

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
February 18, 2013  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 7:30 P.M.**

President Krochmal called the meeting to order at **7:30 p.m.** with the Pledge of Allegiance, and *Roll Call*. In attendance were Trustees Corgiat, Czajka, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, and Wilt.

Others in attendance were Finance Director Scarpiniti, Attorney Hanson, Chief of Police Garvey, Fire Chief Rouleau, Public Works Director Kutt, and the **Honorable Mayor Scheck**, Emeritus (Guest).

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee Demopoulos**, seconded by **Trustee DeSantis**, to **approve** the agenda of the **February 18, 2013** Village Board Meeting, as was presented.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES:* **Trustees Corgiat, Czajka, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt**

*NAYS:* **None**

**Motion Carried**

**BIDS:**

No.

**CASH RECEIPT REPORTS:**

No.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee Demopoulos**, seconded by **Trustee DeSantis**, to **approve** the **Minutes** of the **February 4, 2013** Village Board Meeting as were presented.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES:* **Trustees Corgiat, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt**

*NAYS:* **None**

*ABSTAIN:* **Trustee Czajka**

**Motion Carried**

**REPORTS OF TRUSTEES:**

**Trustee Corgiat: Finance, Health & Appropriations:**

**Trustee Corgiat** related to the following Finance, Health, & Appropriations Committee Meeting Minutes, of February 11, 2013, in this manner:

**Item #1: Review of Debt Certificate:** Finance Director Scarpiniti informed the Committee about the process staff is going through to secure the debt certificates. She explained how she,

**REPORTS OF TRUSTEES (Continued):**

the Administrator, and Stephen Roberts, from Baird, had their conference call with Moody's Investors Service, who will be the rating agency to determine whether the Village's bond rating on this debt issue. The Village's current rating is Aa3 for GO bonds, and A1 for debt certificates. Finance Director Scarpiniti also indicated that, since the Village's last presentation to Moody's, in 2011, it has made great strides in improving the Village's financial outlook, and addressing concerns that Moody's had during the Village's last review. The Village has diversified its tax base, partially funded the police and fire pension funds, added new revenue sources with the places for eating tax, and has addressed the deficiency in the water fund. These items, along with the predicted opening of Costco, Red Lobster and Longhorn, showed very well for the Village. Further, Director Scarpiniti distributed a "draft" of an ordinance that was prepared by Ice Miller, the Village's bond council, that will be on the agenda for passage at the Board's next meeting. This ordinance will authorize the issuance of debt certificates in an amount of, and not to exceed, \$7.5 million dollars..

**Item #2: Discuss Economic Development Incentive – 26<sup>th</sup> Street & Harlem Avenue:**

Administrator Belmonte informed the Committee that, upon the suggestion of Trustee Hermanek, the Staff was looking into securing a private hedge fund to protect the Village's \$6.8 million dollars financial investment. That, the Staff has been in discussion with a private investment group to act as guarantor for the Village's financial outlay through the establishment of a trust agreement in which the private investor would deposit \$6.8 million dollars into an escrow account, in the name of the Village, until completion of the Costco development. The escrowed funds would be only transferred to the Village, in the event that Costco does not open and begin transacting retail business by December 31, 2014. Should that occur, the Village would be required to use the funds to repay the existing debt service on the debt certificates. The cost for this private guarantee is 35 basis points, or approximately **\$240,000.00**. The Administrator wanted to know, from the Committee, if the Staff should continue the process of trying to secure this type of agreement. Also, the Administrator, and the Finance Director, informed the Committee that after they had spoken with the broker, it was possible that the private investor would not want his name publicly disclosed, and most likely, the money would be held in trust at a financial institution of their choosing. After a brief discussion, **Trustee Hermanek moved**, and **Trustee Corgiat seconded**, that the Staff continue to look into securing a policy to protect the Village's investment. The motion was passed by the Committee, with a two in favor, and none opposed. **Trustee Hermanek** then polled **Mayor Krochmal**, **Trustee Demopoulos** and **Trustee Wilt**, who were also in favor.

