

**VILLAGE OF MIDLOTHIAN
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2019**

Mayor L'Heureux and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Midlothian, Cook County, Illinois, met in the Council Chambers at the Village of Midlothian on January 2, 2019. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor L'Heureux, Clerk Moskal, Trustees Caveney, Crowley, Gillis, Ivan, Killelea and Kreis, Attorney Valadez, Chief Delaney, Superintendent Weinert and Deputy Clerk Kolacki.

PLEDGE

PUBLIC COMMENT

George Doeden – He asked that everyone use their microphone when talking at the Meetings so that everyone can be heard when we go live on the internet.

Jean Bartecki – She was happy to announce that Dylan's grand total for collecting food was 6,001 pounds. Mayor L'Heureux noted that he shared this food with so many different organizations. Jean Bartecki confirmed that he shared the food with St. Chris, St. Stephens and Pilgrim Faith and he went downtown and handed out food for the homeless people. He is also coordinating the Micro Food Pantry at Bremen High School and is planning to have one for the Village. He is an amazing individual.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Trustee Kreis reported on the following:

- We are trying to move forward with the grant for the Permeable Parking Lot south of the VFW. There have been two on-site meetings. Helen Lekavich and Chris Parker came up with a good idea to make the parking lot and the Village owned property contiguous for striping. We first received the funding 3 ½ years ago and since then the Rain Garden was put in and was bigger than expected. A plan was created for the parking lot. An Easement Agreement with the VFW will be needed due to the ingress and egress on the property.
- On Tuesday, January 8th, we will be meeting with the soils individuals from the University of Illinois and they will present their findings when the borings in Midlothian are completed. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. Strand and Associates, who are working on the Stormwater Capital Management Plan, will also be in attendance.
- The next Keep Midlothian Beautiful Meeting will be January 17th at 12:00 p.m.
- We are in the process of scheduling the next Stormwater Management Capital Plan, which will be the week of January 21st.
- Mayor L'Heureux asked if Eric Neagu would be involved in the redesign of the parking lot. Trustee Kreis advised that the redesign of the parking lot it is not in the budget. We have a

contract with them and would be outside the scope. Eric Neagu is coming up with pictures. If the Board wants a redesign, we would have to pay for it. Trustee Caveney then asked to see a copy of the design and Trustee Kreis advised that she will send everyone a copy, but she is hoping that we do not need a redesign. They are looking to have contiguous striping and will have permeable pavers. George Doeden asked if there would be a new ingress. Trustee Kreis advised it would be the same as it is now, but will be striped with angle parking on both sides and you will be able to turn down the aisle to exit.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Trustee Ivan reported on the following:

- The interview process has been completed for the new Clerk in the Front Office and will be a full-time position. He provided the Board with a brief description of the candidate's resume. He asked that an Executive Session be placed on the Agenda for discussion and then approval of an offer of employment at the next Board Meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Trustee Gillis reported on the following:

- He received a request from Captain John Kucharski to attend a Chief Fire Officer Course. There are different levels of firefighters (Firefighter 1, 2, 3 and 4). This class is new and replaces the Firefighter Officer 3 and 4 Class. It is a 12-month course on-line and in classroom. The fee for the class is \$3,550 and Captain Kucharski has received a scholarship from the Illinois Fire Chief's Association for half of the class. The remaining cost will be \$1,775 and will come out of the training budget.
- He received a request for Firefighters Ramirez, Klimson and Moore to attend a Fire Apparatus Engineer Class. This is also a certification class from the State Fire Marshall and is required in order to be promoted down the road for Lieutenant, Captain and Deputy Chief. The class is \$450 for each Firefighter and is also in the budget.
- The Fire Department received a letter of resignation from Firefighter/Paramedic Fons effective January 9th. A letter will be prepared by Mayor L'Heureux to authorize the Fire and Police Commission to notify the next eligible firefighter on the list of the opening. The Board agreed.
- Jean Bartecki mentioned that she has a donation of a 7 ½ foot pre-lit Christmas tree for the Historical Society and Trustee Gillis accepted the donation. The resident will drop it off at her house on Friday. Trustee Gillis was thankful for the generosity.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Trustee Caveney reported on the following:

- Keystone Parking Lot – The Site Plan Review Committee met twice and addressed all outstanding issues. The meeting Minutes have been finalized. The Special Use process will begin since it is a parking lot within a residential area of the Village, although it is zoned B-2 Village Center District. Trustee Kreis will be communicating with the engineer to obtain a copy of the final determination so that it can be incorporated into the plan.
- Zoning Map Updates – Since 2009, the Village has had 456 zoning changes on various PIN numbers. Of that, 358 were the most recent large block of zoning changes that the Board agreed to

in August regarding the residential neighborhood north of 147th and west of Waverly. The balance of the zoning changes occurred over the last ten years. Ten of those were Special Use zoning changes and the remaining were miscellaneous. Unfortunately, the changes were not updated on the Village map. Superintendent Weinert had suggested working with Robinson Engineering and/or SSMMA to update all zoning changes so that the map is accurate. Once the map is updated, the Board will be able to decide if the current zoning is accurate and what is best for the Village. Trustee Killelea believed that the most updated map was not on the website. This will be reviewed.

