

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2020

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, Village Clerk Anthony Mills and Chief of Police Michael Rivas attended in person. Trustees Steven DeAtley, Anthony Piraino, Edward Harney and Joseph Nemec attended by remote video-conference via Zoom. Also attending via video-conferencing was Kyle Killinger, Director of Public Works, Village Attorney Mark Schuster and Village Engineer Jeffrey Steele.

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 Nemec to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2020. On a roll call vote with Trustees DeAtley, Piraino, Nemec and Harney voting aye, the motion passed and the minutes of November 16, 2020 were approved.

Trustee DeAtley made a motion to advance the issue of approving the hiring of Robert Garza to serve as a part time patrol officer at the starting salary of \$22.00/hour. Chief Rivas provided the board with Officer Garza's experience and qualifications and recommended the hiring of Robert Garza. Trustee Piraino seconded the motion and on a roll call vote with Trustee Nemec, Harney, DeAtley and Piraino voting aye and with no nay votes, the motion to hire Robert Garza as part time patrol officer passed.

The Village Clerk administered the oath of office to Robert Garza.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Pickett informed the board that Kane County issued payment of the CARES relief funds and those funds have been deposited in the Village's bank account. The Village will have until the end of December 2020 to complete the ordering and purchase of updated audio and video equipment sufficient to upgrade the capacity for remote/virtual meetings.

Next, President Pickett distributed a copy of the United States Department of Labor's **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS** bulletin which sets forth the requirements for paid sick leave and extended family and medical leave under the **FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT**. This bulletin was received after distribution of the agenda packet but a copy had been sent to each trustee prior to the start of the board meeting.

President Pickett next reported that he accepted on 11/25/2020 the resignation of Michael Rivas as chief of police to be effective 12/18/2020. While Chief Rivas' tenure was short he nonetheless made a positive impact on the Village police force and President Pickett thanked him for his service.

The resignation of Chief Rivas necessitates the selection and appointment of an interim police chief and after consultation and recommendation with Chief Rivas President Pickett requested board approval to appoint Sargent Chris Chlapecka to this position. Trustee DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee Harney to approve the hiring of Sargent Chris Chlapecka as the interim chief of police with an increase of 10% for a salary of \$68,981.68. On a roll call vote with Trustee Harney, Piraino, DeAtley and Nemec voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

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President Pickett stated the position of Police Chief is an appointment by the Village President so due to a potential conflict arising from the position of Village President being on the 4-6-2021 Consolidated Election Ballot, President Pickett proposed the creation of a search committee to find the next full time police chief for the village, President Pickett appointed Trustee Steven DeAtley as chair of the committee. Also on the committee will be Daniel McCollum and former Police Chief James Linane both of whom are offering their services at no charge to the village.

Trustee Piraino moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve the creation of the search committee and the appointments thereto. On a roll call vote with Trustees Nemec, Harney, Piraino and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

CLERK

No report

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

No report

ATTORNEY

No report

ENGINEER

No report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Trustee Harney moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve the accounts payable of December 7, 2020 for \$136,869.29. By a roll call vote with Trustee DeAtley, Nemec, Harney and Piraino voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Paul Setze submitted an email the contents of which he requested President Pickett read into the record. A copy of that email is attached and its contents are incorporated herein. Mr. Setze suggested that Section 8 Chapter 3 of the Village Code needs to be updated to clear up any ambiguities and omissions.
- Tiffany Bullard submitted a request to speak to the board via Zoom to address her concerns about the need for respect/decentcy between Sleepy Hollow neighbors. She expressed her concerns about racial injustice statements and the need for the Village to address violations of the Village code. A copy of her request is attached to these minutes.
- Kylie Kost submitted a request to speak to the board via Zoom to address the issues of human rights and neighborly conduct. She expressed her concern that during the recent election period the political signage made the village look less friendly and welcoming and that going forward the size, content and duration of posting needs to be addressed in the Village code. A copy of her request is attached to these minutes.

PARKS, ROADS AND STREETS

Trustee Harney reported the mulch in Sabatino Park has been replaced and that Public Works has been busy repairing pot holes.

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FINANCE

No report.

WATER AND SEWER

Trustee Nemec reported as of October 31st, the Village was receiving sufficient water revenue to pay off both water loans by their maturity date. The total water revenue collected from 01/01/20 through 10/31/20 was **\$755,342.42**. The total water expenses for the same time period, not including the depreciation expense, was **\$748,907.82** which leaves the Village with a **\$6,434.60** buffer for water main breaks or other unplanned repairs. Trustee Nemec stated that believed an 11% increase in the water rate is sufficient to compensate for the 4% water purchase increase from Elgin and the increase in salary allocation from Public Works.

After reminding the Board that monies collected for water is placed in an Enterprise Fund since by statute the water system has to be self sustaining without any contributions from any other sources of revenue. Trustee Nemec recommended that 2021 water rates effective January 2021 include a water fee of \$ 8.67 per thousand to break even for water purchases based on the Elgin increase and analysis of 2020 water purchases. Further, Trustee Nemec recommended that the Village adjust the demand charge and hydrant fee to \$25 to cover costs, salaries, loan payment for new meters, and partial depreciation.

Trustee Nemec moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve an increase by 11% the price of water to \$8.67 per 1000 gallons. Further demand charge and hydrant fees are adjusted to \$25.00. On a roll call vote with Trustees DeAtley, Harney, Nemec and Piraino voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed. The Village Attorney is instructed to draft an ordinance reflecting these changes and that ordinance will be presented to the board at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Trustee DeAtley submitted a recommendation by Chief Rivas to purchase a replacement police patrol vehicle for Squad #10 (2017 Ford Taurus). The replacement vehicle is a Police Interceptor AWD which will improve the department's ability to drive in inclement and snowy conditions. In the Five Year Capital Budget Plan, a replacement vehicle was identified and approved by the Village Board for 2020-21. The amount approved was for \$46,000. The replacement vehicle recommended by Chief Rivas is listed at \$48,371 with the only additional cost is that of placing Village decals. The potential cost of the decals is \$310-\$655. Trustee DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee Nemec to approve the request to purchase the replacement vehicle. On a roll call vote with Trustee DeAtley, Nemec, Harney and President Pickett voting aye and with Trustee Piraino voting nay, the motion passed.

Trustee DeAtley also expressed his gratitude to Chief Rivas for his service to the Village during his tenure leading the department.

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PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

Trustee Merkel was absent and President Pickett reported that he received no message or report in advance of the meeting.

BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT

Trustee Piraino reported he spoke with ICCI to address the proposed sale of 1001 Main Street formerly housing Maxway Motors. Attorney Mark Schuster reported that he spoke with an attorney representing the record owner of the building regarding the potential sale. He will submit a report to the board at the board meeting.

Trustee Piraino also reported a Village resident is listing their residence as a VRBO should term vacation rental which is in violation of the R-1 district code. The code enforcement officer has been directed to send a notice to the owner to cease the rental operation.

OLD BUSINESS

Todd Prigge on behalf of Mona Auer submitted a proposal offering to purchase – at no cost to the Village – a speed radar sign to be placed on Sleepy Hollow Road. The estimated cost of the unit will be \$2,524.00. The proposal is for placement of the unit is near the bridge on Sleepy Hollow Road on the right side heading south. Trustee DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee Piraino to accept the gift of the radar sign. On a roll call vote with Trustee Harney, Nemec, Piraino and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

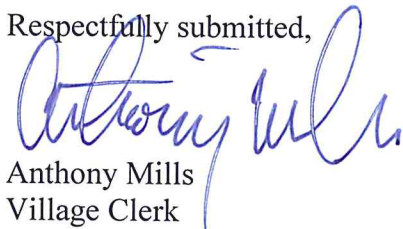
NEW BUSINESS

President Pickett provided the board with a proposal from the Municipal Employee V.E.B.A. Trust for monthly premiums for health and dental insurance of calendar year 2021. Blue Cross Blue Shield's proposed increase for 2021 is 4.77% while the proposed premium increase for the Trust is .0003%.

ADJOURNMENT

The board having no further business to discuss Trustee DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee Nemec to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 pm. On a roll call vote with Trustee Harney, Piraino, Nemec and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay votes the motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Mills
Village Clerk