

## **VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**March 21, 2022**

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, Trustees Steven DeAtley, Anthony Piraino, Mark Thorne, George Hoffman, Director of Finance Eugene Vann, and Chief of Police Samuel Parma attended in person. Trustee Joseph Nemec and Trustee Ed Harney attended by remote video conference via Zoom. 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 DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee Thorne to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2022. On a roll call vote with Trustees Hoffman, Thorne, Piraino, DeAtley, Nemec, and Harney voting aye, with no nay votes the motion passed and the minutes of March 7, 2022 were approved.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Pickett introduced Kelly Thomas as a resident who has expressed interest in joining the Finance Commission. After his introduction he asked for a motion for approve the appointment of Kelly Thomas to the Finance Commission. Trustee DeAtley moved with a second by Trustee Hoffman to approve the appointment as presented. By a roll call vote with Trustee Nemec, Piraino, Hoffman, Harney, Thorne and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed unanimously.

### **CLERK**

No report

### **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

No report

### **ATTORNEY**

No report

### **ENGINEER**

President Pickett reported that he had a meeting with the Village Engineer, DOF Eugene Vann, Trustee Harney and Director of Public Works, Kyle Killinger to address an anticipated increase in the cost of asphalt. The greater the cost the less surface repair can be made so to maximize the amount of surface repairs it will be necessary to prioritize the areas to be repaired. President Pickett asked the Village Engineer to draft a report on the amount of repair that can be made with the funds available for the project.

### **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

Trustee Hoffman moved with a second from Trustee Harney to approve the accounts payable of March 21, 2022 for \$111,702.81 By a roll call vote with Trustee DeAtley, Nemec, Thorne, Harney, Piraino and Hoffman voting aye and with no nay votes, the motion passed.

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### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- **Rich English** reported the Service Club is starting their spring clean up plans and asked when and if the water can be turned on at the Pavilion. President Pickett stated it will be turned on tomorrow since the likelihood of a serious frost has passed.
- **Kelly Thomas** addressed the Board to express her concerns on the proposed development of the self-storage unit adjacent to the commercial strip on Route 72. In addition to the question of aesthetics and the lifestyle choices of the Village, another concern is the expected increase in cost for police service to patrol the storage facility. Kelly Thomas also asked the Board as to who bears the responsibility to maintain the culvert and swale underneath their driveway. The problem she faces is that due to a misalignment of and a difference in the sizing of the drainage pipe and the swale, their driveway readily floods. President Pickett noted that while it is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain the swale, if it is presently at an incorrect depth, the solution would be to dig down to a depth that would make the swale fully functional.
- **Jennifer McGuire** addressed the Board on the issue of reducing the speed limit on Thorobred Lane from 25 to 20 mph. President Pickett stated that is beyond the jurisdiction of the Village and that she should contact IDOT. Ms. McGuire also complained of the condition of Lake Sharon and asked what the Board would do to rectify the problems of excessive mud and poor water quality. President Pickett acknowledged her complaints are similar to those expressed many times in the past but noted that the Village simply has not had sufficient funds for that work.
- **Ian Narcisi** noted traffic on Locust was becoming more of a problem and asked for a status of the installation of the new road/traffic control signs. He asked if the road could be striped with double yellow stripes since drivers are frequently seen passing other cars. Trustee DeAtley explained that he has made several attempts to contact West Dundee which shares responsibility for maintaining the road and that he is still waiting for a return call. He will follow up with West Dundee to see it will move forward on working with Sleepy Hollow to improve the safety for motorists and bicyclists using the road.
- **Jeff Kreisel** asked for an update on improvements to the equipment in Sabatino Park. Trustee Harney stated that this was still a work in progress and indicated that he would provide an update as part of his report.
- **Anne DeLurgio** – had signed in but declined comment noting that her concerns had been expressed by some of the earlier comments from the residents.

