

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OCTOBER 19, 2020  
COUNCIL ROOM 7:00 PM**

Mayor Hermanek called the meeting to order with a Pledge of Allegiance and a Roll Call. In attendance were Trustee Czajka, Trustee Demopoulos, Trustee Flores, Trustee Mandel, Trustee Mengoni and Trustee Sarro.

Others in attendance were Administrator Scarpiniti, Attorney Hayes, Police Chief Garcia, Fire Chief McDermott, Recreation Director Mrozik and Public Works Foremen Durec.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

**BIDS-** None

**CASH RECEIPT REPORT**

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Flores seconded to approve the Cash Receipt Report for the month of September, 2020 totaling \$1,640,109.61. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Mengoni moved, seconded by Trustee Sarro to approve the October 5, 2020 Village Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

## REPORT OF TRUSTEES

### Trustee Czajka

Trustee Czajka read the following report from the Parks and Recreation Department:

Visit our new Holiday Fun Guide on the Village website to find and view events and classes. Follow us on the North Riverside Facebook page for the best way to receive reminders. The Recreation Department will host its first ever Family Pumpkin Float October 20<sup>th</sup> at Commons Park from 6:30-8pm. Register for our Family Pumpkin carving event on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Our new Halloween event is scheduled for the children in town. North Riverside residents are invited to participate in the Boo Too You Drive through Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> beginning at 1pm. Cars will drive through the Veterans parking lot to see characters bob to the music and collect a goodie bag. The event will continue until supplies run out. Please have your North Riverside vehicle displayed.

### Trustee Demopoulos- No report

### Trustee Flores- No report

### Trustee Mandel - No report

### Trustee Mengoni

Trustee Mengoni read the following minutes from the Development Committee Meeting held on October 12, 2020:

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm. The following is a summary of the meeting:

**Item #1: Residential Disabled Parking Program:** Chairman Mengoni asked for an update from Administrator Scarpiniti. The Administrator stated that initial discussion of this topic occurred at the July 27<sup>th</sup> committee meeting where the consensus of the committee was to have her and the Mayor develop formal program guidelines for review and passage. A handout, which is attached, was provided outlining the new program's objective, requirements and conditions, and fees. In a brief overview, the Administrator discussed the program's primary objective of designing guidelines that would provide disabled residents with convenient access to their homes while also addressing the limited overnight parking issues within the community. The guidelines limit the program to residential streets that are zoned R-1 and the applicant must permanently reside at the requested residence and have a valid disabled Illinois license plate or permanent disabled placard issued to that address.

If approved, the Village would assign one permitted disabled parking space in front of the residence to be reserved for the vehicle displaying the corresponding disabled Village sticker. The program is designed to limit access to only one registered vehicle thus reserving the

## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)**

parking spot for the disabled resident. Current program participants would be required to reapply under these new program guidelines.

A one time application fee of \$100 would be due at the time of application. This fee would cover the cost of the sign with installation, curb painting, sticker and any other administrative costs. The guidelines require participants to renew annually by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The annual renewal fee would be \$35 and includes the cost for an annual vehicle sticker.

After some discussion, Trustee Czajka moved to accept the Disabled Parking Program Guidelines, and Trustee Demopoulos seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0-1, with Trustee Mandel abstaining. Upon further polling of the Board, Mayor Hermanek and Trustee Sarro were also in favor of the new program. The motion carried and Attorney Hayes was directed to prepare the proper ordinance for passage.

**Item #2: Residential Sewer Backup Protection Loan Program:** Administrator Scarpiniti distributed a packet of information pertaining to a *Sewer Backup Protection Loan Program*. Initial discussion of this topic occurred during the June budget meetings where staff was directed to put together a financial assistance program designed to offer an affordable means for residents to have an acceptable flood control device installed.

Based on this direction, Staff researched financing options available to the Village within its statutory authority for funding of such a program. In addition, the Village solicited interest within the community by advertising the program in the last edition of the North Riversider, the Village's website and multiple e-newsletters. 12 residents formally expressed interest in the program and were put on a waiting list.

After analyzing the residential interest as well as the cost of borrowing funds, Administrator Scarpiniti recommended that the Village Board set aside \$250,000 from the Water Fund reserves to provide no interest loans to participants. Loan terms included a maximum loan amount of \$12,000 per participant, 4 year loan repayment term and fixed monthly payments. By self-funding the program, the cost to the Village would be minimal and consist of only the lost investment opportunity on the \$250,000 of reserve funds. Currently, the daily interest rate for cash funds readily liquid is averaging 0.094% (2.8% annually). There was little to no lender interest in brokering a private loan program directly to residents that provided zero interest rates loans, given the current economic climate and low loan value.

