

**VILLAGE OF MIDLOTHIAN  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 27, 2019**

Village Clerk Moskal and the Board of Trustees met in the Council Chambers at the Village of Midlothian on March 27, 2019. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor L'Heureux, Village Clerk Moskal, Trustees Crowley, Caveney, Kreis and Killelea, Attorney Valadez, Chief Delaney, Chief Hotwagner, Superintendent Weinert, Superintendent Sparrey, Engineer Nagle, Treasurer Britton and Deputy Clerk Kolacki.  
**Absent:** Trustees Ivan and Gillis.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR FALLEN VETERANS**

**MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONS & LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- **Jean Bartecki** – Keep Midlothian Beautiful, Beautification Committee, Safety Committee, Friends of the Library
- **Rita Sareny** – Keep Midlothian Beautiful and Friends of the Library
- **Jerry Gillis, Sr.** – Zoning Board, Keep Midlothian Beautiful, Midmark Water Commission
- **Helmut Lipp** – Technology Committee
- **Joyce Holste** – Friends of the Library

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Jack Morris** – He wanted to discuss the current Flag of Midlothian. He studies Vexillology, which is the study of flags, and wanted to talk about Midlothian's flag. There are three rules on how to make a good flag which include use of two to three colors, make sure it can be recognizable from a far distance and make sure that if drawn by a child, it only takes ten seconds. He thought our flag should be changed. He would be glad to redesign the flag or hold a redesign contest. Mayor L'Heureux advised that Midlothian was founded on Scottish roots and the seal was based on the Scottish seal. Jack will email his ideas to the Board and will be considered.

**Rita Sareny** – Just as a reminder, Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. is the Friends of the Library Gala. Everyone is welcome.

**Jean Bartecki** – She asked if renters have to maintain their property, such as shoveling snow, grass mowing, cleaning gutters, etc. Superintendent Weinert advised that good renters take care of the property but is ultimately the property owner's responsibility, but we do not know what is in the lease. If there are properties not being maintained, let him know so that this can be addressed. Secondly, she asked about the feather flags. Trustee Caveney noted that the Building Superintendent is notified, and his staff will address will issue warnings first and then citations as noted in our Ordinance. But this issue is being looked into.

**Jerry Gillis, Sr.** – He asked about the status of the bus stop at 147<sup>th</sup> and Lawndale which obstructs the vision of people coming off Lawndale and 147<sup>th</sup> Street. This has been an issue for many years. Mayor L’Heureux advised that he would personally reach out to RTA to see if he could receive any movement. Trustee Killelea mentioned that it was actually an advertising company that owns the bus stop. This will be reviewed.

**Rich Walker** – He noted that the redesign of the Don Preston Recreation Center on the website is much better than the sign that is on the property and wanted to know which one applies. Jen Yuska from the Park District advised that there has been multiple design changes and sign was made before the design change. She confirmed that the design on the website is the most current. She also confirmed that they are out to bid now and will be opening the bids next week and hopefully begin in late April or early May.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor L’Heureux read the items on the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Ordinance #2018 Granting Zoning Variations to Allow for the Elimination and Reduction of Certain Landscape Requirements and to Allow Additional Building Height at 14500 Kostner Avenue in the Village of Midlothian.
- B. Approval of Ordinance #2019 Adopting the International Building Code (IBC) with Amendments and Amending the Village of Midlothian Municipal Code to Add Section 4-1-4.
- C. Approval of Ordinance #2020 Adopting the International Residential Code (IRC) with Amendments and Amending the Village of Midlothian Municipal Code to Add Section 4-2-8.
- D. Approval of Ordinance #2021 Amending the Village Code at Title IV, Chapter 11, to Adopt Deck Construction Guidelines in the Village of Midlothian.
- E. Approval to Extend Offer of Employment to Two Part-Time Firefighter/Paramedics.
- F. Approval to Engage Sound Works Production, as Recommended by Proven, to Provide AV Equipment for the CRS Town Hall Meeting on April 4, 2019 Not to Exceed \$756.90 (to be paid from the CRS Budget).
- G. Approval of the Traffic Control & Protection Invoice for Keep Midlothian Beautiful Signs in the amount of \$1,106.00
- H. Approval to Purchase Vehicle Stickers from Scot Decal Company Not to Exceed \$3,788.50.
- I. ~~Approval to Execute Roy Erikson Outdoor Maintenance Inc. Agreement for Lawn and Landscape Maintenance.~~
- J. Approval of the Daniels Printing Invoice for Save Our Pet Stickers and Community Policing Committee Magnets Not to Exceed \$683.20.
- K. Approval of the February 2019 Treasurer’s Report.
- L. Approval of the February 2019 Department Report for the Building Department
- M. Approval of the February 2019 Department Report for the Fire Department
- N. Approval of the February 2019 Department Report for the Health Department
- O. Approval of the February 2019 Department Report for the Police Department