- She asked Superintendent Weinert to review and provide the meaning of spot zoning. He provided spot zoning language from the IML handbook which explains exactly what spot zoning was. She then provided information on the various definitions of spot zoning. She asked the Board to review the zoning map and advise if there were changes that should be made. There were a number of homes that were changed from residential to B-2 (Village Center District). Trustee Kreis explained that the changes were due when we received funding for our Transit Orient Development Plan through the RTA and was adopted in 2005. It is also when the economy was going very well. Unfortunately, the economy plummeted and is not relevant anymore. Trustee Caveney again advised that was why she was asking the Board to review the zoning map.
- Photos were sent to the Board of the vacant property at 14379 Waverly. The property is not situated as a typical home and is set at the end of the lot line. Someone bought the home and began remodeling and then walked away from the house. Another individual bought the house this summer and is now abandoned once again. The roof is sagging and the entire inside of the house is demolished. There are no floors and the walls are no longer stable. No permits were pulled either. There were two citations issued to the current owner. The MOVES Court date is on February 4th. Superintendent Weinert recommended that the Village move to have it razed. Trustee Kreis suggested that we go through the Cook County Sheriff to demolish the property. Attorney Valadez then explained the legal process. We will be able to proceed faster if the citations and documentation is related to the unsound public threat and danger and then we will be able to proceed faster. The property has been secured and boarded up. The Building Department will provide photographs and testimony.
- She asked Attorney Valadez for a status on the electrical and plumbing ordinances. Attorney Valadez noted that he has had extensive discussions with the Building Superintendent in which he suggested that all Ordinances be reviewed. There were a number of Ordinances in the Code Book that have been incorrect, and many pieces of information have been left out. References to procedures within the Village Code would also have direction and would point to a different part of the Village Code. The Ordinances will be revised and could go forward at the end of the week for passage at the next Board Meeting if the Ordinances are completed for the Board's review. We will be adopting the 2017 Electrical Code with several exceptions and will be deleting or repealing Sections that are exceptions in the current Code, incorporating the current part of the Electrical Code that is not obsolete.
- Cheers is requesting a Special Use for a raised platform/stage in the Beer Garden. She noted that last summer there were a number of outstanding issues that needed to be addressed, one of which was a platform stage they set up themselves. Cheers was cited, and they removed the stage. The Police Department provided a list of noise complaints and she received a two-page list. Attorney Valadez then noted that Midlothian has unregulated beer gardens. He explained that everything is done progressively and eventually they are operating a full beer garden without a special use. Superintendent Weinert then reviewed the requirements of outdoor cafes, Village Codes, Special

Uses, Violations and permits needed that affect all businesses. It was determined that all businesses will be re-reviewed.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Trustee Killelea reported on the following:

- At the January 16th Committee Meeting, Tim Conners from Midwest Meters will have a presentation regarding the new Beacon Water Meter System.
- There was previous discussion on no left turn on Waverly and Hamlin during certain hours and wanted to make sure the hours were correct. In the morning the signs will be from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and in the afternoon the hours will be 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Board agreed.
- Mayor L'Heureux spoke with the resident at 14459 St. Louis regarding the handicap parking in front of their home. He noted that there is plenty of parking on 145th and this property is a corner lot so the garage is at the rear of the lot. He suggested to the owner to use the driveway or the garage. Unfortunately, they are not only handicapped but have COPD, and the distance the garage to the back door is too long of a walk and they want a spot in front of the house since it is the shortest distance from their vehicle to the house. The house is a raised ranch and there are 8 steps to the front door and back door. This has never been done by the Village. Trustee Caveney suggested resident permit handicap parking. If he wanted his own handicap spot in front of his home, he would have to pay to have the two handicap signs in front of the house and would then be permit parking only. There was a long discussion.
- He reminded the Board that an Ordinance was passed previously that outlawed drivers using hand held cell phones within the city limits. At that time, there were no county or state laws and there were not many towns that had this. Other towns began to pass the same kind of Ordinance and eventually the state outlawed cell phone usage while driving. He would now like the Board to consider outlawing vapes. He will send everyone a link of the Surgeon General's Report on Vaping. He believed it was scary and expressed his concerns. One cartridge provides enough nicotine that is in one pack of cigarettes. He also spoke about the use in middle school, grade school and high school, which is 20% and the minimum age is 18. He asked everyone to review the information and to possibly pass an Ordinance to make the minimum age for buying vaping devices to 21.
- Mayor L'Heureux advised that Superintendent Sparrey has yet to receive an update from the electrical contractor who should have already started installing the pedestrian lighting along 147th Street.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Trustee Crowley reported on the following:

- The Chairman of the Community Policing Committee has asked to appoint Sandy Cortez to the Community Policing Committee. The Board agreed. The appointment will go forward at the next meeting.
- Last week the Feasibility Study sent by the architect was forwarded to the Board for review. She is waiting on a PowerPoint and the financial breakdown. She asked the Board to review the Study and if there were any suggestions or questions, please let her know. The architect has visited our property three times and spoke to each Department Head, provided tours, took pictures and brought

in contractors. Once the PowerPoint is received, the architect will have a presentation for the Board.