**Item #3: Fund Balance Policy:** Director Scarpiniti distributed a "draft" copy of a fund balance/net assets policy. She mentioned that a few months ago, at a Finance Committee meeting, it was decided by the Committee and trustees that the Village develop a policy for minimum fund balances. It was determined that **25%** of annual budgeted expenditures be the minimum, and this would be adjusted with the adoption of the annual budget. And, Director Scarpiniti informed the Committee that this would be on the agenda for passage at the Board of Trustees next meeting.

**Trustee Czajka: Public Transportation Services & Plan Commission:**

No report.

**REPORTS OF TRUSTEES (Continued):**

**Trustee Demopoulos: Water, Sewers, Drainage & Zoning:**

**Trustee Demopoulos** acknowledged receipt of the **Brookfield-North Riverside Water Commission Meeting Minutes** of Wednesday, January 9, 2013, and requested that they be filed in the office of the Clerk.

**Trustee DeSantis: Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks & Garbage:**

No report.

**Trustee Hermanek: Police, Fire & Licenses:**

**Trustee Hermanek** made reference to a Fire Committee Meeting, that was held on February 11, 2013, by emphasizing that there were questions regarding the competency and performance of the North Riverside **PSI Paramedics**. As an end result, the **adduction** gleaned by the Committee was that the **PSI Paramedics** are of **high quality**, and, unequivocally, serve the North Riverside residents well. A transcription of these Minutes has been distributed, and a copy of it has been filed with the Clerk.

Finally, **Trustee Hermanek lamented** that the **lambasting** remarks that were published by two of his colleagues, to the residents, about the performance and qualifications of the North Riverside **PSI Paramedics**, were **egregiously** false and unfounded. Therefore, the Committee has vowed to investigate these allegations so as to be better able to **allay** the concerns that residents (especially the elderly) may have relating to **truths and untruths** involving their security, well-being or safety with the Village of North Riverside **PSI Paramedics**. This investigation is also paramount because **two** North Riverside **PSI Supervisors**, who are Lieutenants, opted to **not** share their own professional opinions to the Committee, when asked, regarding the competence, performance and qualifications of those whom they supervise. Their silence is questionable.

Also during the aforesaid February 11, 2013, **Trustee Hermanek referred** to a **dialogue** that existed between **Mayor Scheck** (Emeritus), of North Riverside, and Trustee DeSantis, which elucidated Joe Rizza's **character** and **business dealings** with the Village of North Riverside.

With the support of Finance Director Scarpiniti, **Trustee Hermanek** was able to explain the total contributions of Joe Rizza to the Village of North Riverside, and its residents, for the last twenty-four (24) years: in to-to, approximately **\$9,000,000.00**. This amount would include sales tax revenue, water tower rental, youth scholarships, Mater Christi golf outings, little league sponsorships, American Cancer Society and Betty Scheck Cancer Walk donations, boy scouts, Community theater, North Riverside Recreation Department events, property taxes, and building permit fees.

Also, that the Village's total contributions to Joe Rizza's business, in the last twenty-four (24) years, were approximately **\$1,000,000.00**. That means a net return to the Village and residents of North Riverside, of approximately **\$8,000,000.00**. In addition, from 1989 to 2012, the Village of North Riverside purchased forty-four (44) vehicles from Joe Rizza. All purchases were from

**REPORTS OF TRUSTEES (Continued):**

Rizza as the result of it being the lowest bidder in a competitive bidding process, and not one cent higher!

That, the water tower for the Joe Rizza sign would cost more to remove than it would be worth to not do so, after the rental agreement had expired. However, each car purchased, as a result of that advertisement, greatly benefits the Village of North Riverside for the aforesaid reasons stated.

Joe Rizza has turned down offers by other municipalities, but due its commitment to North Riverside, it remains in it, and it is a beneficial partnership. Therefore, **Trustee Hermanek** stated that the Village of North Riverside is proud of its relationship with Joe Rizza, and hopes that it continues for decades to come.

**Trustee Wilt: Judiciary – Ordinances & Recreation:**

**Trustee Wilt announced** that there will be a **Recreation Committee Meeting**, Monday, February 25, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.

**MAYORAL REPORT:**

**Mayor Krochmal read** the following letter, of February 18, 2013:

Dear Chief Garvey and the North Riverside Police Department:

On January 21, 2013, at a Village Board Meeting, I made a comment about police officers not wanting to get out of their vehicles at night. It has been brought to my attention that this comment has been taken out of context, and **untruths** are being circulated stating that I deliberately made a **malicious comment** towards our Police Department. To the contrary, and I want to clarify to you, and the Police Department, that this comment was **not** directed, in any way, towards our active police officers who are currently working for the Village of North Riverside.

Also, I deeply regret it if any officer on our Police Department understood my comment to mean an attack on his/her performance, because I have always complimented our Police Department for its professionalism and work ethic. Further, throughout my term as Mayor, I have always **boasted** that the Village of North Riverside has an **unequaled** Police Department possible; and, to this end, I will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

Ken Krochmal  
Mayor

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**A Thank You Card** from **Linda**, of the Aging Care Connections, to Director Frampton and Mayor Krochmal for hosting one of their Celebrating Seniors Week informational meetings. She

**CORRESPONDENCE (Continued):**

stated that she was so appreciative of them for the warm and welcoming hospitality. That, everything was great, and she looks forward to working with the Village of North Riverside as the Aging Care Connections prepares for their wonderful celebration in May 2013.

**A Thank You Card** from **Joan Sargent**, to Mayor Krochmal and Fire Chief Rouleau for the **Paramedics** who so ably took care of her on December 26, 2012. That, they (she was unable to get the Paramedics' names) were so kind, very professional and assuring – just as always. Further, that, in the past, the Paramedics had taken care of her husband and both of her parents. And for which, she is most grateful as well.

**A Thank You Letter** from **John M. Chauvet**, to Mayor Krochmal and the Village Board of Trustees for providing a service like the Handyman Program, and for employees like Vince Ranieri and Scott Kopach, who responded to his call about a leaking bathtub faucet, as they engaged him in a lively conversation (not Scott, who is a **rabid** Cubs fan, **smile**). They explained their work , step-by-step, throughout the entire process. Further, Mr. Chauvet stated that what might have taken him hours to complete, provided that he were able to do it all, took Vince Ranieri and Scott Kopach about 30 minutes, from in the door, to out of his house. And, that the level of their friendly professionalism speaks about the community, the neighbors, and the Public Works Department.

In addition, Mr. Chauvet pointed out that, as a seven-year resident of the beautiful Village of North Riverside, and he wrote the letter to express his heartfelt gratitude for the Handyman Program.

And, since he became permanently P2A disabled in February 2010, Mr. Chauvet emphasized that life has taken some decidedly downward twists and turns. For example, things that he took for granted and/or could do for himself, are no longer possible. Simple things like walking the dog, grocery shopping, or most recently, fixing his own leaking faucet, are no longer or even possible for him to do. Here again, he appreciates the Handyman Program.

**A Request Letter** from **Kim Dunster** , Corporate Relations Assistant, of the Salvation Army, to Dr. Miller (Clerk) and Mayor Krochmal for permission to conduct **fundraising campaigns** for Donut Day, Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8, 2013, and Red Kettle Campaign, Friday, November 15, 2013 through Tuesday, December 24, 2013, respectively

Collection for Donut Days will be at the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Cermak Road from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and collection for the Red Kettle Campaign will be where the corps have placed their kettles and bell ringers at stores from where they have obtained permission of the store manager or the store's corporate office. The kettles will not be on public property..

