



# Village of Caseyville

909 South Main Street  
Caseyville, Illinois 62232

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## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES March 19, 2014

### Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Village of Caseyville was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Leonard Black. The meeting was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 in the Council Chambers at 909 South Main, Caseyville, IL 62232.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and silent prayer.

### Roll Call:

Trustees present: Rick Casey, Jr., Kerry Davis, Wally Abernathy; Ron Tamburello, Brenda Williams, G.W. Scott.

Others Present: Mayor Leonard Black, Superintendent of Public Works, Brian Rader, Police Chief Jose Alvarez, Village Attorney, John Gilbert and Clerk Rob Watt.

### Minutes

A motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Rick Casey, Jr., to approve the minutes of the Regular Board and Closed Session Meeting held on February 19, 2014 and Special Board Meeting on March 5, 2014.

Brenda Williams had a correction for the Closed Session Meeting Minutes for February 19, 2014. She wanted to change the Part-Time Officer to Full-Time Office.

**Voting on Motion:** all yeas, no nays - **Motion Passed**

### Citizen's Input:

- Cindy Miller spoke to the Village Board about two letters she received in the mail. She read both letters and stated she was never asked about the information by no one and since the only name she recognized was Mayor Black's, she was returning the letters to him.
- Mark Crampton, Second Vice President of the Fraternal Order of Police, spoke to the Village Board on behalf of Police Chief Jose

- LEN BLACK  
Mayor
- ROB WATT  
Village Clerk
- WALTER ABERNATHY  
Trustee
- RICK CASEY, JR.  
Trustee
- KERRY DAVIS  
Trustee
- G.W. SCOTT, SR.  
Trustee
- RON TAMBURELLO  
Trustee
- BRENDA WILLIAMS  
Trustee
- BRIAN RADER  
Supt. of Public Works
- JOSE ALVAREZ  
Chief of Police

Alvarez. He went over the years that Chief Alvarez has worked and where he worked. He stated that he did not have anything to do with the letter that was sent out concerning Chief Alvarez. He explained the differences between the different divisions of the FOP. He mentioned that Chief Alvarez received an award from Big Brothers and Big Sisters. He stated that he had respect for the FOP letter writer but he was misled by 3 police officers and the letter does not reflect the Caseyville Police Department as a whole. He also stated there is no room for politics in police work. He was interrupted by an audience member who asked if he was there to represent the police officers or Chief Alvarez. He stated that he was there to represent both with the exception that he does not take kindly to any police officer misleading anybody and playing politics.

- Mr. Tommy Davis addressed the Village Board about how he knew Chief Jose Alvarez and he didn't know the situation with the letters but there was a better way of doing things. He stated that Chief Alvarez was not a yes man for Bob Romanik, not Leonard Black as the Mayor or no one else. His other purpose was to address a lawsuit that a Village Employee brought against him. He stated that the house he purchased was visited by the police at the direction of a few Board Members to give him tickets for mud running down the blacktop. He brought up the fact that he went to court and the judgment was in his favor. He stated that he found out two years later that the Worker was on workman's comp, got paid, and everything was handled accordingly. He then states that he received a letter a year later that he is being sued by the worker. He then proceeds to let the Village Board know that he will sue all of us no matter how much it costs. He states that the employee in question has sued multiple times and will sue the Village Board. He mentions that he has his first court date on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am. If we do not respond he will have his attorney sue us on May 14<sup>th</sup>. He continues by restating all of this repeatedly until he sits down. Mayor Black asked if any Board members wanted to comment and Brenda Williams mentioned she knew nothing about it and the Mayor moved on.
- Brad VanHoose spoke to the Village Board about all the changes that have happened over the last year and that the town was disappointed and wanted positive change. He stated that the problem wasn't that we had bad people on the Board. He mentioned that we had a good Village Clerk and that we had a Police Chief that was doing the job. He stated he made some difference and that some officers didn't like him. His job was not to be liked but to do what was right for the Village. He said that the biggest problem was lack of communication. He asked that the Board start communicating and he knows we are all

there to make things better by working together to get through this tough time.

