



Village of Savoy

Savoy Municipal Center
611 North Dunlap Avenue, Savoy, IL

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

DATE: November 2, 2016 PLACE: SAVOY MUNICIPAL CENTER
611 North Dunlap Avenue
Savoy, IL 61874

TRUSTEES PRESENT: President Robert C. McCleary, Trustees Joan Dykstra,
Jan Carter Niccum, Rebecca Pittman, Dee Shonkwiler, and
William A. Smith

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Trustee John Brown

STAFF/PERSONNEL PRESENT: Richard Helton, Village Manager
Jesse Stephens, Operations Superintendent
Dan Davies, Zoning Administrator
Dennis Donaldson, Director of Planning & Economic Development
Paul Hendren, Village Attorney
Billie Krueger, Village Clerk

STAFF/PERSONNEL
ABSENT:

GUESTS PRESENT: Mindy Basi, County Star
Bill McNamara, 48 Lange Ave., Savoy

CONVENED: 7:00 P.M.
ADJOURNED: 7:30 P.M.

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS –

Public Hearing - A request to adopt a new Section 6.04.095 of the Savoy Municipal Code entitled “Hens”, to permit single family residence owners to keep up to six (6) Hens on their property under limited conditions;

President McCleary opened this public hearing at 7:00 p.m. and read the Notice of the Public Hearing duly published in the News-Gazette on October 9, 2016 and asked for public comment. Village Clerk Billie Krueger stated that she had not received any written comment on this public hearing.

Public Comment:

Bill McNamara, 48 Lange Ave., Savoy – Stated he advocated a “No” vote on the proposed request to adopt a new Section 6.04.095 of the Savoy Municipal Code entitled “Hens” and presented a variety of reasons, together with a petition signed by 65 Savoy residents against this proposed section on raising hens in the Village of Savoy that included residents of “Old Town” Savoy, as well as other parts of Savoy with the help of five residents obtaining signatures.

See attached and made a part of these Minutes - three (3) page statement made by Bill McNamara and Petition six (6) pages.

Trustee Smith moved to close the public hearing on “Hens”, seconded by Trustee Shonkwiler; By Trustee vote: Dykstra; yes; Niccum, yes; Pittman, yes; Shonkwiler, yes; and Smith, yes; Brown; absent; motion carried.

President McCleary closed this public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Public Hearing - A request to amend Chapter 15.30 Fences of the Savoy Municipal Code to permit the Village of Savoy to allow homeowners contiguous to Village or Public easements to build their rear yard fences on a public easement if granted a license from the Village of Savoy. This proposed amendment would apply to all lots contiguous to the public trail/easement around Lake Lots 301 Lake, 582 and 583 of Liberty on the Lake Subdivision, including existing fences and future fences to any similarly situated properties.

President McCleary opened the public hearing on “Fences” at 7:10 p.m. and read the notice of the public hearings duly published in The News-Gazette on October 9, 2016 and asked for public comment.

Village Clerk Billie Krueger stated she had not received any written comment on this public hearing.

No public comment was heard.

Trustee Dykstra made a motion to continue this public hearing on “Fences” until the December 7, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting, seconded by Trustee Niccum, By Trustee vote: Dykstra; yes; Niccum, yes; Pittman, yes; Shonkwiler, yes; and Smith, yes; Brown; absent; motion carried.

2. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL TAKEN, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President McCleary called the open and public Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Roll was called of President McCleary and the Trustees, with President McCleary and all Trustees being present, except Trustee Brown was absent; and a quorum declared. President McCleary led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

President McCleary asked for public comment on the agenda items and non-agenda items. No public comment on agenda or non-agenda items.

4. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

President McCleary asked for other agenda items to be added. None added.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MINUTES – Board of Trustees Meeting of 10-5-16

Trustee Shonkwiler moved to approve the Board of Trustees Minutes of 10-5-16, as presented, seconded by Trustee Dykstra; By Trustee vote: Dykstra; yes; Niccum, yes; Pittman, yes; Shonkwiler, yes; and Smith, yes; motion carried.

B MINUTES – Board of Trustees of 10-19-16

Trustee Smith moved to approve the Board of Trustees Minutes of 10-19-16, as presented, seconded by Trustee Niccum; By Trustee vote: Dykstra, yes; Niccum, yes; Pittman, yes; Shonkwiler, yes; and Smith, yes; motion carried.

6. BUSINESS

No Business.

7. STAFF REPORTS

A. VILLAGE MANAGER

Richard Helton presented his written monthly report for the month of October 2016.

Trustee Niccum asked that Leaf Burning and possible Leaf Collection for the Village of Savoy be discussed at an upcoming Study Session.

Trustee Shonkwiler reminded everyone of the upcoming Unit 4 Facilities Meeting on Thursday, November 3, 2016 at the Savoy Recreation Center.

B. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEER

Jesse Stephens, Operations Superintendent, presented the Public Works Department written monthly report for the month of October 2016.

C. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Dan Davies presented to the Trustees his Zoning Report for the month of October 2016.

D. DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dennis Donaldson presented to the Trustees his Planning and Economic Development Report for the month of October 2016.

C. CLERK

The Village Clerk presented her written monthly report for the month of October 2016.

D. VILLAGE ATTORNEY

The Village Attorney's Status Report and statement for legal services for October 2016 were presented to the Trustees for review.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the open and public Board of Trustees meeting, upon motion by Trustee Shonkwiler to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Smith, President McCleary adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Billie Jean Krueger

Billie Jean Krueger, Village Clerk

This meeting was recorded.

Approved 12-7-16.

Thank you for the opportunity to present information regarding an ordinance authorizing maintenance of female chickens, or hens, in the Village of Savoy.

I advocate a vote of "No" on this proposed ordinance for a variety of reasons.

I spent a career working with farm and urban populations in the Cooperative Extension Service.

I worked with farmers with tens of thousands of laying hens in confined operations, with rural homeowners who raised a few hundred chickens for meat and eggs, and with urban homeowners who raised a few chickens in the back yard for eggs.

I am convinced that chicken and egg production is best accomplished by those with a strong understanding of the management necessary for the safe production of meat and eggs.

I am against the raising of chickens in our Village for the following reasons:

--Few people understand the nutrition, feeding, housing, health care, life-cycle, manure handling and eventual disposition of the chickens.

--Chickens must be fed a diet of non-urban landscape concentrates on a daily basis to thrive and produce. They need proteins, carbohydrates, fats, minerals and vitamins. They do not thrive on kitchen, yard and garden waste.

--Chickens have specific health needs that require professional attention. They are susceptible to many diseases and parasites, many of which are transmissible to humans. These diseases and parasites must be addressed by professionals--veterinarians--who can provide the necessary care.

--These diseases (salmonella) and parasites (lice) can be spread by the many birds, waterfowl, domestic mammals (such as dogs and cats), raccoons, and other rodents (mice and rats). They can be spread by mosquitoes that harbor in puddles, and crates and boxes holding the poultry.

--Chickens are subject to locally common predators such as the hawks, fox and coyotes.

--Diseases spread to humans. In July, 2016, it was noted by the Texas Animal Health Commission that an ongoing Salmonella outbreak sickened at least 611 people in 45 states and has been linked to live poultry in backyard flocks. Avian (bird) flu, which killed millions of chickens and turkeys in 2015 in MN and IA, can also be transmitted to humans.

--Chickens require sanitary housing and a properly designed free-range environment to remain healthy and productive. How and where will the manure, feathers, bedding and spoiled feed be stored and disposed of in a safe and timely manner? Sanitation is a daily task for even a few chickens when they are impacting your neighbors.

--Chickens normally produce from the time they are about 20 weeks old until they are 2 to 3 years of age. Then their future needs to be addressed--who is going to butcher them?

All of the above statements can be found, in many different forms, in publications from any one of the 50 land grant institutions across the nation, as well as the USDA. They are factual. These publications have been developed by animal scientists, recognized professionals in the field.

I don't believe the urban environment is suitable for raising chickens and maintaining relationships with neighbors of varying ages and outdoor living habits.

To elaborate on the above facts, I will offer these statements and questions:

--Every time you go to the store to purchase meat you can be assured that it has been professionally inspected prior to and at the time of slaughter, before you see it cut up in the display case, to insure that it is safe to consume.

--Eggs are washed, graded and candled before they come to you in the coolers at the store that has the best price that you patronize during a given week.

--Will you take the time to wash every egg you bring in from the coop? And how will you handle the excess eggs that accumulate over time when the hens are in full production? You can't sell them. What protective mother would want them, even if free, if they are not graded and deemed safe?

--Parents and grandparents often state that a chicken project will be good for children to learn responsibility and the work ethic.

--If the chicken enterprise was under the protective eye of an experienced livestock producer I would agree that it could be beneficial. Absent that, the potential experience exposes the children to insects, disease and the potential for physical injury. Chickens are not like puppies that you can cuddle that lick you all the time. Chickens chase you and they peck you.

--People are looking for a cheap source of protein.

The purchase of the animals, housing, lighting, possible heating elements, fencing, bedding, feeding and watering containers, feed stuffs, grain grinding equipment, minerals, medications, manure handling and storage or processing equipment is expensive and time consuming.

--It must be recognized that the value of adjacent properties to those housing chickens may be negatively impacted.

--The village is not set up to address the multi-faceted aspects of livestock production. We have no veterinarian to address issues regarding the potential for animal health, insect or disease problems that can harm the owners of the chickens or neighbors. And, I don't see any one on staff to address the potential increase in predator problems that are predictable.

