

**Village of Fox Lake
Planning Committee Meeting
June 23, 2009**

Immediately following the Public Safety Committee Meeting

- I. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 6:23 P.M.
- II. Roll Call.** Present were Chairman Koske, Trustee Kiesgen, Trustee Burt, Trustee Murrey, Trustee Griseta and Trustee Mumford. Also in attendance was Mayor Bender and Village Administrator, Nancy Schuerr.

III. New Business.

Discussion Ordinance Amending Title 2, 6 and 9 of the Village of Fox Lake Municipal Code

Chairman Koske stated this is the result of a lot of work by a lot of people. Last fall we met as a Board at the Board Retreat, and as a result of that retreat it was decided what we really needed to address in this community was Economic Development. I had volunteered as well at the time Trustee Bender. All of the Trustees have committed time, as well as all of the Department Heads talking with Bill Hart, Nancy Schuerr as to the process. It came out that the process we are using is not working in a timely manner. It was working but everyone was concerned about the process. When a new business or new development comes to town we want roll out the welcome mat and make sure it is a quality project but at the same time make it easier, but be able to put the brakes on if it is a project that we do not like for this town. We have gone through discussion on this; but this ordinance is the end result. When this Board was on board we met with the Plan Commission Chairman, Dave Gauger, Building Inspector, Frank Urbina as well as plan members etc. It is an important step that I would like everyone to take a hard look at the proposed Ordinance. We are asking for your comments or suggestions, it requires a public hearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals and we will schedule that this month. Trustee Koske stated she was excited with this ordinance and asked Bill Hart to add his comments.

Bill Hart stated the primary thing is that it will allow the process to be completed in ½ the time. Part of the change is that applications may only have to be heard by one Committee Zoning or Planning. The reason for the additional time was required was it had to be heard by both the Boards and that is what is delaying the process. One of the things we are adding to it is the staff review before it goes to the Boards, so all the departments and engineers have looked at the proposed project, and have made recommendations to the Developer before it goes to the Plan Commission. We need to deal with the infrastructure, water, sewer, roads, before it goes to the Boards.

- IV. Committee Comments-** Trustee Griseta stated that being on the Plan Commission I saw a number of frustrated applicants due to the process and with the change of duties and shortening the process. I think it makes more sense and I do support you on this proposed Ordinance.

- V. **Audience Comments.** – Chief Mike Behan asked if we were going to have discussion on the sign request for Smith Automotive.

Chief Behan stated the ordinance does not cover an off-site signage. They have contacted the owner of the Chrysler Dealership and gotten permission for a banner sign on their fence for their business.

Bill Hart stated normally we would discuss a sign variance at a Building and Zoning Committee Meeting and then a hearing for the Village Board. The Board can then approve the variance request. What I was going to ask for under Department comments was the general consensus of the Board regarding this request otherwise it would delay the approval for 2 weeks until we had a Building and Zoning Committee Meeting. I did talk with the Chrysler owner and he had approved a request for the signage as stated. Trustee Koske asked how long is the sign for? Bill Hart stated a temporary sign request is good for 30 days. The biggest issue this business has is there is no signage for his business on the main roadway. There is no shopping center sign or similar signage. The building is on Jack Frost Lane about 300 feet off the main roadway, Route 12. They are just trying to make their business more known off of Route 12. They are asking approval until they can procure a permit for a permanent sign; this is how they will make their business aware to Route 12 traffic. Trustee Griseta asked if they are being charged to put the sign on their fence? Bill Hart stated I didn't discuss that with them. Trustee Griseta stated I don't want it be for a dollar amount you can hang a sign on the fence. Bill Hart stated we have to deal with these on an individual basis.

General Consensus was approval based on a 30-day period and the sign is maintained accordingly.

- VI. **Adjournment.** There being no other business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Carol Ward
Deputy Clerk