

Village of Woodridge, Regular Board Meeting

September 12, 2013

All board members except Trustee Beavers were present. Joseph Ruzich, a reporter for the *Trib Local Downers Grove*, attended the meeting. Members of the public were present and made comments.

As part of the Special Awards, Presentations, and Recognitions, the Village recognized Cheryl Gawel as the "Employee of the Quarter", proclaimed September 19, 2013 as "Drive 4 Pledges" Day, and proclaimed September 17-23 as "Constitution Week".

The Mayor called to order a public hearing on Community Development Block Grant Applications for street resurfacing projects, and for the Community Resource Center programming. Rules of Procedure for the public hearing were available to the public, and notice of the hearing was published in the *Woodridge Bugle* on August 28, 2013. Community Development Director Mays spoke briefly about the grant projects. The hearing ended quickly as there was no statements in support of the applications, no cross-examination of staff, no persons opposing, and no summation.

President of the Village IV Homeowners' Association Bill Seitz spoke on an issue not related to agenda items. He was concerned about the threat that urban coyotes pose to children. He spotted a coyote by Lake Carleton near the Community Center, and was upset over the lack of response he received when he contacted the Village, the Park District, and the Police Department. All of the departments he contacted stated that they could do nothing to remove the coyote. He proposed a solution where Animal Control would trap and release a coyote in the Forest Preserve. Administrator Rush responded that the Village has adopted a "let live" policy regarding wild animals such as the urban coyote. She will provide the Board with steps that the Village takes when someone calls about a coyote. Mr. Seitz reiterated his concern about the dangers a coyote may pose to children, and left the meeting.

Louis Wardin inquired about the number of employees impacted by a resolution regarding the Retirement Health Savings plan of the village, prohibiting sick-time payouts from being counted as Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund earnings. Administrator Rush responded that the resolution affects 65 employees, which will create some cost savings. He also asked if the Community Resource Center's continuation was contingent upon receipt of the Community Development grant money. Administrator Rush stated that the \$11,000 of grant money is a small portion of the Center's funding.

The Board accepted and approved all items on the consent agenda. In response to Trustee Abbott's question, Administrator Rush explained that the resolution to remove the Mayor from participating in IMRF changed the existing practice, which permitted the Mayor to be eligible for IMRF benefits (if vested after eight years of service). The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.