

# **VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW**

## **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**September 6, 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 Mark Thorne, George Hoffman, Steven DeAtley, Joe Nemec, Anthony Piraino, Director of Finance Eugene Vann, ICCI Code Office Barbara Dettmer, Village Attorney Mark Schuster and Chief of Police Samuel Parma, attended in person. Trustee Ed Harney, Director of Public Works Kyle Killinger and Village Engineer Jeffrey Steele via remote access. 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 Piraino to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2022. On a roll call vote with Trustees Hoffman, Nemec, Thorne, DeAtley, Harney and Piraino voting aye, with no nay votes the motion passed, and the minutes of August 15, 2022 were approved.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Pickett alerted the Board to the need to create a process/board to address challenges to citations of multiple building codes adopted by the Village. The Codes call for persons who are experienced in the various trades to fill these positions; but in lieu of soliciting and appointing such persons, it is suggested that the Board of Trustees fill this role. Procedurally, once the decision of the Board resolves the dispute, the issue would then have to be appealed to the courts. ICCI Code Official Barbera Dettmer provided the Board with suggested text for an appeal section of some of the building codes; and President Pickett requested the Board to review the material so that the issue can be revisited at the September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 board meeting. Trustee Nemec moved with a second by Trustee Thorne to authorize the Village Attorney to draft an ordinance appointing the Board of Trustees to serve as the Board of Appeal for building code issues. On a roll call vote with Trustee DeAtley, Piraino, Nemec, Thorne, Harney, and Hoffman voting aye and with no nay vote the motion passed.

President Pickett reported that Governor Pritzker issued a proclamation which allows public meetings to continue to be held remotely, in accordance with Public Act 101-0640, as long as certain requirements are met. This order will remain in effect until September 17, 2022. At such future date as the Governor does not further extend the proclamation, Board members will be required to attend meetings in person in order to participate and vote on Village matters.

### **CLERK**

No report

### **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

### **ATTORNEY**

No report

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### ENGINEER

Jeffrey Steele, Village Engineer, reported on his review and recommendation to approve of ComEd Permit Application # 18211559. ComEd is seeking authority to replace approximately 17,995 feet of cable on Village ROW located within the Walnut Hill Subdivision. Trustee Harney moved with a second by Trustee DeAtley to approve ComEd Application # 18211559 per the Village Engineer's recommendation. On a roll call vote with Trustee Thorne, Piraino, Nemec, Harney, DeAtley and Hoffman voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

### DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Trustee Hoffman moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve the accounts payable of September 6, 2022 for \$100,120.35. Pursuant to a roll call vote with Trustee DeAtley, Harney Thorne, Piraino, Nemec and Hoffman voting aye and with no nay votes, the motion passed.

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- **Elizabeth Morrison** stated that she opposed the construction of the self-storage facility on Route 72. She stated that the facility will devalue adjacent landowners' property. She also complained of the condition of the Verlo property stating that the parking lot is full of broken-down cars and further she questioned why the Village Board was allowing the property to be maintained in such a disgusting condition.
- **Eydee Reese** stated her objection to the construction of the proposed self-storage facility on property adjacent to her residence. She stated that the proposed installation does not comport with multiple sections of the Village Code.
- **Ty Cobb** read a prepared statement regarding dissatisfaction with the recent work by Public Works on the swale in front of his residence. He stated that the work performed was not the work approved by the Village Board. He also stated, without explanation, his objection to the proposed construction of the self-storage facility on Route 72.
- **Anne DeLurgio** read a prepared statement objecting to the conduct of the ICCI Code Official as well as that of the Village Attorney at the Public Hearing held earlier in the month of August. She complained that the public was not allowed to voice their opposition to the proposed installation of the self-storage facility. She further questioned the payment of \$5,000 to the Village by the party who recently purchased the property. .