P. Approval of the February 2019 Department Report for the Public Works Department

Q. Approval of List of Bills

Mayor L'Heureux asked if there were any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Trustee Crowley asked that Item I be removed.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda without Item I was made by Trustee Caveney and seconded by Trustee Crowley.

**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.

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

Motion for Approval to Execute Roy Erickson Outdoor Maintenance Agreement for Lawn and Landscape Maintenance was made by Trustee Crowley and seconded by Trustee Caveney.

**Discussion:** Trustee Crowley asked for clarification of the duties for the garbage removal. Trustee Killelea noted that there was discussion to spruce up the outside of the Metra Station. Trustee Crowley noted that the landscaping along the fence is a mess and the area around the air conditioning unit is full of garbage and wanted to know who was responsible for the cleanup. Superintendent Sparrey advised that Public Works would be taking care of that portion. There was no further discussion.

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

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Trustee Kreis** reported on the following:

- The third Stormwater Management Capital Plan Meeting was held yesterday and the report and maps that have been prepared. The plan is targeted and specific to Midlothian. It is grant funded and we are near the end of the grant. They are hoping to conduct another presentation to the Board and decided that this would be done at a Committee Meeting. She is hoping to adopt the Report in May and will be our footprint for the future. It was discussed that the Presentation could be held at the Committee Meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Paper copies will be provided if needed. Mayor L'Heureux believed that the presentation should be at a different meeting. Various dates were presented and after much discussion, a Special Board Meeting was suggested for April 17<sup>th</sup> or April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trustee Kreis will advise.
- Last Thursday, we had our first Natalie Creek Trail Steering Committee Meeting. All the signoffs on the Intergovernmental Agreement were obtained. We had representation from all of the towns that have a financial commitment from Midlothian, Oak Forest and Crestwood, and also representation from Blue Island and Robbins. The engineers will have the IDOT kickoff meeting in April. They will begin the environmental studies and there will be four meetings in the participating towns. There will be stakeholder meetings and open houses in each town. The Committee also approved our logo. This is for the Phase I engineering for the Natalie Creek Trail, which will go through Oak Forest, Midlothian, Crestwood, Robbins, Blue Island and will ultimately connect to the Cal Sag Trail.
- The Keep Midlothian Beautiful followed the Natalie Creek Trail Steering Committee Meeting. The Great Midlothian Cleanup will be on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and it was confirmed we are having a Shred Day sponsored by A.J. Smith Bank (Peoples Bank) but is limited to Midlothian residents.

- Trustee Crowley advised that she was able to obtain information on the electronic recycling. She spoke with Jessica Shoemaker who runs the Solid Waste Program for the Department of Environment and Sustainability of Cook County. She sent the documents to become an official electronic recycling Village. They have a program and are taking applications from 20 municipalities that will have a recycling bin on the properties and will pay someone to man two or three days a week. They will accept recycling of all types of electronics permanently. There may be a \$10-15 charge for televisions. Trustee Crowley will be meeting with Ms. Shoemaker next week and will hopefully have a physical presence here in Midlothian. There is no one-time event, but there are some towns set up for the next six months and she will obtain the list and put them on the website. We will most likely have an electronic recycling here in Midlothian. They will also be providing free coupons for our residents for a Dangerous and Hazardous Liquid Takeback at Brookfield Zoo on April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- She was pleased to announce that she received from Keep America Beautiful a President Circle Recognition Award to Keep Midlothian Beautiful. The award is for excellence achieved by our affiliate and was signed by Helen Lowman, President and CEO of Keep America Beautiful. She was amazed since we have been operating without an Executive Director. She thanked everyone who remains involved for their assistance.
- She was writing a cigarette grant today for funding for the cigarette stands and containers. Trustee Crowley asked how long the smoking receptacles will take to come in. She noted that the receptacles are needed at the train station. Superintendent Sparrey advised that they have already been ordered and will be here soon and installed. Trustee Kreis said that if we receive the grant, the receptacles will be free.
- Trustee Caveney asked for a status of the VFW Parking Lot survey. Trustee Kreis noted that she received an email and the survey is completed. She has the electronic version and will forward to the engineers.
- Trustee Caveney asked for status of the Keystone Lot and the Plan approval by MWRD. Trustee Kreis noted that it was approved and has to get the documents to the Clerk's Office so that it can go out to bid. She will forward to the Board copies of the IGA so that the Board is able to review and approve the bid.

## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**Trustee Caveney** reported on the following:

- She received an email from Extra Space Storage on March 13<sup>th</sup> that the annual bill is due. The fee for next year is \$1,235.00 and she will put this on the Agenda for approval next week. The term of the one-year renewal will be March 23, 2019 through March 22, 2020 and April of 2020 will be free, which is the same business terms as our initial contract (13-year term).
- The Presentation she wanted to have on April 17<sup>th</sup> was from ProChamps. Clerk Moskal and Deputy Clerk Kolacki had attended the monthly Clerk's meeting and ProChamps made a presentation there. This is a property registration system in which the village can register all properties that are in foreclosure or vacant. It will help keep track of the properties for maintenance issues and will be able to identify who the mortgage company or management company or who is responsible for the property. ProChamps also has a pet module. Once a

resident registers their pets, the resident would be able to log in to the system and will send a notice for everyone to see of their missing pet.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Trustee Killelea** reported on the following:

- He received a memo from Robinson Engineering regarding updates they need for the Access to Transit Grant Application. Engineer Nagle advised we received approval for a Phase I of \$25,000. The total project costs are \$716,000 of which \$622,000 will come from the RTA or the federal government. In order to complete this before June 1<sup>st</sup>, we will need to update the Phase 1. The Phase I costs about 10% of the construction costs. The Phase I typically would have cost about \$50,000 to \$60,000 and they are doing it for \$25,000. In the plan, they show that we were going to put in a pedestrian crossing across Pulaski by the railroad tracks. We had installed the flashing light but the County came back and advised that accidents were occurring too often. IDOT, which is different jurisdiction, may still want the flashing light however.
- He provided the highlights of the Public Works Report for February. He noted that they completed snow and ice removal, storm preparation, plowed and salted the streets many times, fixed potholes, provided an unscheduled branch pickup due to a few windy days, there were 46 shutoffs, 22 B-Box and waterline problems, water surface meter issues and over eleven water main breaks. There was also a sewer collapse at 145<sup>th</sup> and St. Louis and took 5-7 days of their time and Calumet City Plumbing was needed to assist. Public Works handled everything for us and did a great job.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Trustee Crowley** reported on the following:

- She discussed the Training Seminar for the Animal Care and Control Officer and she provided a pamphlet. The cost of the program is \$550.00. Unfortunately, we just learned about this seminar on Friday of last week and the class starts next Monday. She asked if anyone had any questions. The Board agreed.

Motion to approve the expenditure of \$550.00 for the Basic Animal Care and Control Certificate for our new Animal Care and Control Person, who recently started with the Village, was made by Trustee Crowley and seconded by Trustee Caveney.

**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.

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

- She provided a copy of the Community Policing Golf Outing Flyer and asked if anyone wanted to golf or be a hole sponsor.
- She had mentioned a few months ago about setting up a Tax Appeal Seminar as done two years ago and received a lot of interest from residents. Treasurer Britton had attended, a Representative from the Board of Appeals, a Representative from the Assessor's Office and explained how taxes are calculated, where money goes to, how the EAV works and was very informative. The tentative date for appeals will begin June 7<sup>th</sup> so the tentative date for the meeting will be June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. but she is waiting for the County to confirm. Our residents will be able to learn how the taxes are calculated, what percentage goes where, questions regarding exemptions, filing appeals, EAV and how it applies to properties.

- She received examples of the Pet Safety stickers that the CPC developed and had printed. The stickers should be placed on a window and you indicate how many pets you have and what kind in case there is ever an emergency. The Fire Department and Police Department are then aware that they need to save our 4-legged friends.
- She wanted to show everyone how important some of the things are that we do not see that the Police Department does for us. Everyone remembers the Aurora active shooter situation and the person involved in it had their FOID card revoked and there was no mechanism in place for the state to go out and make sure the people that had their FOID card revoked, turned in their guns and registrations. Our Police Department contacted the state and received the list of the FOID users in our Village that had their cards revoked. There were 32 subjects that had been revoked and they were able to contact and talk to all but four to make sure that they acknowledged that they cannot have them and would take the appropriate steps.
- Mayor L'Heureux advised that he met with County Commissioner Donna Miller last evening and one of her big concerns is the Senior Citizens. He provided Trustee Crowley's name to her and her office will be reaching out to Trustee Crowley since they both have seniors in mind.

