PRESENT: Mayor Smolinski; Trustees Atkinson, Hochstadt, Maglio, Rhode, Sass, and Wittman
Jeff O’Dell, Jim Knippen, Jason Bielawski, Bob Gallas, Rob Burns, Pat Watkins, Jim Kruger, Pam Figolah, Missy Brito, Ashley Kleckner and Patty Burns.

2. APPROVE PREPARED AGENDA
Moved by Trustee Rhode, seconded by Trustee Hochstadt, to Approve the Prepared Agenda.
Upon voice vote, ALL AYES: NAYS, none.  MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2009
Moved by Trustee Rhode, seconded by Trustee Hochstadt, to Approve the Minutes of May 11, 2009 as presented.
Upon voice vote, ALL AYES: NAYS, None. MOTION CARRIED.

4. PARAMEDIC CONTRACT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Fire Chief Bob Gallas presented for review and approval a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) to secure a contract for Paramedic/Firefighter services for the Village of Roselle. If approved, the RFP would be released on or around June 2nd.

Mayor Smolinski asked if the RFP was applicable to all the vendors doing business in our area – there should not be a proprietary nature to the proposal. Chief Gallas assured the Mayor that is was not proprietary in nature.
Trustee Sass inquired about the EMS Committee referenced in the proposal and whether it had been formed yet and who would be on the committee. Gallas responded that the committee has not been formed yet, and the members would have a paramedic background.
Trustee Hochstadt asked about the role of the Trustees of the Fire Protection District in this RFP. Chief Gallas commented that they have no role and were not consulted on the development of this RFP.
Moved by Mayor Smolinski and seconded by Trustee Rhode, to approve of the Paramedic Contract Request for Proposals as presented.
ROLL CALL: ALL AYES; NAYS: None.  MOTION CARRIED.

5. FORECLOSURE POLICY
Pat Watkins, Community Development Director presented the board with a variety of options to consider as the community deals with an increase in the foreclosed homes being vacated for long periods of time. Currently, Roselle has over 200 homes in foreclosure.
TALL GRASS – There are many more lawns to cut in today’s market. Currently the Village utilizes Northwestern Landscaping to mow the foreclosed homes when the lawns get too high. This is quite expensive and the cost is rarely recouped when a foreclosed home is finally resold. The Village should consider hiring some young people or retired folks to go around and mow these yards to save money. Mr. Watkins recommended continuing to cut both the front and back yards, not just the front as some communities have done to save money.

BROKEN WINDOWS AND DOORS – 3 options are available here. 1) Painted plywood, 2) Plexiglas and 3) Screening with clear plastic. Option 3 is the most economical and recommended.

POOLS – Mosquito abatement and drain down should be considered for abandoned pools.

FORECLOSURE TRACKING – The Village should consider a tracking mechanism that will keep the Village notified of pre-foreclosures into full foreclosures. This service will give the Village an early warning to enable staff to head off nuisances. The cost of this service is $50/month.

Trustee Sass asked for more clarification on the topic of hiring staff to mow the lawns ourselves. Who would do it, does this have to be bid out, is bonding required, do we have the equipment needed? Mr. Watkins responded that Public Works was looking into the possibility of hiring seasonal help, youth would be the least costly and the Village would have to invest in some equipment. Trustee Sass also felt that the $50 Tracking program is a good investment. Attorney Knippen explained to the Board why it is unusual for communities to recoup the cost of maintaining the nuisance of foreclosed homes. In foreclosure, the bid to redeem the home is typically the value of the first recorded mortgage, and sometimes the second mortgage. Rarely is the bid higher to provide funds for other fees.

Additionally, draining of “in ground” pools could be an exposure to liability because if it is done incorrectly the pool will crack and the Village could be liable. Trustee Sass asked about the possibility of requiring an Occupancy Permit to re-inhabit the house when the foreclosure is sold. The Village might recoup some fees if an ordinance were passed requiring an Occupancy Permit be obtained. Trustee Maglio commented that Nuisances can be liened, and staff should look into how the Village can implement that.