- The Archbishop from the Anglican Church Worldwide spoke to the Board. He stated that he had sent out correspondence to his colleagues stating the moved their jurisdictional office to Caseyville. Soon after, he got e-mails from Sydney, Australia and Edmonton, Canada asking what was going on in his city. He stated he went on the internet and found out what they were talking about. He stated he will be in the Village for three years and that the image of the city reflects on his church. He stated that we work together and make the image of the city a positive one not just for here but around the world.
- Pat Watkins asked the Village Board if we had an Animal Control Officer. Mayor Black answered that we did. Ms. Watkins continued by stating we had a huge problem with dog and cats but specifically cats in the subdivisions. She mentioned that an officer would come by and you could request traps. Mayor Black stated that the animal control officer has them. Ms. Watkins stated that her carport has been sprayed by cats umpteenth times and that it doesn't smell good. She wanted to make sure the Board was aware and to see if we could do something about it. Mayor Black stated he would get Rachel Briley in contact with Ms. Watkins.
- Mr. Kevin Carson spoke to the Board concerning the way we go about trying to find out where the Chief of Police is. He stated the whole thing looks bad and sounds stupid to him. He stated that if he had acted like the Chief of Police did he wouldn't have gotten off scott-free. He brought up the fact that it was easy to get in touch with JD and Ron Tamburello when they were Police Chief but can't understand why we can't get in touch with the current Police Chief. He mentioned the hiring of a position of someone out of town that Ron Tamburrelo and JD didn't need when they were Chief. He also mentioned that the Village Board voted to get rid of the dispatchers and it's a joke to call up to Cencom. He stated they are rude and they take a long time to respond. He commented that we need dispatchers more than we need anything else. He stated all jobs in the Village should stay local because we need to take care of our own. He mentioned that Ron Tamburello and Mayor Black helped him with the Khoury League when no one else would. He stated we need to get together and work to fix the Village.
- Brenda Williams responded to Mr. Carson's comments by stating that she did not receive a call. Mayor Black told her he didn't call her but thought that Leslie McReynolds called Brenda Williams. Brenda Williams wanted it to be known that she did not receive a call and did

not speak to Leslie that day. She asked Leslie if she talked to her today and Leslie responded that she left a message. Brenda Williams also acknowledged that she got in touch with the Chief of Police with no issue.

- Guest Speaker Angela Massey discussed the Caseyville on Watch (C.O.W) program and that it is a very serious program. She introduced the members of the program. A lot of residents were interested and the program is looking to have new officer by June 1<sup>st</sup>. First community-wide meeting is on March 27<sup>th</sup> and need our help to get the word out. She came to the meeting to ask the Board to consider purchasing Neighborhood Watch signs. The signs are important and need about 50. She understands if the Board cannot help. Mayor Black asked Brian Rader if they signs were made up. He asked the Board if they wanted to bring it to Committee. Kerry Davis mentioned to go back to Committee because since this is a Neighborhood Watch Program there may be signage or help. He continued by stating that they may not say Caseyville on Watch but they would be the generic Neighborhood Watch signs. Brian Rader mentioned the cost of each sign was \$29.14.
- Brad Vanhooose spoke and asked if the Village Board thought about getting with the Fire Department for the signs because they are 501(c). He said he would be happy to write grants or whatever was needed for the Neighborhood watch program.
- Mayor Black read his response to Local 50 as it pertains to the Grievance against him. His letter stated that the context and content of the Local 50 letter was misrepresented and that, on the advice of his personal attorney, at an appropriate time and place his response will accurately affirm the matter addressed in the Local 50 letter.

**New Business:**

- Motion was made by Kerry Davis, seconded by Ron Tamburello, to approve the Village Attorney to pursue the actions outlined in Resolution #1211 – Resolution Requesting the State of Illinois to Review the Village of Caseyville TIF District and Hotel/Motel Funds.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

**Finance/TIF/Grant/Insurance**

- Motion was made by Rick Casey, Jr., seconded by Kerry Davis, to approve Resolution #1407 – A Resolution to Renew the Charter Franchise Agreement.

Brenda Williams wanted to know if they could table this due to this being the first time that they have seen the agreement. Rick Casey, Jr. mentioned that this is the same agreement that was agreed on before and nothing else has changed other than the payment plan that was already agreed upon. The Village Attorney stated that all we are doing is extending it for another 5 years. It expires May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

**Voting on the motion:** G.W. Scott - Yea, Rick Casey, Jr. - Yea, Wally Abernathy - Yea, Ron Tamburello – Yea, Brenda Williams – Nay, Kerry Davis – Yea

**5 Yeas - 1 Nay - Motion Passed.**

**Police**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Kerry Davis, to table the appointment of a new Attorney to the Police and Fire Commissioner’s Board.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Wally Abernathy, convene a Special Meeting for March 26, 2014 to approve the appointment of an Attorney for the Police and Fire Board.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Ron Tamburello, to approve the staggering of the Police Commissioner’s appointments so that they are correct according to Illinois Statues.

A drawing was held and the appointments are as follows:

- 1-Year – John Buckley
- 2-Year – Don Staley

3 Year – Jon Vieluf

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Ron Tamburello, to reinstate Ms. Connie Fredrickson as the Police Evidence Clerk/Secretary.

Mayor Black wondered how we have the money to pay for these types of things. He read off some financial figures to include:

- The General Fund was in debt to the Police Payback for their Contract for approximately \$20,000.
- The General Fund was in debt to the Police Pension Fund and IMRF for over \$150,000.

He ended it with that the job should go to someone that lived in Caseyville. Brenda Williams responded that the Evidence Clerk was already hired but Mayor Black stated she was fired and we were rehiring her. He ended with he was sticking by his word that the job should go to someone in Caseyville.

Kerry Davis is all for hiring someone from Caseyville to do the job but he wanted to know what the qualifications were and understands it is a very important job in the Police Department. Brenda Williams explained all the qualifications to include the handling, inventorying and transportation of evidence. Village Attorney said we gave out the job description to the Board. Mayor Black mentioned that Ron Tamburello never had one. Ron Tamburello responded by stating that all the same things Brenda Williams stated and said that we will pay more for the officer than a part-time evidence clerk. G.W. Scott asked if we should take applications and the Mayor thought we should and that we should train someone from Caseyville to do it.

Discussion moved to how the person was fired and how the statement has to come from that person if they quit. It was stated that we were not rehiring her but putting her back to work.

**Voting on the motion:** G.W. Scott - **Yea**, Rick Casey, Jr. - **Nay**, Wally Abernathy - **Yea**, Ron Tamburello – **Yea**, Brenda Williams – **Nay**, Kerry Davis – **Yea**

**5 Yeas - 1 Nay - Motion Passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Rick Casey, Jr., to approve Ordinance #1406 – An Ordinance to Update the Police Policy Manual to make it current and applicable for use by the Caseyville Police Department.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Ron Tamburello to approve Resolution #1408 – A Resolution to purchase 4 Radios for the 3 New Police Vehicles and Police Vehicle #89 totaling \$7,668.80 with funds coming out of the DTU Fund.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by G.W. Scott, to table the approval of the Caseyville Police Contract.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Rick Casey, Jr., to table the approval to give the Police Commissioner's the Authority to Lateral hiring of a Police Officer to make him a Part-time Officer as a Full-Time Officer for 60 days.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Ron Tamburello, to approve the hiring of Clay Goodwin and Thomas Boyd as Part-Time Police Officers.

Discussion circled around who has the authority to hire Part-time Police Officers. It was asked if we go with past practice or come up with an Ordinance to clarify once and for all. Kerry Davis mentioned that we have the Attorney draw up an Ordinance to have the Village Board give the Police Commissioners authority to hire and allow them to test and hire Police Officers. Ron Tamburello asked if we could hire the Officers now and have the Ordinance ready for the next time due to the Police Department being 4 Officers down.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Ron Tamburello, seconded by Kerry Davis, to approve how the appointment of the Chaplain should be made and who should handle it. It was determined that it would be determined by the Police Officers.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Brenda Williams, seconded by Kerry Davis, to table the approval Authorize the Caseyville Police Chief to notify CENCOM that the Village of Caseyville will not be renewing our Contract.

