

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2023

The meeting of the Sleepy Hollow Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Sleepy Hollow Village Hall. After asking all participants to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, President Pickett directed the Clerk to call the roll of trustees. President Stephan Pickett, Village Clerk Anthony Mills, Police Chief Samuel Parma, Director of Finance Eugene Vann, Trustees Mark Thorne, Courtney Boe, Edward Harney, Steven DeAtley, Kelly Thomas and Jennifer McGuire attended in person. Also attending in person was the Village Attorney Mark Schuster, and Village Engineer Jeffrey Steele. Village Code Official Barbara Dettmer attended the meeting via Zoom. Director of Public Works Kyle Killinger did not attend the meeting.

MINUTES

Trustee Thorne moved with a second by Trustee Thomas to approve the minutes of July 17, 2023 and on a voice vote with all trustees present voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed and the Minutes of 7-17-2023 were approved.

President Pickett asked Trustee McGuire to read aloud the Illinois Municipal League Civility Pledge which has been adopted by the Village of Sleepy Hollow. The pledge states:

In the interest of civility, I pledge to promote civility in listening, being respectful of others, acknowledging that we are all striving to support and improve our community and understanding that we each have different ideas for achieving that objective

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Pickett reported there is a vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Commission and that anyone interested in joining should contact him.

The Village received a note from the Vytenis Lietuvinkas, Attorney, in which he wrote:

I recently represented the owner of 1001 W Main Street in the sale of the property. It was an extremely challenging transaction. The people at the Village Hall, however, did not contribute to the difficulty. They were extremely friendly and efficient. It was a real pleasure dealing with them. Keep up the good work.

President Pickett also reminded all trustees that any and all discussions regarding any Village employee's negative job performance is to be the subject of an executive session and such comments should not be the subject of public discussion.

In an effort to set the record straight and to correct numerous statements made on social media and in a recent group meeting, President Pickett asked for a motion to advance item i. "Discussion of 1601 W. Main St. and events on and around July 25th" presently listed in **Old Business**. Trustee Harney moved with a second by Trustee Thorne to amend the agenda and on a voice vote with all trustees voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

Discussion of the matter then proceeded. Trustee Boe reported that during her attendance at a recent *SaferTogetherSleepyHollow* meeting there were numerous comments regarding the recent tree removal and burning which were incorrect and misleading. Ms. Boe stated that to her knowledge no trustee or member of the Village staff had been alerted to the plan to remove the trees and vegetation on the property. Furthermore, no trustee or employee of the Village had been advised that the tree removal company intended to burn any vegetation or trees.

Trustee Boe stated it was her understanding that the lot at 1601 W. Main Street was still owned by the Collingbourne family and that as private owners they could remove the unwanted trees and vegetation. After a review of the Village Code – specifically section 8.5.8 [NATURAL AREAS AND LANDSCAPING] -- Trustee Boe explained that 1601 W. Main Street does appear to meet the definition of "Woodlands". And,

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because the Code does not appear to require the owner to secure a permit and/or seek permission from the Village to remove trees and vegetation. In response to a report that there was a fire at 1601 W. Main Street, members of the Sleepy Hollow Police Department as well as the Dundee Fire District arrived and the fire was extinguished. The following day, Police Chief Parma personally met with the site manager for the tree removal company and explained that the Village allows attended burning only on two weekends a month during specific hours. The manager disclaimed any knowledge of limitation on burning and assured Chief Parma that they would no longer burn any vegetation at this site. President Pickett explained the no trustee has the legal authority to trespass onto private property and therefore the proper manner in which to stop the burning was to call the Village Police Department and/or the Rutland-Dundee Fire District.

CLERK

No report

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

No report

ATTORNEY

No report

ENGINEER

Village Engineer Jeffrey Steele provided the Board with his analyses and recommendations on the following permits and work applications:

Nicor Gas Permit 2301086.133 -- 322 Sharon Drive

Nicor Gas Permit 2301086.197 -- 830 Hemlock Drive

Nicor Gas Permit 2301086.244 --838 Hemlock Drive

ComEd Work Permit 18803560 – Sleepy Hollow Manor Unit 20 & Windsor 1st-4th

Trustee Thomas moved with a second from Trustee DeAtley to approve each Nicor Gas permit request subject to the limitations identified by the Village Engineer and on a voice vote with all trustees in attendance voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

Trustee Thorne moved with a second by Trustee Thomas to approve ComEd Work Permit 18803560 – Sleepy Hollow Manor Unit 20 & Windsor 1st-4th Additions and on a voice vote with all trustees voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Trustee Thorne moved with a second by Trustee Harney to approve the Warrants of 8-7-2023 in the amount of \$148,260.77 and with Trustee DeAtley, McGuire, Boe, Harney, Thorne and Kelly voting aye and with no nay votes the motion passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- **Eydie Reese** – complained that the Village and local residents were not alerted to the decision to remove trees at 1601 W. Main Street.
- **Richard English** on behalf of the SH Service Club thanked the Village Police Department on their service at the Club's 4th of July celebration. He apologized about the quality of the fireworks display and indicated that the Service Club is addressing this issue with the company who put on the show.

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As for future fireworks displays, Mr. English cautioned the Board and residents that the costs were becoming prohibitive and it was questionable whether future fireworks show will be held.

- **Shannon Konal** asked the Board to consider actions designed to maintain the historic nature of the Village.
- **Eulita Tackett** expressed her concerns about the removal of trees at 1601 West Main Street as well as potential gas and oil contamination happening at the property behind the Verlo Mattress Company.
- **Candra Kowalski** expressed her concerns about the removal of trees at 1601 West Main Street.

PARKS, ROADS, AND STREETS

Trustee Harney reported -- in the absence of DPW Killinger -- on the many cost and time benefits realized by the Public Works Department with the recent machinery purchases. With the purchase of the new chipper and the addition of new public works personnel, Public Works will begin the trimming of vegetation (4 feet from the edge and 14 feet from the road surface) along Village roadways.

FINANCE

No report

WATER AND SEWER

Trustee Boe stated that she has received reports on collapsed culverts adjacent to Randall Road. In addition Ms. Boe has received inquiries from residents re connecting with Village water and sewer systems. Noting that such connections were not simple, Trustee Boe identified certain (but not all) of the costs involved in making the connection.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Trustee DeAtley, chief Samuel Parma and President Pickett thanked Rebecca Freemon for her 35th year (7/5/2023) of employment with the Village of Sleepy Hollow.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

No report. Trustee McGuire inquired as to whether the Village Code addressed air quality measures. President Pickett responded by identifying the watering and burning limitations placed on such activities in the Village.

BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

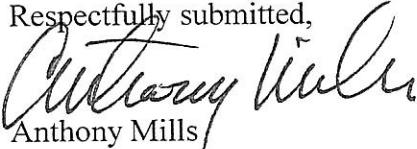
With no further business to address, Trustee DeAtley moved with a second from Trustee McGuire to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. On a voice vote with Trustee Thorne, DeAtley, Harney, Thomas,

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Boe, and McGuire voting aye and with no nay votes the motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Mills
Village Clerk