

VILLAGE OF SOUTH BARRINGTON

30 South Barrington Road
South Barrington, IL 60010

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH BARRINGTON

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024

AT 7:15 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McCombie called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Village Clerk Zierk called the roll, and a quorum was noted present.

Officials Present:	President:	Paula McCombie
	Trustees:	Joseph Abbate, Dr. Hina Patel, Dr. Anthony Stagno, Dr. Kanu Panchal, Stephen Guranovich
	Absent:	Trustee Alvarado
Staff Present:	Chief of Police Michael Garrison, Village Administrator Mike Dropka	
Others Present:	Village Attorney James Vasselli	

President McCombie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Remarks:

Village officials welcomed attendees and thanked residents for their participation. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Village’s Comprehensive Plan and zoning matters, and to address ongoing concerns regarding the Park District’s handling of land sales and referenda. Residents were encouraged to hold their questions until after consultant presentations.

Presentations:

- John Houseal (Houseal Lavigne Associates) – Provided an in-depth overview of comprehensive planning, highlighting how plans guide growth, infrastructure, and land use. He discussed his experience across 33 states and more than 120 comprehensive plans, emphasizing their value in protecting public interests and shaping long-term development strategies.
- Tom Burney (Burney Law) – Presented on zoning law, explaining how local decisions must comply with state statutes. He described how municipal governments navigate disputes, enforce zoning ordinances, and the legal challenges that arise in cases involving land ownership and annexation.

Public Comment & Discussion

The majority of resident comments focused on the Park District’s sale of land and the perceived lack of consideration for community opposition. Several residents voiced frustration that, despite prior input, the Park District proceeded with auctions and failed to honor the spirit of the referendum.

Residents raised questions about whether the Village could join residents in litigation against the Park District. Suggestions were made for the Village to partner formally with residents or explore other legal mechanisms to block unwanted sales. Trustees acknowledged these concerns but explained the Village had previously sought to intervene in Cook County Court in August 2024 and was denied standing. Legal standing was described as a central barrier, as the Village must demonstrate a direct injury to its corporate capacity to be granted a role in the case.

Further discussion centered on potential de-annexation and financial impacts. Residents worried that losing land would reduce tax revenues and weaken the Village's ability to manage development. Several residents urged trustees to pursue all available legal avenues, even if unsuccessful, to show solidarity with the community.

Trustees emphasized that they share resident concerns and are actively consulting legal counsel. Officials noted that while courts had limited the Village's role, they would revisit the issue in light of ongoing developments and consider whether renewed legal action was feasible. Multiple trustees expressed agreement that transparency and resident engagement were priorities moving forward.

Attendance

Approximately 70 residents RSVP'd for the meeting; however, attendance was lower due to weather conditions. Despite this, a significant number of residents participated, with discussions lasting until adjournment.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none

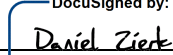
NEW BUSINESS

There was None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Abbate and seconded by Trustee Stagno. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

DocuSigned by:

Daniel Zierk Village Clerk