--The ordinance, though technically compliant with established housing guidelines, is void of any public health guidelines and recommendation for animals in metro areas.

If you spend time outside grilling with your family do you want the smell of chicken manure, the clucking of brooding chickens, the potential for mice or raccoons running through your patio area, or the additional noise of hawks and crows? That's a potential with chickens in your or your neighbor's yard.

Before I step down I put forth the petition signed by 60 plus Savoy residents requesting that the proposed ordinance be denied. It has also been signed by a few outside the "old Savoy" confines who heard of the proposed ordinance. As one said, "what is bad for old Savoy is bad for the Arbors."

I ask the board members to vote "No" and honor the wishes of your fellow citizens. Those of you outside the "old Savoy" area have a special issue. How do you vote on something that will not impact you but may negatively impact your neighbors down the street with whom you live, work and play? This comment was also voiced by a number of residents in many different ways.

Thank you for your time. I now hope you have a more thorough understanding of the problems associated with the proposed ordinance and the inadvisability of such projects in our growing and confined Savoy environment.

Respectfully,

Bill McNamara
Planning Commission Member

11/02/16

PETITION

With my signature below, I certify that I am a resident of the Village of Savoy and I oppose an ordinance authorizing maintenance of female chickens, or hens, in the Village of Savoy:

SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
<i>Mark J. ...</i>	48 Lange Ave., Savoy
<i>Jane F. McKenara</i>	" " "
<i>Charlith Pritchard</i>	47 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>Meme M. Coy</i>	18 Lange Savoy
<i>Kay M. McCoy</i>	18 Lange, Savoy
<i>Greg Payne</i>	108 GRATHAM DR. SAVOY
<i>Brad Reynolds</i>	P.O. BOX 305 SAVOY, IL
<i>Jessie Payne</i>	108 W Graham Savoy
<i>Jennifer Adair</i>	17 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>Tom Adair</i>	17 LANGE AVE, SAVOY
<i>David C. Well</i>	39 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>Donya Smith</i>	49 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>Mark R. ...</i>	21 LANGE AVE SAVOY
<i>Patricia ...</i>	36 LANGE AVE SAVOY
<i>Charmaine Kaiser</i>	36 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>Pat ...</i>	34 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>Wendy ...</i>	34 Lange Ave Savoy
<i>John C. Mauer</i>	38 Lange Savoy
<i>Shirley L. Mauer</i>	38 Lange Ave - Savoy
<i>Debra A. Heffernan</i>	29 Lange Ave., Savoy

PETITION

With my signature below, I certify that I am a resident of the Village of Savoy and I oppose an ordinance authorizing maintenance of female chickens, or hens, in the Village of Savoy:

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

Gini Knudsen

404 Kand M Savoy

fslp

404 Kand M Savoy

W. E. Simmons

305 Ellen Ave Savoy

L Dayton

303 Ellen Ave Savoy

Diana & Paul Wilson

209 ELLEN Ave.

W. Russell Withrow

207 Ellen

Mike Hearn

311 ELLEN

Sam Keros

311 Ellen

PETITION

ML

With my signature below, I certify that I am a resident of the Village of Savoy and I oppose an ordinance authorizing maintenance of female chickens, or hens, in the Village of Savoy:

SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Randy Stanley	306 Wesley Ave. Savoy
Katherine J. Block	309 Wesley A Savoy
Betty Folger	307 Wesley
Thomas [unclear]	603 West Church
Carol Kelly	202 W. Graham
Charles E. Kelly	202 W. Graham
[unclear]	205 W. Graham
Lenny [unclear]	205 W Graham
Carol VanGelder	207 W. GRAHAM
Andrew [unclear]	305 W Graham
Charity Moser	401 W. graham
William [unclear]	401 W. GRAHAM
Bettie J. Murphy	403 W. Graham
Phyllis Sandwell	405 W. Graham
Teddy J. Davis	409 Graham Dr
Erin Barkley	206 W Graham Dr.
Wesley J. Beer	308 Wesley Ave
Sam S. [unclear]	309 B Wesley Ave
Pat [unclear]	310 A Wesley Ave.
Leah Elmore	201 West GRAHAM

PETITION

With my signature below, I certify that I am a resident of the Village of Savoy and I oppose an ordinance authorizing maintenance of female chickens, or hens, in the Village of Savoy:

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

Christine McElroy

32 Lange Ave

Elaine Buckmaster

41 Lange Ave

Madeira Schweighart

31 Lange Ave

John Ash

26 Lange Ave

Arden Amos

26 Lange Ave

Dennis Olson

15 A Lange Ave

Bill Fitch

20 Lange Ave

Barbara Fusta

34 Lange Ave

