attend but would like a chance to speak and Mayor Lumpkins stated that he has been very patiently waiting and asked what he would like to say. This resident stated that he left a letter for Mayor Lumpkins last week and he has a few more pictures of the pond that he would like to show. The resident stated that the geese won't even go in the pond and it is really bad sometimes depending on the wind shift. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he did receive the letter and we are going to try to do something about the ponds. The resident thanked the Board for their time and left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

#### Traffic Study

Jeff Kissinger questioned about the village having a traffic study to determine the speed limit. Mayor Lumpkins stated that we had to do one for the new development and the Pasquinelli development had to pay for it. Jeff Kissinger stated that the speed limit should be 30 mph according to the study. Mayor Lumpkins asked Jeff Kissinger if he wants the village to raise the speed limit and Jeff Kissinger stated that 20 mph is really slow. Mayor Lumpkins stated that he feels 20 mph is sufficient for a residential area like this village. Jeff Kissinger stated that Round Lake Beach has 25 mph and Mayor Lumpkins stated that Round Lake Beach is bigger than our village. Discussion ensued about the speed limit and what it should be and the speeds traveled on the roads in Round Lake Heights. Mayor Lumpkins asked Jeff Kissinger to postpone further discussion of this until two weeks from tonight because he would be out of town next week and does not want to burden the trustee running the meeting next week. Jeff

Kissinger stated that he spoke with someone from Lake County and this person stated that we were not following the law by having a speed limit of 20 mph. Trustee Meeks told Jeff Kissinger that for someone who is concerned that the Board discusses revenue all the time that he seems to want this Board to spend an awful lot of its' revenue of stuff that doesn't make sense to her. Trustee Meeks stated that 20 mph in a residential area with small children is fast enough.

Corner Damage      A resident stated her concern for grass that is dug up on a corner and Mayor Lumpkins stated that we would look at it.

Speeding              A resident questioned what we are going to do about the speeding problem and Mayor Lumpkins stated that we are looking into the speed humps that he actually suggested a few weeks back.

**MOTION**              A motion was made by Trustee Faught, Seconded by Trustee Germann and unanimously passed to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:13 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan A. Mahoney  
Village Clerk