- There are many volunteers currently on multiple committees. She thought about a more uniform committee group. Trustee Caveney asked to receive a list of all members on Commissions and Committees. Trustee Gillis suggested volunteers for projects and then they can determine what Committee suits them. Trustee Crowley noted that the Village could keep a volunteer list to help out with various projects and who are not necessarily on a Committee. She also thought about combining committees. She asked the Board to send their thoughts and suggestions.

ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

Attorney Valadez had nothing to report.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

Mayor L'Heureux reported on the following:

- Motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the VOM and International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150 (Public Works Labor Contract) as discussed in Closed Session last week was made by Trustee Ivan and seconded by Trustee Caveney.

Discussion: Attorney Valadez advised that after discussions with the Village Treasurer, there is some language that will need to be amended regarding the compensation benefits. The Union wanted to get their compensation time paid by December 1st. When speaking with Treasurer Britton, she advised that the language should be changed to the last pay period before December 1st. This will be the only change. There was no further discussion.

Mayor L'Heureux asked if Trustee Ivan and Trustee Caveney would amend their motion to include "the last pay period before December 1st" and both agreed.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees Ivan, Caveney, Crowley, Gillis, Killelea and Kreis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

- The Board was provided with a letter regarding 14801 Cicero. The owner is requesting for the Village to consider a Class 8 for the property since Cook County is not giving a discount for more than one year. A brief description was provided of the work that had been completed. He spoke with Trustee Caveney before the meeting and she brought up valid points that should be presented to the owner. He first asked the Board if they supported this request. Trustee Kreis advised that if we are granting a Class 8, we usually have an agreement of when they want to start the project which is usually done before the work is completed. She also advised that in 2014 the property taxes were \$41,024; in 2015 they were \$42,287; in 2016 they were \$29,864 and in 2017 they were \$28,424. Mayor L'Heureux advised that he appealed his taxes and has a short reprieve. The proposed taxes will be \$49,833 and based on their appeal, the taxes will be reduced to \$28,424. The owner believed what Cook County told him that he would receive a reduction from Cook County based on his appeal, and that is why he did not approach the Village. The tenant has completed the work. Trustee Caveney then noted that it will be the tenant and the property owner's responsibility to prove to the County that they did following the County rules, and if they didn't, then the County doesn't have to give him a Class 8. He is looking for the Village's recommendation and support so he can go to the County. However, she was in favor to grant a Class 8. The property qualifies for a Class 8 since it was vacant for two years. There is a new property owner and tenant which will bring sales tax revenue into the Village. She also noted that

the reduced rate of \$28,424 is still high since their real estate taxes are \$9.47 per foot, which is extremely high. However, financial information should have been included in the letter. Mayor L'Heureux will address this with the owner.

CLERK'S BUSINESS

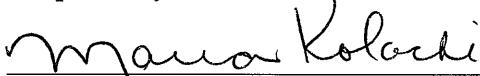
Clerk Moskal reported on the following:

- He had shared pricing information at the first meeting in December for the devices for the BoardDocs implementation. Proven had completed the estimate and recommended the Apple iPad 9.7 and the keyboard stand. He checked other retailers and the pricing was the same or more. If no one had any objections, he will be asking for approval of the purchase of the laptops and keyboard stands at the next Board Meeting. He also received an email today from our Implementation Specialist to schedule the implementation. There was a discrepancy on the timing, which will be answered tomorrow. He advised the Board that the Trainer will be here from BoardDocs for two days and will assist in the setup of everyone's email, as well as other training.
- The FOIA Report for November 2018 was provided to the Board for their review.

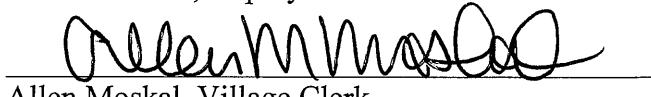
CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business, Mayor L'Heureux asked for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Motion made by Trustee Kreis and seconded by Trustee Caveney. Voice Vote: Ayes: Trustees Kreis, Caveney, Crowley, Ivan, Gillis and Killelea. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board Meeting adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Maria Kolacki, Deputy Clerk



Allen Moskal, Village Clerk