He also feels that the grass should be cut sooner than 6-8 inches currently be addressed, especially if we know in fact that it is a neglected foreclosure. Andy commented that the Village should contact the bank owners with a disclaimer that if we utilize Village services to maintain the nuisances that the Village will not be liable for anything. Trustee Maglio also felt that a youth crew would be best for mowing. Trustee Hochstadt asked about abandoned vehicles being a problem. Mr. Watkins responded that they are not, but household trash is. She suggested that the staff consider an inspection of each foreclosed home, especially when it is finally resold. Trustee Hochstadt concurred on all the items being proposed and reminded everyone how these foreclosures can affect a neighborhood’s quality of life if the nuisances are not dealt with, so the Village should be proactive on this topic and develop a policy to deal with foreclosures.
Mayor Smolinski agrees with mowing the grass at 6-8" and asked about the possibility of using unemployed or retired adults who might be more attentive to detail. She also mentioned that the Mayors and Managers had a Foreclosure Registry link that she would forward to staff.

Trustee Rhode felt that 6" was too high for grass, making it more difficult to cut. He also commented that there are many unemployed adults that may be willing to do this job. Mr. Rhode inquired if Neighborhood Watch groups could be used to find houses that were becoming a nuisance.

Attorney Knippen commented that we must be careful on how this policy is set up regarding workman’s comp and independent contractors.

Trustee Wittman shared an experience of calling a realtor whose sign was in a neglected yard to inform them of the grass height and the Village ordinance. The lawn was mowed the next day.

Trustee Wittman agrees with the concept of an occupant permit and inspection when the home is resold.

Trustee Hochstadt asked for a consensus on the height of grass issue. Attorney Knippen responded that it may be specified in state statute and he would investigate.

Staff was directed to continue in developing a policy and to bring it back to the Board quickly so as to allow staff to stay on top of these nuisance homes.

6. GARDEN AVENUE REPAVING
Rob Burns presented information that Bloomingdale Township had contacted him regarding the paving of their part of Garden Ave. The Village has the opportunity to be an add on in the bidding proposal, if interested. No formal decision would need to be made until the pricing came back. Estimate is $76,000 for the Village portion. The advantage to doing this is that all of Garden Ave. will have been repaved in the last 2 years.

Trustee Sass commented that he is in favor of doing this if the price is good.

Trustee Rhode asked when would this area of street been done on our street improvement program. Rob commented that it is not on the Top 10 list.

Trustee Hochstadt is not in favor of doing Garden Ave, there are other streets in much more need of repair.

Trustee Atkinson wants to see the information that comes back from the bid.

Trustee Wittman reported that Walnut and Circle is buckling and needs to be repaired before next snow season. Rob responded that he will look at it.

Staff was directed to piggy back onto the Township bid as an add-on and bring back the bid information.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Moved by Mayor Smolinski, seconded by Trustee Rhode, to go into an Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. pursuant to the requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act under Exemptions 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) to discuss 21 Executive Session Minutes, 5 Real Property, 12 Risk Management, 11 Litigation, and 3 Collective Bargaining and Personnel.
ROLL CALL:
AYES:  Smolinski, Rhode, Maglio, Wittman, Hochstadt, Atkinson, Sass
NAYS:  None
MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION
Moved by Trustee Rhode, seconded by Trustee Wittman, to Adjourn the Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.
Upon voice vote, ALL AYES:  NAYS, none.  MOTION CARRIED.

8.  OTHER BUSINESS - None

9.  MOTION TO ADJOURN COMMITTEE MEETING.
Moved by Trustee Hochstadt, seconded by Trustee Wittman to Adjourn Committee of the Whole at 9:31 p.m.
Upon voice vote, ALL AYES:  NAYS; None  MOTION CARRIED