### PARKS, ROADS, AND STREETS

Trustee Harney reported that he has arranged a meeting with the Park District in May to discuss the possibility to secure a grant to fund the necessary improvements as well as locating other possible sources of funds for the repairs. Trustee Harney reported on a conversation he had with Kyle Killinger, Director of Public Works, on the status of installing the new road signs. He thanked both the Public Works and Police Departments for their collaborative efforts to get the signs properly placed and installed.

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### **FINANCE**

Trustee Hoffman reported that the Finance Commission held a meeting to discuss the preparation of the Village budget for the 2023 fiscal year. He noted as a “newcomer” to the Board, but one experienced in corporate financing, that from his initial review the Village Board has been very disciplined in spending the funds available to the Village. He reminded those in attendance that the Village has very limited income – basically property taxes (representing approximately 85% of funds) - to spend on the much-needed projects and now is a good time for the Village to revisit the issue of a tax referendum. He repeated that which was told to him in the past – if you want to have a voice - get involved. DOF Vann noted that in the last year the Village lost 90 residents which means going forward the Village has lost 90 sources of property taxes to spend on needed projects. Trustee Nemec suggested that due to the extreme financial hardships being experienced, now is the time to discuss the issue of adding a tax referendum in the next election.

### **WATER AND SEWER**

Trustee Nemec reported that the Village has only received one response (a voice message) to the letters to the homeowners requesting a voluntary grant of easement for the water main project. Since the present budget does not contain funds for this project, the cost of the water main repairs will be part of the 2023 fiscal year budget discussions.

### **POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Chief Parma and Trustee DeAtley presented the Board with an update on the installation of the two fuel tanks. Trustee DeAtley moved with a second by Trustee Piraino to accept the installation by Austin Electric, Inc. for the fuel tank electrical work for an amount not to exceed, \$5,400.00. On a roll call vote with Trustee Hoffman, Nemec, DeAtley, Harney, Thorne and Piraino voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

Chief Parma reported on an incident wherein Officer Gary Schwartz had investigated a traffic accident on Randall which required a call to AAA for a tow. Officer Schwartz not only stayed with the resident until the tow arrive, he also subsequently called the resident to make sure she was all right. The Chief noted that he received a lengthy voice message from the resident commenting on the integrity and quality of our officers.

Chief Parma also reported that Officer Christopher Diori responded to a mental health crisis call involving a potential suicide and he was able to grab hold of the individual as she lunged towards the balcony in an apparent attempt to jump over the railing.

Trustee DeAtley noted that Chief Parma is consistently working to increase the quality of his officers through regular training and that these most recent events demonstrate the success of those efforts.

Chief Parma presented an update on the purchase for the new squad car noting that Ford no longer provides a reminder of the due date for orders and as a result the Village order was dropped without notice. This will cause some delay in the receipt of the new squad car so once Chief Parma anticipates delivery my mid-summer.

### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL**

No report

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**BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT**

Trustee Piraino and ICCI Code Officer Dettmer have identified a potential conflict in one or more provisions of Article 6 of the Village Code and Kane County's code as it applies to set back requirement. Trustee Piraino will follow up with Mrs. Dettmer to arrange for a presentation on the potential conflicts in the municipal code. Trustee Piraino alerted the board that to change the zoning code will require additional time and costs which will have to be factored into the 2023 fiscal year budget.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

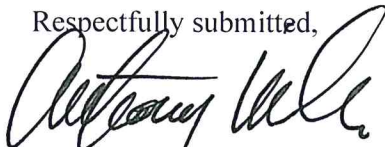
**NEW BUSINESS**

None. Trustee Nemec commented that the from the discussion during tonight's meeting, now would be a good time to explain the economics of funding the services of the Village government and to have a referendum to raise the funds to pay for the activities requested by the various residents.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The board having no further business to discuss Trustee Piraino moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm. On a roll call vote with Trustee Harney, Piraino, Nemec, Hoffman, Thorne and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay votes the motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Mills  
Village Clerk