

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MARCH 1, 2021  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 7:00 PM**

Mayor Hermanek called the meeting to order with 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 Hayes, 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**

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Flores seconded to approve the Cash Receipt Report for the month of January, 2021 totaling \$1,742,063.79. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Czajka moved and Trustee Demopoulos seconded to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 Village Board Meeting. 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:

Our digital Spring Fun Guide has been posted to the Village website and registration is currently being accepted. Check out all of the new, exciting programs the Recreation Department has to offer.

Summer Camp registration went live earlier today for those who attended camp in 2020 and are returning this year. New camper registration begins on March 15<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to another successful season.

The deadline to register for our Mother/Son Remodeled event is this Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. To enroll, you may call or visit the recreation department.

Trustee Demopoulos- No report

Trustee Flores- No report

Trustee Mandel

Trustee Mandel submitted the Brookfield-North Riverside Water Commission Meeting Minutes from the January 13, 2021 meeting to Clerk Ranieri.

Trustee Mengoni

Trustee Mengoni read the following Request for Board Action:

The Public Works Director and Village engineer conducted a comprehensive evaluation of all village owned roadways for the purpose of assessing their current street condition and creating a ranking by priority for replacement.

Cook County has opened up the 2021 application period for Community Development Block Grant Funding from the federal government for qualifying public works projects by local governments. Village staff has identified the best use of grant funding would be for a street resurfacing program for the 2022 construction season per the attached project location map. The total estimated cost of the project being requested is \$500,000 with a local match of 50% of the total project cost or \$250,000.

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

Trustee Mengoni moved and Trustee Demopoulos seconded to concur with the recommendation of Village Staff and authorize the Village President to submit a Community Development Block Grant application for the 2021 Program Year for the Village's 2022 CDBG Street Resurfacing Project. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

### **Trustee Sarro**

Trustee Sarro read the Request for Board Action:

On January 11, 2021, the Administrative Committee met to discuss the establishment of rules and regulations governing the public comments section of public meetings. Attorney Hayes provided a detailed memo explaining the requirement of public bodies under the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA).

The committee directed Attorney Hayes to develop recommended practices for review and adoption of the Board of Trustees at a later date.

## **MAYORAL REPORT**

Mayor Hermanek read a letter from Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) stating they are pleased to announce that Roy Strom has officially joined the Lakeshore Recycling Systems family, Illinois's largest independent waste and recycling service provider. LRS has been the industry leader for over 20 years and has become the cutting-edge force driving the Chicagoland waste and recycling industry.

As a result of this transition, services will be fulfilled by LRS. Invoices that you receive for those services rendered will be billed under the name Lakeshore Recycling Systems. LRS will be invoicing services starting 1/1/2021. Services prior to that date or past due balances will still be owed to and collected by Roy Strom.

Administrator Scarpiniti received a letter from Edward McCormick, Account Executive at Roy Strom regarding Trustee Mandel's husband, Dave Mandel, which Mayor Hermanek read. The letter stated Mr. Mandel has been harassing their team members stating that they are a horrible company and more troubling, a racist company. Mr. Mandel has complained about service and the fact that the company doesn't take construction material for free which is not a part of the residential collection program. He also stated that when his wife becomes mayor, the company will be thrown out of town. Strom values the relationship with North Riverside but wanted this letter noted.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Thank you card from Frank and Marilyn Veselak thanking the public works department for the snow removal.
- Letter from Rachel Simpson, thanking the mayor for all he has done and the water credit.
- Marion Hughes sent a letter complaining about the snow left on her private property in the alley from public works. She asked for a better system of plowing the alleys.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Trustee Sarro moved, seconded by Trustee Czajka to approve the list of bills submitted for this meeting totaling \$540,937.57 and to have them paid out of proper funds when such funds become available. Roll Call Vote:

On the question, Administrator Scarpiniti stated the reason this List of Bills is higher is due to the cancellation of the February 15<sup>th</sup> village board meeting so it is actually two sets of bills.

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Trustee Mengoni moved and Trustee Demopoulos seconded to Authorize the Village President to submit a CDBG Application for 2021 Program Year **(21-R-02)** and to waive the reading. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

## **UNFNISHED BUSINESS**-None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Hermanek received a resignation letter from attorney Paul Skryd from the Civil Service Commission.

Trustee Demopoulos moved and Trustee Flores seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Al Pineda Chairman of the Civil Service Commission with the expiration date of April 30, 2023. Roll Call Vote:

## **NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

Trustee Demopoulos moved and Trustee Flores seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Angela Ingy to the Civil Service Commission with an expiration date of April 30, 2021. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None. Motion carried

## **AUDIENCE**

Ken Krochmal addressed the board with a statement regarding Trustee Mandel's husband, Dave Mandel. He has concerns about his past court case where jail time was served. He asked Attorney Hayes if Trustee Mandel would be considered a criminal as well. Attorney Hayes replied saying that is not his type of law and should not be answering this question. Trustee Mandel denied any such dealings and was never arrested. She also mentioned she loved North Riverside and works for the residents. She gave Chief Garcia permission to do a back ground check if needed. Mr. Krochmal then asked about the village's debt which Administrator Scarpiniti addressed.

Trustee Mandel then asked the board if they were concerned that Administrator Scarpiniti has not returned the \$52,000 that she received against our Village Ordinance, and stated that was a crime. Administrator Scarpiniti said she did not appreciate the harassment that Trustee Mandel has been giving her. She then said that the Village Board was informed in advance of the Mayor's transition plan for the Administrator role and gave Trustees an opportunity to raise any questions. Which there were none, prior to its approval. The Village Board approved her stipend. Furthermore, Scarpiniti said she did not do anything wrong and wanted this harassment to stop. Trustee Mandel said she was also being harassed.

Mayor Hermanek ended the discussion and said Trustee Mandel's harassments has also caused the public works department to unionize. Trustee Mandel disagreed with the Mayor's statement. Trustee Sarro stated the Mayor was correct and these comments from the audience were brought upon by herself as she disagreed with the other trustees at a committee meeting and insisted all audience comments should be allowed regardless of the nature.

A resident in asked a question as to how the seniors in town were contacted for the COVID vaccines. Administrator Scarpiniti explained in detail how the clinic came about and the process and timeline they had to call the seniors. Seniors were then called from the Senior Snow removal list and off the water bill and vehicle sticker lists at random. Director Scarpiniti

**AUDIENCE (continued)**

said almost 28% of the senior population was vaccinated and is hoping to host more clinics in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Demopoulos moved and Trustee Flores seconded for adjournment of this meeting at 7:32pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

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