

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING, NOVEMBER 17, 2014
COUNCIL ROOM, 7:00 PM**

Mayor Hermanek called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a Pledge of Allegiance and a Roll Call. In attendance were Trustee Bianco, Trustee Czajka, Trustee Decosola, Trustee Demopoulos and Trustee Wilt. Trustee Mengoni was absent.

Others in attendance were Administrator Belmonte, Finance Director Scarpiniti, Public Works Director Kutt, Recreation Director Michalik, Police Chief Niemann, Fire Chief Bask and Attorney Hayes.

Trustee Bianco moved, seconded by Trustee Czajka to appoint Administrator Guy Belmonte as Clerk pro tem for this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

BIDS- None

CASH RECEIPT REPORT

Trustee Wilt moved, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to accept the Cash Receipt Report for the month of October, 2014 totaling \$1,699,149.57 as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Trustee Demopoulos moved, seconded by Trustee Wilt to approve the November 3, 2014 Village Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Bianco (Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks, & Refuse)- No Report

Trustee Czajka (Buildings Public Grounds, Lights, Public Services & Transportation) - No Report

Trustee Decosola (Judiciary, Ordinances, Recreation)

Trustee Decosola read the following report from the Recreation Department:

This past Sunday, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted a Special Recreation Open Forum that was extremely well-received by the community. Parents and caretakers were able to have their voices heard. After much constructive dialogue, staff members will now begin planning special recreation programs for 2015.

The annual Turkey Bingo will be held on November 21st, and is almost sold out. We have a lot of great giveaways and raffle prizes. Our Holiday Photo Shoot will also take place that night.

Trustee Demopoulos (Water, Sewers, Drainage & Zoning)

Trustee Demopoulos submitted the Brookfield- North Riverside Water Commission Meeting Minutes with the Clerk's office.

Trustee Mengoni (Police, Fire & License)- Absent

Trustee Wilt (Finance, Health & Appropriations)

Trustee Wilt read the following report from the November 3, 2014 Finance, Health & Appropriations Committee Meeting as follows:

Item #1: Six Month Budget Review: Director Scarpiniti distributed a "Preliminary" Summary of Projected Revenues and Expenditures Report for the six-month period ending October 31, 2014. She indicated that although this was a six-month review, the Village has only received actual state shared receipts through July at the time of this report. The meeting was focused on discussion of the Village's two main operating funds the General Fund and Water Fund.

Currently, the projected General Fund deficit at the end of October. 2014 is \$767,100. The Director informed the committee that the audit for FY 2014 is now complete and final audited numbers show a deficit in the General Fund at April 30,2014 of \$272,412. She then went through the report stating that actual sales receipts received through July are right on projections for the 1% municipal share but slightly down (3% lower) on the 1% non-home rule

REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)

side. She stated that receipts appear to be down across the board and not just in one particular sales category. License fees are projected to be about \$100,000 more than budgeted and all State shared revenues are trending slightly above budget. She noted the increase in revenues in the recreation programs that are trending way above budget, but cautioned the Board that adjustments would be made to these numbers once they are reconciled against RecTrac, the Recreation Department's financial software package. Director Scarpiniti mentioned that all fines and ticket revenues are tracking higher than original budgets, trending approximately \$700,000 over beginning projections. As more actual numbers are realized, the hopes are that the projected General Fund deficit will decrease over the course of the fiscal year.

Director Scarpiniti then focused attention to the Water Fund. Currently, the Water Fund is expected to break even for the 2015 fiscal year; the first time this Fund has shown a positive financial position in over 10 years. She also distributed a summary of water accountability prepared by Public Works Director Kutt. This report detailed numerous causes of unaccountable water loss over the past several years and described the preventative measures being performed by Public Works throughout the year to isolate and limit further water loss. One of the largest losses of water throughout the year comes from water main breaks. Director Kutt's report indicated that the Village could lose anywhere from 40,000 to 280,000 gallons per day depending on the size of the pipe.

Director Scarpiniti briefly went through all the other funds which were projected as budgeted. This meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Trustee Wilt then read the Finance, Health & Appropriations Committee Meeting Report from November 10, 2014 as follows:

Item #1: Discussion on Electrical Aggregation with Jay Dalicandro, Consultant to Christopher Burke Engineering: This item was tabled to 6:00 pm on Monday November 17, 2014.