During the discussion period, concerns were voiced about using Village reserves that may be needed during an emergency. Administrator Scarpiniti explained that the funding amount was low enough that it did not jeopardize the Village's financial condition or ability to finance operations in an emergency. In addition, the loan repayment period were short term in duration and portions of the loan principal would be repaid each month.

## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)**

As the discussion progressed, Trustees brought up additional concerns and modifications including the fairness to residents who weren't utilizing the program, offering a 50/50 program funded by the Village, and expanding the program parameters to include less expensive flood control options.

Chairman Mengoni polled the Committee and when there was a lack of consensus, tabled the project without a vote. Administrator Scarpiniti was directed to notify the 12 people on the waiting list that the program had been tabled by the Committee.

**New Business:** Mayor Hermanek stated that a resident had contacted the Village with concerns about their neighbor's Ring Doorbell camera that was facing her house. Mayor Hermanek explained to the resident that it wasn't illegal for a resident to have a Ring Doorbell camera at their door. Staff will investigate the complaint further to ensure there are no privacy violations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Trustee Mengoni read the following Executive Summary:

On Monday, October 12, 2020, the Development Committee met to finalize the program guidelines and requirements for a new residential disabled parking program within the Village. Participants under the Village's existing handicap sign program will be required to reapply under the guidelines of the new program effective May 1, 2021.

Program requirements and conditions consist of the following:

- The applicant must permanently reside at the residence where the sign is being requested.
- The applicant must reside on a residential street that is zoned R-1 only.
- The applicant must have either a valid disabled Illinois plate or a permanent disabled placard issued by the Illinois Secretary of State to the applicable NR address.
- The applicant cannot have access to a side driveway or other off-street parking in closer proximity to the front entrance.
- Only one residential disabled parking permit will be approved per NR residence.
- Permitted residential disabled parking stickers are valid for 1 year and expire on April 30<sup>th</sup> annually. Stickers must be permanently affixed to the designated vehicle's windshield.
- If approved, the Village will erect one permitted disabled parking sign and mark a space a maximum of 25 feet in front of the residence.
- Each residential disabled parking space will be reserved only for vehicles that display a valid disabled placard/plate and North Riverside disabled vehicle sticker matching the parking space's applicable permit number.

**REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)**

Trustee Mengoni moved and Trustee Sarro seconded to amend the residential disabled parking program within the Village of North Riverside and direct the Village Attorney to prepare the proper ordinance for passage. Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Mandel asked if the board would waive the maintenance fee of \$25 dollars per year as well as the \$65 application fee for the residents. We are not charging them to every other vehicle and we can keep the same sign to avoid hardship. She also asked if the Village is opening up any kind of lawsuit if we are charging the handicap residents a maintenance fee and no one else. Administrator Scarpiniti responded by saying the annual application fee is suppose to be cost neutral to the Village to allow us to not only to recoup the cost of the signs but also the cost for enforcement. Police will be actively enforcing it to ensure that the residential person is the only one permitted in that spot. So portions of the sign will be modified to allow the permitted numbers clearly displaced on them but we will also be purchasing vehicle stickers as well.

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

NAYS: Trustee Mandel

Motion carried

**Trustee Sarro**

Trustee Sarro thanked Michelle Cozzone for her help with a complaint from several residents on DesPlaines and 31<sup>st</sup>. The residents in this apartment went days with no hot water and Michelle went above and beyond dealing with the management company, plumber and the landlord. These residents now have hot water in their building due to her efforts.

**MAYORAL REPORT-** No report

**CORRESPONDENCE-**None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Trustee Sarro moved, seconded by Trustee Flores to approve the list of bills submitted for this meeting totaling \$247,994.22 and to have them paid out of proper funds when such funds become available. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Trustee Mengoni moved and Trustee Sarro seconded to approve and Ordinance Amending the Residential Disabled Parking Program in the Village of North Riverside. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: Trustee Mandel

Motion carried

**UNFNISHED BUSINESS**-None

**NEW BUSINESS**- None

**AUDIENCE**- None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Mengoni moved and Trustee Demopoulos seconded for adjournment of this meeting at 7:20 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KATHY RANIERI  
VILLAGE CLERK**