

# **VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW**

## **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**January 19, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Sleepy Hollow Corporate Authorities was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Sleepy Hollow Village Hall. President Stephan Pickett, Trustee Thomas Merkel and Village Clerk Anthony Mills attended in person. Trustees Steven DeAtley, Anthony Piraino, Edward Harney, Joseph Nemec and Interim Chief of Police Kristopher Chlapecka attended by remote video-conference via Zoom. Trustee Ziemba was absent.

After asking all participants to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance President Pickett directed the clerk to call the roll of trustees in attendance at which time each trustee responding to the roll call confirmed the ability to hear all statements. President Pickett confirmed that the comments of all trustees remotely attending the meeting could be heard.

### **MINUTES**

Trustee Harney moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2021. On a roll call vote with Trustees DeAtley, Piraino, Nemec, Merkel and Harney voting aye, and with no nay votes the motion passed and the minutes of January 4, 2020 were approved.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Pickett provided an update on the money the Village received as part of the Corona virus Relief Fund/CARES AC. The project to upgrade the Village's audio/remote video capacity is moving forward and all equipment purchase orders have been timely submitted. Installation of the new equipment is projected to the weekend of January 23-24, 2021.

### **CLERK**

No report

### **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

No report

### **ATTORNEY**

No report

### **ENGINEER**

The Village Engineer had submitted written updates on two ComEd Permit Requests but since those updates had not been listed on tonight's agenda, any discussion and review of these reports will be continued to the next regular meeting scheduled for February 1, 2021.

### **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

Trustee Nemec moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve the accounts payable of January 19, 2021 for \$140,004.69. By a roll call vote with Trustee DeAtley, Nemec, Harney, Merkel and Piraino voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

CM Parker on behalf of the Village Newsletter, *The Legend*, announced anyone wishing to submit anything for the spring edition needs to have that submitted no later than February 21, 2021.

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*Barbara Grow* submitted an email regarding what she views as an excessive number of permit violations served by ICCI. A copy of that email is attached per the request of the resident and its contents are incorporated herein:

Dear Village President and Board of Trustees,  
Please read my email at the next meeting on January 19, 2021.

I moved to Sleepy Hollow in 2006 and love this village. I have friendships with great neighbors and throughout the community.

For the first 14 years of living here I have loved everything about the sense of community and friendliness of the village.

In the past year it seems that my home has come under great scrutiny regarding the village code. Some legitimate and rectified and others not.

The last notice of "Not Permitted" was posted to my door January 12, 2021 with a large orange sticker. The letter stated, "a complaint had been received and an investigation has found a new front door has been installed..... This structure was installed without permit."

I did replace the front door, it was a simple exchange of the old slab door with a new one of the same dimensions, nothing structural was changed. The door is not structural in nature and does not support any part of my home, it swings from hinges attached to the frame. The letter also stated "you are hereby given notice to submit a permit with supporting information detailing the manufacturer's specification for the door installed and make a check payable to the village. This amount is double fee required for working without a permit."

Included in the above letter: "Also, I had received a previous complaint about work being done at your home late last year and had called you regarding that complaint. You did not return my call. Therefore, I am including a separate permit application for that work—complete it and provide the details and drawings for the work completed. The application and plans will be reviewed, and you will be notified when the permit is ready." The work that was done included replacing the upstairs flooring, baseboard, and painting. I am currently having my stairway sanded and stained along with the hallway patched and painted. The notice posted to my door asked that a permit be filled out for that work as well. I never received a call about the complaint.

I am asking the board to look at the source of the complaints and the number of complaints to the general intersection of Joy Lane and Hilltop Lane. This is a thoroughfare area and I believe this area receives more notices than anywhere else in the village. I understand the need for compliance to the village code and support it. It seems that my home and my neighbors receive an inordinate number of complaints, are they all coming from the same person? Please review the complaints and the quantity issued on this busy thoroughfare to determine whether there has been an inordinate number of notices issued and if they are justified.

It is uncomfortable knowing that anyone driving by my home that sees a service vehicle of any kind is for some reason targeting my home and the area to find fault with compliance. It is not a good feeling and has resulted in neighbors disenchanted with the village because of the undue accusations and scrutiny. Kindly understand that I am asking for a review of the notices and village input. Reasonable common sense should be used when determining when and to whom notices are posted. The atmosphere of distrust and grievance amongst the neighbors is growing to the point of us asking each other if we should let our grass grow 8" and paint our homes pink.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barb Grows



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**PARKS, ROADS AND STREETS**

No report

**FINANCE**

In Trustee Ziemba's absence President Pickett reported the Village Audit has been completed and submitted to the auditors for final review.

**WATER AND SEWER**

No report

**POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Trustee DeAtley commended the actions taken by the Village Police Department in their efforts to locate and rescue a Village resident by the name "Daisy". DeAtley reported receiving numerous positive comments about the department's actions and he thanked the department for their actions.

The Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) presented Officer Gretchen Fehling, Officer Jerry Nordan, Officer Gary Schwartz and Officer Kris Chlapecka Certificates of Appreciate in recognition of their "exceptional DUI enforcement action. A copy of these Certificates is attached to these minutes and their contents are incorporated herein.

Sargent Chlapecka reported on the results of the development of a Community Engagement Survey. A copy of the Survey Results is attached hereto.

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL**

No report

**BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT**

Trustee Piraino reported on his continued discussions with ICCI regarding the process of securing building permits prior to the start of actual construction and his thoughts that the Village needs to provide a better explanation of the permitting process.

**OLD BUSINESS**

President Pickett submitted for board review and approval **ORDINANCE 2020-21 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A CERTAIN PROPOSITION TO THE VOTERS OF THE VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW, KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS AT THE APRIL 6, 2021 CONSOLIDATED ELECTION TO INCREASE THE VILLAGE'S LIMITING RATE UNDER THE PROPERTYTAX EXTENSION LIMITATION LAW FORMUNICIPAL PURPOSES FOR LEVY YEAR 2021.**

By roll call vote with Trustee, DeAtley, Nemec., Harney and Piraino voting aye and with Trustee Merkel voting nay, the motion to approve **ORDINANCE 2021-1** was approved.

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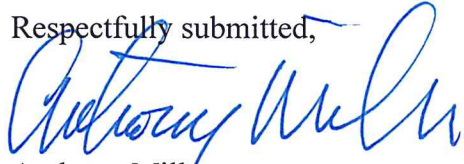
**NEW BUSINESS**

See discussion regarding AAIM and Community Survey under POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY section.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The board having no further business to discuss Trustee Nemec moved with a second from Trustee Merkel to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. On a roll call vote with Trustee Harney, Piraino, Nemec, Merkel and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay votes the motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Mills  
Village Clerk