Item #2: Discussion on the 2014 Tax Levy: Director Scarpiniti distributed a 7-page detailed memo explaining the very complicated tax levy process in Cook County. She informed the committee that the Village must file its tax levy with the Cook County Clerk's Office by the last Tuesday in December, which is December 30, 2014. She added that the Village, due to its non-home rule status, would be limited to a tax levy increase equal to the rate of inflation plus any new property growth for the current calendar year. The Truth in Taxation Laws require a public hearing to be held if the 2014 tax levy request is greater than 105% over the previous year's final tax extension. The rate of inflation, as measured by the annual percent increase in the national consumer price index for all urban consumers at December 31st of the previous calendar year has been determined to be 1.5%. This is the second lowest CPI since tax caps began in the early 1900's. A low rate of inflation, as witnessed over the last several years, will only add to the fiscal challenges facing the Village as the amount of new property tax revenue that can be generated in the upcoming tax year to finance growing operating costs is minimal

REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)

(approximately \$7,500). In addition, next year's tax levy will see similar tax cap limitations as CPI is currently trending at 1.7% for the 2014 calendar year.

The tax cap law does allow the value of the current year's new construction growth to be added to the Village's total 2013 equalized assessed value (EAV), thereby, giving the Village limited opportunity to raise additional property tax revenue beyond the low tax cap environment. With the addition of several new businesses to the Village's core business district in late 2013 and early 2014, the Village anticipates substantial growth in its new construction property values over last year. Overall, it can take up to three years to realize the full EAV on a new development and therefore, the Village could see sizable growth in new property values until its next reassessment in 2017.

With new construction values expected to be at an all-time high for the Village, staff is recommending a property tax levy that is 4.5% higher than the 2013 tax extension, thus allowing the Village to maximize the dollars collected from new property values. This would generate an estimated tax levy request of approximately \$529,800, approximately \$22,800 over the 2013 tax extension.

The estimated impact to a taxpayer whose home has a market value of \$200,000 (assuming the state multiplier remains consistent with prior years) would be approximately \$12. A senior resident receiving the senior exemption would expect to see a total increase equal to \$9. Currently the Village's portion of the total tax bill amounts to only 2% or approximately \$99 per year (\$77 for seniors). The committee and board asked a few questions of Director Scarpiniti then a motion was made by Trustee Demopoulos and seconded by Trustee Mengoni to accept the staff's recommendations of a tax levy increase in the amount of \$529,800, approximately 4.5% over the 2013 tax extension. No public hearing is required. The motion passed committee by a 3-yes and 0-no vote. Trustee Wilt polled the other trustees present and the Mayor and all agreed.

Trustee Wilt moved and seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to Increase the Village's 2014 Tax Levy by 4 1/2% and to have the Village Attorney prepare the proper ordinance for passage at the next Board meeting on December 15, 2014. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

MAYORAL REPORT

Mayor Hermanek reminded everyone that the next Board of Trustees Meeting will be on December 15, 2014 at 7:00pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you card was sent from John Mathias. He thanked the Village for the flowers that were sent to his wife's funeral.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Trustee Wilt moved, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to approve the list of bills submitted for this meeting totaling \$298,356.38 and to have the bills paid out of proper funds when such funds become available. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS-

Trustee Czajka moved, seconded by Trustee Decosola to pass an Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Christopher Burke Engineering Regarding the Aggregation of Electricity Program **(14-O-15)** and to waive the reading. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

Trustee Decosola moved, seconded by Trustee Czajka to pass an Ordinance Establishing the 2015 Regular Meetings Schedule for the Board of Trustees **(14-O-16)** and to waive the readings. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ABSENT: Trustee Mengoni

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS

December 8, 2014 at 6:00pm there will be a Finance Committee Meeting.

AUDIENCE

Resident Frank Spale asked about the fire at Carson Pierre Scott in the North Riverside Park Mall.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Czajka moved, seconded by Trustee Decosola for adjournment at 7:25 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

KATHY RANIERI
VILLAGE CLERK