

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SEPTEMBER 19, 2022
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 7:00 PM**

Clerk Ranieri called the meeting to order with a Roll Call. In attendance were Trustee Bianco, Trustee Czajka, Trustee Demopoulos, Trustee Flores, Trustee Mandel and Trustee Sarro. Mayor Mengoni was absent.

Others in attendance were Administrator Scarpiniti, Finance Director Lawler, Attorney Peter Murphy, Police Chief Erhenberg, Fire Chief McDermott, and Public Works Director Ranieri.

In the absence of Mayor Mengoni, Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Flores seconded to appoint Trustee Sarro as mayor pro tem for this meeting. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Demopoulos, Flores, Mandel, Sarro
NAYS: None. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Czajka moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to approve the agenda for this meeting as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Demopoulos, Flores, Mandel, Sarro
NAYS: None
Motion carried

BIDS- None

CASH RECEIPT REPORT

Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Flores seconded to approve the Cash Receipt Report for the month of August, 2022 totaling \$2,124,189.29. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Demopoulos, Flores, Mandel, Sarro
NAYS: None
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Demopoulos moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to approve the Village Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes from the September 6, 2022 meeting as presented. Roll Call Vote:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (continued)

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Demopoulos, Flores, Mandel, Sarro

NAYS: None

Motion carried

AUDIENCE

Nancy Quick asked if the police department was prepared for the new Safety Act. Chief Erhenberg addressed her concerns stating it will be a slow process come January 1st. He explained a little about the act and spoke with Nancy after the meeting.

Cheryl Plaza addressed the board with her concerns about the garbage behind the Village Commons building. She feels apartments are being discriminated against with rat issues. Director Ranieri stated the Village had two big events this past weekend which included the Village Flea Market and the Autumn Fest which amounted to an abundance of garbage. However, the garbage was picked up Monday morning and Commons Park is cleaned as well.

John Bork asked why there were horses blocking the street on by Komarek on 13th Avenue which is blocking his access to the alley. Administrator Scarpiniti said horses are only permitted during school hours temporarily and will look into why they are not removing them on weekends and after school.

Flavio Cipriani asked if the board new when Riverside Brookfield High School will be paying off the bonds that our residents are till paying. Administrator Scarpiniti and Attorney Murphy both reminded Mr. Cipriani that the high school is a separate taxing body and would encourage him to attend a RB school board meeting to get his answer.

MAYORAL REPORT

Trustee Sarro read the following statement from Mayor Mengoni in lieu of his absence:

I want to extend a heartfelt gratitude to all village employees from each department for a very successful Autumn Fest this past weekend. I have received many complimentary messages and calls from residents on what a great time everyone had. Thank you for making this event a huge success. We look forward to Winterfest in early December and hope to see everyone there.

I want to congratulate all of our award-winning chili teams including the North Riverside Police Department, Judges Choice Award winner, the North Fire Department, Peoples Choice Award winner and the Girl Scouts, Junior Chef Award winner. We look forward to next year and seeing if each f these groups can maintain their championship status or will be defeated.

MAYORAL REPORT (continued)

I also want to thank all our sponsors for allowing us to bring in our vendors, our great band and an evening capped off with a spectacular fireworks display. Please join me in thanking Riverside Township, Amazon Fresh, Lakeshore recycling, Lakeside Consultants, Attorney Vincent Giuliano and Nobs Towing. The evening could not be possible without their continued support and generosity.

I am happy to report our Police Department purchased a mobile speed radar equipment one year ago to aid us in the patrol of our neighborhood. Since then, we have routinely located this equipment in different areas throughout the village to monitor speeding activity down our streets. This tool helps us identify areas that need additional patrol and police presence.

Most recently, the police department deployed this mobile radar on 14th Avenue in the area of the Tot Spot. This was due to increasing reports by residents about speeders. The radar is capable of tracking each vehicle that passes its sensor and found that over 2,000 vehicles traveled on this particular street during a 6 day period. The radar provides details to our police department about the speed vehicles are traveling, the times more patrol may be needed and the number of potential violations found. We have been successful at using this data to help our shifts plan and identify speeders in our village and direct our resources in the most cost effective manner.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Bianco

Trustee Bianco thanked all the departments for a successful Autumn Fest and thanked the residents for asking questions at board meetings.