## **DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Chief Hotwagner** had nothing to report.

**Chief Delaney** reported on the following:

- He wanted to advise the residents that there has been a rash of vehicle hijackings and vehicle thefts throughout Cook County. There was one attempted vehicle hijacking last weekend at a gas station in town. He just wanted to remind everyone to be aware of your surroundings. If you believe you are being followed, drive around and don't go home or if you see suspicious activity, to let the Police know. Lock your car doors and be aware of your surroundings.

**Superintendent Weinert** had nothing to report.

**Superintendent Sparrey** reported on the following:

- Spring branch pickup begins on April 1<sup>st</sup> for the northeast quadrant.
- We are scheduled to start our sidewalk trip hazard mitigation project on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be sending a Code Red to that section and will post on the Village website.

**Engineer Nagle** reported on the following:

- Access to Transit Grant – We are taking the flashing lights out but we are still putting in a crosswalk. In the middle of the median, we will have a resting safety area for pedestrians to cross so it will not be haphazard running across the street. The crosswalk will also be painted.

**Treasurer Britton** had nothing to report.

**Deputy Clerk Kolacki** had nothing to report.

## **LEGAL BUSINESS**

**Attorney Nick Valadez** reported on the following:

- He was pleased to note that the Village Board has now passed the International Electrical Code, Illinois Plumbing Code, Illinois Accessibility Code, the International Building Code, International Residential Code, Adoption of the American with Disabilities Act and we now have a Deck and Porch Code. He thanked Superintendent Weinert for his assistance and undertaking is unprecedented in the history of the Village of Midlothian in terms of amending the Village Code. Twenty percent of the Code has been added or eliminated, and will bring greater criteria, best practices in all of those areas of mechanical operations, building codes, residential code and is an extraordinary amount of work.
- He will have discussion regarding the labor contract with the Firefighter's Union at the next meeting.

## **PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS**

**Mayor L'Heureux** reported on the following:

- He reminded everyone that Bremen High School has a number of sports camps this summer in the month of June. The full list is posted in the hallway.
- The Chicago Southland Convention Visitors' Bureau is having their April Food Day 2019 which runs through April 18, 2019. Collections are at the Tinley Park Convention Center.

## **CLERK'S BUSINESS**

**Clerk Moskal** reported on the following:

- He read a Proclamation that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The blue and silver pinwheels will be put out around the Village Hall to bring more awareness.
- He read a Proclamation that April is Fair Housing Month.

## **ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to adjourn to Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and to discuss collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2) was made by Trustee Kreis and seconded by Trustee Caveney.

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

Mayor L'Heureux advised that there will be further action following Closed Session. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 8:11 p.m.

## **RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:42 p.m. Motion to return to Open Session was made by Trustee Kreis and seconded by Trustee Crowley.

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

- Motion to postpone the approval to extend an offer of employment for KMB Executive Director position to a later date was made by Trustee Caveney and seconded by Trustee Crowley.

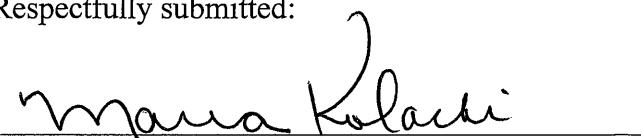
**Discussion:** There was no discussion.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Trustees Crowley, Kreis, Killelea and Caveney. Nays: There were none. Motion carried.

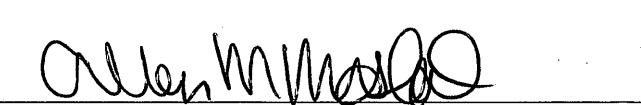
## **CLOSE OF BUSINESS**

There being no further business, Mayor L'Heureux asked for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Motion made by Trustee Crowley and seconded by Trustee Caveney. Voice Vote: Ayes: Trustees Crowley, Caveney, Gillis, Ivan, Kreis and Killelea. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board Meeting adjourned 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Maria Kolacki, Deputy Clerk



Allen Moskal, Village Clerk