

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 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 Flores, Trustee Demopoulos, Trustee Mandel, Trustee Mengoni and Trustee Sarro.

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

**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**- No report

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Mengoni moved, seconded by Trustee Flores to approve the November 2, 2020 Village Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

Before the Report of Trustees, Mayor Hermanek stated, this past year has brought unprecedented times for our residents and businesses. Our residents have faithfully patronized our North Riverside bars, restaurants and businesses during the pandemic and continue doing so as much as they can. This proves once again that we remain a small village with a big heart, by helping each other in all the creative ways that we can.

As our Village leader, I promise to do whatever I can to help our residents and business. Therefore, I am allocating the funds given to us under the CARES Act and some of the dollars allocated for water projects that are on hold to all our needy residents and businesses, especially the bars and restaurants.

Will this put a strain on our already distressed village budget? Of course, but I feel that the village can sustain difficulties financially more than our individual residents and businesses can. Relief is needed now and we are going to give it.

During my 8 years as Mayor, we made difficult decisions to ensure the financial well-being of our water fund and pay for water main projects that make our living conditions improved in the village. We will continue to do so. Therefore, I am proposing the following three stimulus packages:

- 1) All residential homes (approximately 2100) will receive a \$400 one-time credit on their water bill.
- 2) All bars and restaurants will have their 2021 liquor license fees waived.
- 3) All businesses in North Riverside, except for Zeigler Ford, will receive a 25% discount on their business license fee for 2021.

I am looking for a brighter 2021 as I am sure all of you are. I will continue to be financially responsible, and have all of the faith in the world that our village board, under the guidance of our Finance Director/Administrator Sue Scarpiniti, will continue to adopt policies that are in the best interest of our wonderful Village.

## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES**

### Trustee Czajka

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

The Recreation Department would like to thank the families that participated in our Turkey Car Bingo on November 6<sup>th</sup>. It was wonderful to hear the laughter and excitement fill the air on such a gorgeous night. If you missed it, please be sure to check out our Holiday Fun Guide for more fun activities.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming adult Holiday Craft Workshop on November 21<sup>st</sup> and the Family Craft Night on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. These events are safe ways to have fun, so contact us soon to register.

Lastly, don't forget that Santa will be visiting town with Mobile DJ on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 5pm on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Mobile DJ Crew will be collecting new toys for Pillars Community Health Serving families in need. Follow the Recreation Department on Facebook for all of the details and more importantly, for the Santa Tracker on the night of the event.

**REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)**

Trustee Czajka thanked all involved for setting up the Flu Shot Vaccination Event at Veterans Park.

Trustee Demopoulos

Trustee Demopoulos reminded residents to stay safe while the Covid numbers continue to rise.

Trustee Flores- No report

Trustee Mandel- No report

Trustee Mengoni- No report

Trustee Sarro

Trustee Sarro thanked the Village Engineer and Public Works Department for the Sidewalk Replacement Project on the south end of town. She spoke to several residents and they were extremely satisfied.

**MAYORAL REPORT**

Mayor Hermanek reminded residents that there will be only one meeting in the month of December and that meeting will more than likely be only on Zoom. That meeting is scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**CORRESPONDENCE-None**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Trustee Sarro moved, seconded by Trustee Flores to approve the list of bills submitted for this meeting totaling \$804,856.14 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- None**

**UNFNISHED BUSINESS-None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Hermanek stated that the board will go into Executive Session shortly to discuss a request he received for Voluntary Recognition Certification of Teamsters Local 705.

**AUDIENCE**

Pam Foy, representing the administration offices spoke to clarify the reasons on becoming unionized. She stated the current administration has nothing to do with their decision and emphasized their dedication to this village and their work ethic. They worry about the future representatives of the village and their decisions amongst the non union employees.

Vince Ranieri represented the Public Works Department and reiterated Pam's words, stating they will continue to do their daily jobs and give it 100% each and every day. Their reasons like Pam stated, have nothing to do with this current administration but the future village board. Their department has always been unique. The department is mostly made up of guys that live in the community or grew up here. Due to recent chatter amongst residents and social media stating possible future salary cuts for non union employees, the employees would like to explore their options. However the outcome, they and will continue to work for the residents.

Mayor Hermanek asked the board to move into Executive Session and meeting will continue as a vote may be taken. A motion was made by Trustee Czajka and seconded by Trustee Sarro. Motion carried unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION RESUMED**

Open session resumed at 8:03 pm with a roll call. Attorney Horvath stated no final action after a discussion pertaining to Voluntary Recognition Certification with Teamsters Local 705 on behalf of certain employees. The board instructed the attorney and administrator to inquire about aspects of the petition and at some point in the future action will be taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Demopoulos moved and Trustee Czajka seconded for adjournment of this meeting at 8:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KATHY RANIERI  
VILLAGE CLERK**

