

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON APRIL 20, 2021 BY ZOOM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Urlacher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

We are conducting this meeting of the Mayor and Board of Trustees in accordance with the recently amended provisions of the Open Meetings Act, the Governor's Disaster Proclamation and the Governor's Executive Orders. Based upon the Disaster Proclamation and the Executive Orders and the location and size of the Village's meeting facilities, it has been determined that in-person meetings are not practical nor prudent at this time. Therefore, this meeting is being conducted in a virtual conference format.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor Urlacher stated he received Trustee Sheldon's resignation letter from the Board.

Upon a call of the roll, the following were:

Present: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink, Towne and Mayor Urlacher

Absent: None

Mayor Urlacher declared a quorum present.

Also, on the Call: Village Administrator, Bob Irvin; Village Attorney, Jim Rhodes of Klein Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd; Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Treasurer, Carol Armstrong; Representative from James Anderson Company, Scott Anderson; Financial Consultant, Dorothy O'Mary

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Village Board reviewed the meeting minutes. It was moved by Trustee Bohm and seconded by Trustee Pink that the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of March 16, 2021 be approved and be placed on file.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried.

D. APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Trustee Maier stated the Finance Committee has reviewed the invoices and deemed them to be appropriate for payment. Trustee Maier added a Staples invoice was added to the total in the amount of \$358.14. As a result, the Committee approves the billing amount of \$89,965.84.

It was moved by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Brennan to approve payment of the bills.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried and the bills will be paid.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

Presentation of the Treasurer's Summary Report for the Month of March 2021. It was moved by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Brennan that the Board acknowledges receipt of the March 2021 Treasurer's Summary Report and it be placed on file.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Proposed Village of Mettawa Budget for FY2021-2022

Mayor Urlacher opened the Public Hearing to discuss the Village's FY2021-2022 budget. The notice of the public hearing regarding the Village budget was published in the Daily Herald on April 5th. In addition, the budget has been posted on the Village website for the last month.

A motion was made to open the public hearing to discuss the Village's FY2021-2022 budget. The motion was moved by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Brennan.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the public hearing opened.

Trustee Maier stated at the last Board meeting the tax rebate amount was approved to be changed from \$600K to \$750K by following the Fiscal Responsibility Act. In addition, the W.W. Grainger land acquisition was moved to the FY21-22 budget for the \$5.8 million. The next fiscal year budget amounts are trending close to the prior year. A deficit reserved in the amount of \$2.83 million. Village Administrator Irvin added the Village tax levy continues to remain the same for 23 years in the amount of \$135,000. No new taxes nor increases are being considered, funding is being provided in engineering for the stormwater study, overall, the Village is in extremely strong financial health.

A motion was made to close the public hearing. The motion was moved by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Towne.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the public hearing closed.

G. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Citizens to be heard not listed elsewhere on this Agenda
2. Written Communications of Citizens to be Read

H. COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

1. Finance Committee

- a. Update on Engineering & Building Permit Invoices and Expenses

Trustee Maier stated the Finance Committee reviewed James Anderson invoices to determine if the fixed retainer fee balanced the other expenses and was operating effectively, it indeed is working in favor of the Village at this time. Trustee Maier added the matter of providing the appropriate level of customer service to our residents will be addressed by the Village Administrator Irvin at the next Around the Town meeting.

- b. Recommendation to Approve the Village Budget for FY2021-2022

Trustee Maier stated the Finance Committee reviewed and approved the FY2021-2022 budget submitted. The Finance Committee discussed the Village's liability of increasing the tax rebate amount and how it relates to the Fiscal Responsibility Act. Trustee Maier added each year the Finance Committee ensures the Village can financially support the rebate program with surplus funds and approves the final amount.

Trustee Maier wanted to remind the meeting attendees, that the Village holds a AA1 Moody's rating, has been able to acquire large amounts of land and they continue to sustain themselves on low operating costs.