### PARKS, ROADS, AND STREETS

Trustee Harney reported on his meeting involving the application for the construction of a 2-car parking pad on the ROW adjacent to 208 Crane Court. With input by Barbara Dettmer, Village Building Official and Jeffrey Steele, Village Engineer, Trustee Harney applauded the resident for following the correct approval process but noted that the plans as presented are incomplete and in part do not meet the requirements of the Village Code. In addition since the construction will be on Village Property the Village Attorney was asked if he could draft an agreement which would grant the use of public property under appropriate conditions. It was the consensus of the Board that more information was needed before voting of the construction application.

Trustee Harney also reported that Kids Around the World inspected the equipment at Sabatino Park and due its condition has declined to remove the old equipment. After speaking with Public Works Trustee Harney suggested that with volunteers and the assistance of Public Works, the Village could remove the property themselves.



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Trustee Hoffman asked if the Board has heard anything about the closing of the Park District swimming pool located in the Village. The rumor is that due to the loss of water this summer the pool may not open next year.

### **FINANCE**

Trustee Hoffman reported that the Finance Committee has scheduled a meeting for 9-14-2022 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm to discuss the new audit report.

He also encouraged residents to study and learn what keeps the Village financially afloat. In particular and in response to comments about a payment of \$5,000 to the Village by a prospective developer, Trustee Hoffman explained that the payment was deposited into an escrow account to cover the costs incurred by the Village to cover the legal and engineering costs resulting from a developer seeking a construction permit.

Trustee Hoffman reported that prior to his retirement he read an analysis of the retail position for what is termed the 72 Corridor from State Route 25 and Randall Road. The conclusion of that report is that from a retail standpoint the corridor is “dead,” since no retailer will invest in the area because there will be no adequate return on that investment.

### **WATER AND SEWER**

No report

### **POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Chief Parma reported that with the recent incidents at Springhill Mall and on Boncosky Road his department has been very busy. He reported that as part of the Special Olympics fund drive, his department raised \$2954.00. He thanks all those residents who donated money to this very important cause.

Trustee DeAtley requested that the issue of hours for Halloween Trick or Treating activities be placed on the next regular meeting business agenda.

### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL**

No report

### **BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT**

Responding to certain comments citing his name made during the Public Comment section of the meeting Trustee Piraino asked for clarification and confirmation of the limited purpose of the issue addressed at the Public Hearing before the Planning & Zoning Commission in August. Specifically, he stated that the issue was limited to addressing the language of “permitted uses” and “additional uses” to sections of the Village Zoning Regulations governing business uses and that the Village Board was not asked to approve the request to construct a self-storage facility, as a result of that public hearing. He suggested that the Board be able to listen to all points of view before making any decision.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Board addressed the issue of a vehicle registration discount for active military personnel. President Pickett noted that since the discount was first enacted, no resident has requested the discount. With the issue of revision the Vehicle Sticker application coming due, Trustee Nemec

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moved with a second by Trustee DeAtley to eliminate the vehicle registration discount for active military personnel. On a roll call vote with Trustee Hoffman, Nemec, DeAtley, Harney and Thorne voting aye and with Trustee Piraino voting nay, the motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

To address requests from several residents who have incurred tree and vegetation damage from recent storms, Trustee Piraino moved with a second by Trustee Thorne to approve the opening of the Village burn pile on 9-7-2022. On a roll call vote with Trustee Nemec, Hoffman, DeAtley, Thorne, Piraino and Harney voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed. The burn pile will close on 10-27-2022.

The Knights of Columbus have asked for authority to use the intersection of Thorobred Lane and Sleepy Hollow Road to collect funds during their annual fund drive. Trustee DeAtley moved with a second by Trustee Harney to approve this request. On a roll call vote with Trustee Piraino, DeAtley, Harney, Nemec, Hoffman and Thorne voting aye and with not nay votes the motion passed. The collection is scheduled for September, 23, 24 and 25<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to address, Trustee DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee Thorne to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm. On a roll call vote with Trustee Harney, Nemec, Piraino, Hoffman, Thorne, and DeAtley voting aye and with no nay vote the motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Mills  
Village Clerk