Mayor Black had a question concerning this issue. He wanted to know if we could get with the Finance Chairman to see if we even have the funds. Brenda Williams stated that was one of the things that they needed to look into.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

**Public Works/Building:**

- Motion was made by G.W. Scott, seconded by Kerry Davis, to approve the East/West K9 Association to host a Trivia Night at the Caseyville Community Center for \$250.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by G.W. Scott, seconded by Rick Casey, Jr., to approve the waiving of the Caseyville Community Center Rental Fee for the Department of Public Health for their event on October 17, 2014.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**



- Motion was made by G.W. Scott, seconded by Brenda Williams, to approve the waiving of the Caseyville Community Center Rental Fee for the Caseyville Chamber of Commerce for their Meet and Greet on April 29, 2014.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by G.W. Scott, seconded by Brenda Williams, to approve the St Clair County Fire Chief's Association to have their monthly meeting in the Caseyville Community Center for \$250 on May 22, 2014.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by G.W. Scott, seconded by Wally Abernathy, to approve Resolution #1409 – Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by the Village of Caseyville under Illinois Highway Code.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

**Planning/Zoning/Ordinances:**

- Motion was made by Wally Abernathy, seconded by Brenda Williams, to approve Resolution #1410 – Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of a Business License to Toni's Restaurant.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Wally Abernathy, seconded by Kerry Davis, to approve Review and Amending of the Village Board Committee Assignments.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Wally Abernathy, seconded by Rick Casey, Jr., to approve the Sheet Metal Worker's Variance.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

- Motion was made by Wally Abernathy, seconded by Ron Tamburello, to approve the Preliminary Plat approved by the Planning Commission.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

**Committee Reports:**

- Administrative & Finance Committee Meeting at 6pm on March 26, 2014.
- Police Committee Meeting at 6:45pm on March 26, 2014.

**Correspondence:**

- The Village Clerk, Rob Watt, did not have any correspondence but did mention that there is an Illinois State Statute that we have to review closed session minutes every 6 months. There is a FOIA Request that we have that they are requesting Closed Session items. In order to fill that request the Village Board would have to listen and release if they so choose. Brenda Williams thought it was the Attorney and the Village Clerk. The Village Attorney mentioned that the Corporate Authority would be the ones that would have to do it.

**Approval of Bills:**

- A motion was made by Rick Casey, Jr., seconded by Wally Abernathy to authorize the expenditures of the bills and the money drawn from the proper accounts, as funds are available.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

**Miscellaneous:**

- Chief Jose Alvarez read a statement that stated the job he was asked to do, that the all of us work for the people not just one person and his hopes that the Village Officials will work to take care of all residents. He thanks the Board for their support and he looks forward to working for the Village.
- Brenda Williams read a letter from Brendon Kelly to the Elected Officials of Caseyville stating that further communications between Village Officials and his office concerning Police issues will either be in writing or not at all. He stated that the latter until a minimal semblance of governance is restored. This will not affect applications of criminal charges from Caseyville Police Officers or cases in or affecting residents of Caseyville.

A motion was made by Ron Tamburello, seconded by Rick Casey, Jr., at 8:25pm, to go into closed for police personnel matters pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 2.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

A motion was made by Rick Casey, Jr., seconded by Brenda Williams, to reconvene the meeting at 10:08pm.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed**

No motion was made after the closed session. The Village Board agreed that no action will be taken as it pertains to Chief Jose Alvarez and his employment.

**Adjournment**

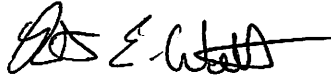
There was no additional business to bring before the Board. A motion was made by Rick Casey, Jr., seconded Brenda Williams, to adjourn the meeting.

No questions on the motion.

**Voting on the motion:** All yeas and no nays - **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Watt', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rob Watt  
Village Clerk