- c. Other Matters

2. Public Works Committee

- a. Update on the Hey & Associates, Inc. Stormwater Management Study

Trustee Pink remarked the Committee had a good meeting on April 8th with Hey & Associates, Inc (H&A) and residents. Residents had the opportunity to ask follow-up questions during the meeting. The final draft study report will be available on April 26th. After the final report has been reviewed, H&A will host a few field days to allow the residents to further discuss their case. H&A field days and times will be communicated to the residents.

b. Update on the Turtles Crossing Signs on Old School Road

Trustee Pink stated two new turtle signs have been posted on Old School Road.

c. Recommendation to Express Interest on the Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program

Trustee Pink said Trustee Bohm provided her an article about the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) solar program. This program allows the Village to express interest to receive further information with no commitment. This program has two options. The first option would require the Village to invest an estimated \$2M in a solar farm and provide this program to only Mettawa residents. The other option entails participating in already developed solar farm and residents can choose to be part of the program. The Committee is recommending the Village to express interest in the farm solar program with no commitment. Village Administrator Irvin remarked ComEd supports this solar program. MMC is sponsoring this program and after an interest is expressed, several steps will follow for the Village to consider. The average savings is 10-20% on their electric bill. This program is based on a volunteer program. Trustee Pink stated the expression of interest does not bind the Village to participate nor are there any associated costs.

Resident, Dr. Fantus (14253 W. Riteway Rd) asked if expressing interest would result in building a solar farm in the Village. Village Administrator Irvin replied no. Pam Fantus added she was thankful for the turtle signs being posted.

d. Other Matters

3. Parks and Recreation Committee

a. Update on Building a Berm on the Village Lot Located on Route 60 and St. Marys Road

Trustee Bohm stated Mr. DiTomasso has submitted his agreement to the Village with a few modifications to the document. The changes include the completion date to reflect May 1, 2022. Mr. DiTomasso does not want to provide a performance site restoration bond for the project in the amount for \$20,000, nor does he want to complete the construction staking work and lastly, he denied to provide a designation erosion inspector for the project. Village Administrator Irvin asked Village Engineer Scott Anderson to estimate the cost for the items Mr. DiTomasso had declined and the Village would incur to complete. The Village would incur an expense of \$7,600. The performance bond is a risk not a cost. The last item is how the seeding would be handled on the berm. Trustee Bohm said at this time the project would cost the Village to be completed and he was okay with tabling this matter. Mayor Urlacher indicated this agenda item is only to provide an update not to be voted on.

b. Update on the Hamilton Estate Property on Riverwoods Blvd Purchase Status

Trustee Bohm stated a letter was sent to the Homeowners Associations (HOA) Presidents. An email was received from Larry Falbe a member of the HOA with a few attachments addressing the Village's letter. The HOAs concern is by not keeping this lot in a conservation easement it would create their properties to be non-conforming. Trustee Bohm said he will continue to work with the Village Attorney on this matter.

c. Update on the Tree Plantings at MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park

Trustee Bohm said he received a proposal for the landscaping and trees and it will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

d. Update on the Landscaping Around the Dedicated Barry MacLean Bench

Trustee Bohm indicated this agenda item and item C, will be furthered discussed at the next Committee meeting.

e. Update on the Development of a Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan

Trustee Bohm stated the Committee did not discuss this agenda item in absence of Trustee Pink at the Committee meeting. Trustee Bohm added once the W.W. Grainger land acquisition is completed the Committee will discuss the south end Village owned properties.

f. Update on Obtaining Hay Proposal from 701 Riverwoods Road

Trustee Bohm said the Bob Haraden hay proposal is the annual mowing agreement completed for the 701 Riverwoods Road lot. This proposal reflects the same revenue as last year.

g. Recommendation to Approve the Whippoorwill Park Maintenance Agreement to the Lowest Bidder Chris Dunlap in the Amount Not to Exceed \$14,000

Trustee Bohm stated the Whippoorwill Park maintenance was sent out for bids. Trustee Bohm indicated one bid was received from Chris Dunlap. The agreement amount was increased to include an extension of the stone walkway to the trail, the agreements new amount is for \$14,000.