Trustee Czajka

Trustee Czajka thanked all the departments as well and stated that there were approximately 20 applicants for the Recreation Director position and interviews will take place this week. The village used two highly recommended search agencies for applicants and are hoping to announce a Director by early October.

The North Riverside Players performance of the Odd Couple, the female version will be coming up soon so please plan on attending.

Trustee Demopoulos

Trustee Demopoulos echoed the words of the Mayor and thanked all involved in a successful Autumn Fest.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)

Trustee Flores

Trustee Flores stated that our police and fire departments in cooperation with Komarek School will be conducting the first lockdown drill on Wednesday at 10:30 am. This is part of the Village's safety program so please do not be alarmed if you see a large police presence near the school.

Trustee Mandel

Trustee Mandel thanked all involved with the Autumn Fest and asked Administrator Scarpiniti about the property on 9043 Cermak Road and if there were any development there. She also asked if there were vehicle stickers forms available. Administrator Scarpiniti said there has been no inquiries about that particular property and vehicle sticker forms and overnight parking tickets are currently at the printer and should be available in the upcoming weeks.

Trustee Sarro

Trustee Sarro called for an Administrative Committee Meeting on October 3rd at 7:00pm.

Trustee Sarro stated that every year the Village undergoes an independent audit of its financial records with a licensed professional accounting firm. The findings of this audit are made available to the public by the end of October and will be reviewed by the Village Board in the upcoming months. This report outlines the overall financial position and fiscal health of the Village.

Trustee Mandel asked if the audit would be preformed by Lauterbach and Amen and Administrator Scarpiniti said yes as the village currently has a contract with this company.

CORRESPONDENCE- None

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Flores seconded to approve the List of Bills submitted for this meeting totaling of \$608,305.60 and to have them paid out of proper funds when such funds become available. Roll Call Vote:

On the question, Trustee Mandel asked about Civic Plus which the board, excluding herself voted for this new website in October of 2020 in the amount of \$30,000 and as to date we still do not have a website in action but questioned why we are getting billed again. Administrator Scarpiniti said she did receive her email with this question but Trustee Mandel did not allow enough time for her to respond before this meeting. To answer her question she would have to look and see the exact number paid to Civic Plus. However, the contract with Civic Plus was for a firm amount

APPROVAL OF BILLS (continued)

but she would have to look for the specific dollar amount. Their contract does include after the implementation of the website an annual maintenance as part of the package. Due to lack of help in the administrative office and COVID, the village has been understaffed unable to get the upgrades ready. We are currently working on the website and hoping to go live within the next few weeks.

Trustee Mandel also questioned a bill from another company for \$420 and asked if there was another company working on our website. Administrator Scarpiniti stated that the company in question is actually the hosting facility for our existing website so when there is a program issue with not being able to upload documents and the village needs their assistance we are on a time and material basis with this company.

Trustee Mandel question a bill from Wild Goose Chase for \$880 and a resident has contacted her about not seeing any coyotes yet we are being billed for them. Administrator Scarpiniti said that bill in question is not for the decoys but for the service that the village uses to run the dogs within the parks and on village grounds and we beef up that activity during the fall when the geese activity becomes more aggressive which also helps with the ongoing rat issues.

Lastly, Trustee Mandel questioned the invoice for the fireworks in the amount of \$12,000 and would like Administrator Scarpiniti to provide her with cancelled checks from the vendors that have sponsored the Autumn Fest.

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Demopoulos, Flores, Sarro

NAYS: Mandel

Motion carried

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS-None

UNFNISHED BUSINESS-None

NEW BUSINESS- None

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Flores moved and Trustee Demopoulos seconded to adjourn this meeting at 7:30 pm.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KATHY RANIERI
VILLAGE CLERK**