**A Request Letter** from **Jay Shelbrack**, of the Chicago International Christian and Evangelist, to the North Riverside Village Board and Mayor Krochmal for permission to **fund raise** on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Cermak Road, on March 16, 2013 and April 20, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The purpose is to raise money for World Missions. A portion of the money will be used for planting churches in Las Vegas, Dallas, Seattle, Denver and Australia. These plantings are

**CORRESPONDENCE (Continued):**

spring boards for training campus and singles in the Chicago area to be a part of something greater, and to have vision to do great things for God. Another portion of the money will stay in Chicago to continued training the local teens, campus youth and singles from Cook County, and the surrounding areas to continue leadership training.

Further, Mr. Shelbrack is asking the Village to take into consideration this request to raise money, that a good portion of it will train the youth from Cook County, and the surrounding areas, to be trained, and then they will work in the local neighborhoods, and make a difference with other youths.

**Trustee Corgiat moved, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos,** to grant permission to the abovementioned entities to conduct their fundraisers on the dates and places indicated.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES:* **Trustees Corgiat, Czajka, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt**  
*NAYS:* **None**  
**Motion Carried**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee Corgiat, seconded by Trustee Hermanek,** to **approve** the list of bills that was submitted for this Village Board Meeting, totaling **\$131,157.84,** and to have these bills paid out of proper funds when such funds become available.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES:* **Trustees Corgiat, Czajka, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt**  
*NAYS:* **None**  
**Motion Carried**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee DeSantis, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos,** to **pass** a Resolution to authorize the Village President and Clerk to Execute and Submit the 2013 CDBG Application with the County of Cook, and to waive reading of the Resolution.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES:* **Trustees Corgiat, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt**  
*NAYS:* **None**  
**Motion Carried – Resolution #13-R-03**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee Corgiat, seconded by Trustee Hermanek,** to **pass** a Resolution to Authorize the Village President and Clerk to Execute an Agreement with ICA-RC Relating to Vantage Care Retirement Health Savings Plan, and to waive the reading of the Resolution.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (Continued):**

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES: Trustees Corgiat, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt*

*NAYS: None*

**Motion Carried – Resolution #13-O-04**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee Corgiat**, seconded by **Trustee Hermanek**, to **pass** an Ordinance Authorizing and Providing for the Issue of Debt Certificates, Series 2013, and to waive the reading of the Ordinance.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES: Trustees Corgiat, Czajka, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt*

*NAYS: None*

**Motion Carried – Ordinance #13-O-08**

A **motion** was made by **Trustee Corgiat**, seconded by **Trustee Hermanek**, to **pass** an Ordinance Establishing a Fund Balance/Net Assets Policy for the Village of North Riverside, and to waive the reading of the Ordinance.

*Roll Call Vote:*

*AYES: Trustees Corgiat, Demopoulos, DeSantis, Hermanek, & Wilt*

*NAYS: None*

**Motion Carried – Ordinance #13-O-09**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No.

**AUDIENCE:**

The following references were made by the audience:

- For informational sake, a resident presented the **ramifications** relating to the **Pension Plan Calculations** of the North Riverside Police and Fire Department personnel. The denominator to his presentation was that the higher Pension Plan Calculations indicate **“big money”** for the Village of North Riverside, provided that the **crux** of it means that individual pension plans are **doled** out in **moderation**.
- A resident explained that the reason that she signed **Trustee Rocco DeSantis’** petition sheet, that assists him in becoming considered for the Mayoral candidacy for the 2013 April Election, was because of **family/friend ties**, and **”for no other reason”**; however, she has second thoughts about her **reaction** because of the receipt of subsequent harassment and intimidations from other entities. Police Chief Garvey will investigate the findings

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Trustee Corgiat moved, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos, to adjourn this meeting at 8:10 p.m. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Dr. Queenella Miller  
Village Clerk**