

Richland Village Council
8985 Gull Road
Special Meeting
June 29, 2015

Present: President Paul Gobble, President Pro Tem Gail Koporetz, Trustees: Virginia Gross, Gail Koporetz, Kim Lewis, Bob Prentice, Kevin Foust, Dave Greve, and Deputy Clerk Michael Scott

Absent: Clerk Wanda Holewa

The meeting was called to order in the Richland Community Hall by President Paul Gobble at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance was led by President Gobble.

President Gobble asked those in attendance if they needed the microphone and speakers set up. All in attendance declined.

Public Comments:

Doug Penny, resident on Richland Woods, inquired about the ongoing situation with Woodhouse. He commented that they get village services but do not pay village taxes. Trustee Gross advised that the Planning and Zoning Commission is still waiting on the proper paperwork from Mr. Woodhouse. She also advised that they do not get any village services. Mr. Penny commented that they get the services every time they drive through the village. Trustee Gross commented that so does everyone who drives through the village.

Agenda Items:

1. Deputy Clerk Scott informed the public and the council that he had received the required documents (FOIA Policies and Procedures, FOIA Policy and Procedures Summary, FOIA Request Form, and FOIA Fee Itemization) from Miller Canfield representative Kurt McCamman. Mr. Scott explained that there were new regulations in place that were required to be completed by July 1st, 2015. Resident Doug Penny asked what the main changes were. Deputy Clerk Scott commented that the changes mainly involved more regulated and standardized fees that can be charged to the requestor and an updated appeals process. Mr. Scott explained that the changes that came from the state are an attempt to bring more transparency within government entities.

President Pro Tem Koporetz commented that these changes cap the amount of fees that can be charges to a requestor, as some government entities were charging very high amounts for requested information. Resident Virginia Mejeur, of N. 32nd Street, objected, stating that the changes were to give high penalties to agencies who do not follow the regulations. In addition, Miss Mejeur commented that it changed the policy towards attorney client privilege. President Pro Tem Koporetz replied that this was half correct, continuing on to state that there were fines put in place for violations, but information deemed to be under attorney client privilege remained unchanged, and is still exempt.

Trustee Greve advised that after seeking out 3 estimates for training, it was determined that Kurt McCamman will be training Deputy Clerk Scott, Police Clerk Ricca, and Trustee Foust (who is now designated as Appeals Agent) in the FOIA laws and in processing requests. This training, along with all of the documents that were prepared, will cost the village \$300.00, which is \$200 less than what the council had approved at the June 8, 2015 regular meeting.

Deputy Clerk Scott advised about the appeals process and that if a denied request involved information about the appeals agent, or the council as a whole, that the appeals agent has the authority to designate a neutral third party to perform the appeal.

2. **Motion** to approve the new FOIA Policies and Procedures. Greve/Foust – **Carried**

3. Trustee Greve informed the council and public that the village attorney Bob Soltis took it upon himself to prepare and send us the required forms to be compliant with FOIA. Trustee Greve went on to say that since the village did not request this information, and since Mr. Soltis was in attendance during the June 8, 2015 meeting in which FOIA training was discussed and he did not speak up at that time about this, that although it is appreciated that Mr. Soltis was trying to help the village, the village will deny any payment for such work performed. Deputy Clerk Scott agreed and stated that he would inform Mr. Soltis of this.

Motion to adjourn the Special Meeting at 7:18 p.m. Foust/Koporetz - **Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Scott
Deputy Clerk