Trustee Brennan asked Trustee Bohm to call Barry MacLean to further discuss his plans on donating trees for the Oasis Park. Resident, Deb Pelech mentioned she will be exploring the planting options before talking to Barry MacLean. Trustee Pink mentioned Hey & Associates will also be making recommendations for plantings at this location.

h. Other Matters

4. Public Safety

Trustee Brennan indicated the Crest subdivision is currently experiencing excessive traffic and garbage dumping in the empty lots. Mettawa Safety Patrol are performing additional drive throughs of this subdivision in hopes to reduce these incidents. Trustee Brennan stated in Friday's communication to the residents, the recent incident of a dog attack on Bradley Road and Indian Trail will be communicated. Residents will be asked to be mindful of dogs that are behind a fence while walking the Village.

Resident, Pam Fantus (14253 W. Riteway Road) said she has seen higher number of cars driving at extreme speed on Bradley Road. Village Administrator Irvin said he will follow-up with the Sheriff's office to post the speed trailer on the road. Mayor Urlacher added he has received a number of complaints of bikers riding on St. Marys Road. Resident, Deb Pelech asked if a speed bump can be placed on Old School Road. Village Administrator Irvin said speed bumps are not as commonly built anymore due to the snowplows impacting their size. Village Administrator Irvin suggested a speed table to calm traffic. Special details can also be an option during some set hours to reduce speed on specific roads.

a. Other Matters

5. Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission Report

Mayor Urlacher said he spoke with Maria Rojas and her attorney regarding her zoning application. The Rojas case is not ready to be heard at this time it will continued to be tabled until the June meeting.

I. BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

1. Mayor's Report

a. April's Newsletter

Mayor Urlacher indicated the fourth quarter Newsletter is currently being worked on. The Newsletter is due to be completed at the end of this month.

b. Building Report

Mayor Urlacher thanked Village Engineer Scott Anderson for the monthly building report and said it would be placed on file.

c. Other Matters

The Mayor received a consensus from the Board to return to in-person meetings at the hotel. The Board meetings will continue to be held at 7:00 pm meeting. The in-person meeting will require face masks and social distancing. Registration will be held to attend. Trustee Brennan asked that the meeting also be held via Zoom.

Trustee Bohm asked if the Committee meetings will continue to be held via Zoom or in-person. The Mayor replied the Chairman can decide on how they would like to handle their meetings.

d. Village Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Irvin stated Lake County did receive bids to resurface St. Marys Road from Route 60 to Route 176. This project is estimated to start in June and the duration has not been indicated. St. Marys Road will be widening to create bike friendly 4-foot shoulders. The railroad crossing on St. Marys Road will also be rebuilt 400 feet north to get a smoother transition. This railroad will be closed for 3-weeks in July. The street closure will be communicated to the residents. Village Administrator Irvin added additional traffic will be seen on Old School Road and Bradley Road during the road closure on St. Marys Road.

2. SELECTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair would like to entertain establishing a consent agenda for any or all the items listed under New Business on the agenda. The Mayor asked if there were any items listed under the New Business that a Trustee does not wish to approve under the Consent Agenda.

The following items were established for the consent agenda:

- a. Approval of an Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for FY2021-2022
- b. Approval of the Whippoorwill Park Maintenance Agreement to the Lowest Bidder Chris Dunlap in the Amount Not to Exceed \$14,000
- c. Approval to Express Interest for the Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution Program

It was moved by Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Maier to place the items on the consent agenda.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried for the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Maier to approve the

agenda items by omnibus vote.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. NEW BUSINESS

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

K. CALL TO RECONVENE

L. ROLL CALL

M. MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION ARISING AS A RESULT OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

N. ITEMS TO BE REFERRED

O. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

P. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, it was moved by Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Towne that the meeting be adjourned.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Bohm, Brennan, Maier, Pink and Towne

Nay: None

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk