

**VILLAGE OF MIDLOTHIAN  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 5, 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 June 5, 2019.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

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

**PLEDGE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Trustee Kreis** reported on the following:

- There will be two presentations at the next Board Meeting. One will be from the Veterans Committee for their Volunteers and the other is for Keep Midlothian Beautiful for their Volunteers.
- The Village will be hosting the Chamber of Commerce luncheon at the Rain Ready Community Garden on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The garden has been partially cleaned up and weeds removed by our volunteers but will need to ask for assistance. She is asking for volunteers on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. to remove more weeds and move mulch from the Rain Ready Community Garden.
- She was reviewing the Management Letters and wanted to make sure that all our deposits are collateralized appropriately. Trustee Ivan confirmed that they were. Clerk Moskal explained that four months ago he received a call from Peoples Bank when they were transitioning from AJ Smith about recollateralizing all accounts with them which protects our money.

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

**Trustee Ivan** reported on the following:

- He explained that the County's levy edit report contained a levy for the JAWA bonds. It was thought that those bonds would be taken off the participating municipalities' books at the County via a legal document once the project was not developed. The Village needs to abate the JAWA bonds so that the bonds do not end up on the Village's debt service levy. In the future, the Village will abate the JAWA bonds along with the other bonds that is customarily abated. Clerk Moskal advised that the County wanted the revised Abatement Ordinance as soon as possible.

Motion to approve Ordinance #2028 Abating Certain Portions of the 2018 Tax Levy was made by Trustee Ivan and seconded by Trustee Caveney.

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

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

- He thanked the Beautification Committee for their commitment to the new flower boxes throughout the downtown area. There are now 34 flower boxes this year but there were only 25 flower boxes budgeted for. The Committee will need to come up with the funds and will hopefully receive the funds at the Garden Walk on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Jean Bartecki advised that there were 15 additional boxes this year as compared to last year.
- The Post Office misplaced a number of the vehicle sticker mailings. There are two options that he provided and asked that the Board to review the list and respond on how that want us to move forward. We may need to advertise that the mailing did not go out to every resident as originally paid for and we are also hoping to receive a refund from the Post Office.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Trustee Gillis** reported on the following:

- Fire Department Mileage Report for May is available for review.
- Chief Hotwagner has a candidate for a part-time Firefighter/Paramedic position and will be forwarding the approval letter from the Fire and Police Commission. This will go forward at the next Board Meeting.
- He advised the Board that we do not have a secretary for the Fire and Police Commission. We still need to test for Engineer and Lieutenant positions and has not been done but was supposed to take place as soon as the Structured Rank Agreement was finalized. Without a secretary, they cannot move forward on this. He believed that this position was going to be filled by a Police Clerk position. Trustee Crowley advised that the individual is no longer employed here. She advised that we have received a number of applications and will begin the application process soon. He reminded everyone that the Firefighter/Paramedic List expires on June 16<sup>th</sup> and we will need to have the list made current. He further noted that there is discussion on possibly looking to use the part-time budget to hire three full-time Firefighter/Paramedics but if we do not have a list, it will not be able to happen.

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**Trustee Caveney** reported on the following:

- Discussion to waive the bid requirement for the demolition project at 14379 Waverly for a cost of less than \$20,000. Superintendent Weinert received a list from Superintendent Sparrey of demolition contractors used previously. Trustee Caveney asked the Board to approve to waive the bid requirement. Attorney Valadez advised that per the Municipal Code for the state and village, since the project is less than \$20,000, the Board does not have to waive the requirement since the requirement does not apply for this demolition and we can move forward. The demolition companies will be contacted to receive a quote to get the property demolished or cleaned up. She will advise the Board. Mayor L'Heureux then commented that Superintendent Weinert believed that the actual cost would be \$11,000 to \$13,000 and a lien will be applied to the property to recoup all costs.
- Non-Union Insurance Benefits Policy - She originally thought that the agreement was to eliminate retiree benefits for current employees and the Village's 80/20 split of the Medicare supplement and found that this was incorrect. There was discussion of qualified employees who transition from union to non-union positions, offering of insurance to employees over 65 years old, Medicare participation, vision plan, dental participation and insurance splits of 60/40. Trustee Caveney will provide a copy

with all changes for the Board's review and the passage of the policy will go forward at the next Board Meeting.

- There was discussion of the Ordinance for Registration of Defaulted Mortgage and Vacant Properties. Trustee Caveney noted that the Ordinance did not necessarily address vacant properties and could believe that to mean a foreclosed property that is vacant and this will need to be addressed. Attorney Valadez commented that he reviewed three other municipalities' ordinances and who are participating in ProChamps, which provided definitions and evidence of vacancy. He believed that vacancy was addressed. Trustee Caveney was concerned with prolonged vacancies in excess of three months and defaulting mortgages and occupancy status. She wanted to make sure that the ordinance covered both scenarios. She also discussed the registration fees that are annual and should be semi-annual. There was further discussion of the registration fee of \$300. Trustee Kreis had requested that there be an exception for properties purchased by the South Suburban Land Bank. Trustee Caveney disagreed since she has not received any updates of any properties obtained from either the South Suburban or Cook County Land Bank. There was then a long discussion of the Land Banks. Trustee Crowley still believed that progressive fees should be assessed to vacant properties and explained her reasonings. It was decided that Attorney Valadez would review the Ordinance again and make all changes discussed by the Board, as well as changes he believed should be made. He will also include any graduated registration fees either by Resolution or Ordinance. This Ordinance will take the place of the present vacant property Ordinance, which is Chapter 23, and is the current vacant property Ordinance. The Ordinance will be revised and presented by the end of the month. It was asked about the Pet Ordinance and Attorney Valadez noted that we will only need authorization for the Mayor to enter into the Agreement for the Pet portion
- The businesses received the letters the Building Department had sent regarding the enforcement of the flashing and digital signs and electronic signs and there were many businesses that were not pleased. The Code's (11-14-2 – Prohibited Signs) Flashing Signs portion contradicts the electronic message boards, which most businesses believe they have. She believed an electronic message board and an electronic sign were one in the same and there was a long discussion by the Board explaining the differences.
- The Building Department is requesting to dispose of the 2003 Ford Explorer since the transmission went out on the vehicle and there has been carbon monoxide problems. This will go forward at the next Board Meeting.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

- Deputy Clerk Kolacki had advised him that there was a conflict with the June 20<sup>th</sup> Water Bill Workshop which is on a Thursday and is the same day as the Parking Tickets Court. Unfortunately, Raday Lodge is booked. The VFW and our various schools were suggested. George Doeden advised that he would check on the availability of the VFW on that date.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Trustee Crowley reported on the following:

- The Micro Pantry grand opening was on Monday and she thanked everyone that attended. It was a huge success. Both Jean and Dylan have gone there a few times already to refill the pantry.

- The Tax Seminar will be on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. There are currently about 30 people that are signed up to attend. We will have someone from the Assessor's Office, Board of Review and Treasurer Britton to talk about property taxes, calculations and making sure people are getting the proper exemptions.
- The Child ID event will be held on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Police Department.
- There are a lot of people that have stepped up and offered to help out with this year's Independence Day Parade and we have received a number of applications for participation. If there are any suggestions you may have or if you wish to volunteer on that day, please send her an email.
- AT&T has notified us that they have officially brought fiber to our door. We have a 60-90-day window where the fiber will be brought into the building. We are hoping for a seamless transition and no problems. Once the fiber is active in the Village, we will be turning on our new phone system and will integrate to out new virtual server.
- Trustee Caveney asked if the Board received the letter from Don Oliveri. She did not agree to spend any money to have an architect or company to come through here and tell us what we already know. She was in favor of Public Works moving forward to do an RFQ to replace the building, or if there is room by the reservoir, the Public Works operation could go there and then use this space to readjust the Police and Fire Department on this campus. She believed we needed to move forward with a plan and obtain RFQs so professionals can tell us what kind of buildings we can put up to maximize the space we have to use. Trustee Killelea explained that Oliveri is reviewing the property to work with contractors and get bids to fix the wall, unless the wall cannot be fixed. He was not sure on the cost to fix the wall and will not know if it is worth to spend the money. Trustee Gillis explained that the report stated that the energy efficiency was worth getting a new building compared to the energy we are losing and conditions of the existing building with the employees. There was a long discussion on the repairs to be made and the steps Oliveri will be completing. Trustee Caveney believed we needed to move forward since we have been talking about this for over a year. Trustee Gillis noted that Oliveri put in his report that the building was a hazard but Trustee Killelea had conflicting information. He suggested that Superintendent Sparrey make the final decision what he wants to do with his own Department.

## **LEGAL BUSINESS**

**Attorney Valadez** reported on the following:

- In Closed Session, he will provide the updates of Union Contract.
- Master Pole Agreement - The Small Cellular Facilities Act requires that the Village respond to applicants who want to put small refrigerator size boxes on poles. The Village must respond within 90-days. We passed the Ordinance maximizing the authority of the Village regarding logistics and compensation. We are missing a master pole attachment agreement which will be the contract between the cellular provider and the Village. The Agreement is our document that we will require all vendors to execute. The blanks will be filled in by the Building Superintendent and Public Works Superintendent. What he provided is the terms that will be in the agreement and the blanks will be filled in later. He reiterated that this is the terms of the agreement between the applicant and the Village. Superintendents Weinert and Sparrey will be reviewing the Agreement.

## **PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS**

**Mayor L'Heureux** had nothing to report.

## CLERK'S BUSINESS

Clerk Moskal reported on the following:

- There will be twelve sets of meeting minutes that will be forwarded to everyone for their review and for approval at the next Board Meeting. The Minutes are now up to date.
- He received a block party request for Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. The block party will be on 143<sup>rd</sup> and Keystone to 144<sup>th</sup> and Keystone from 1:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and they have requested a visit from the Police and Fire Department. The Board approved the block party and a letter of approval will be forwarded to the requestor.

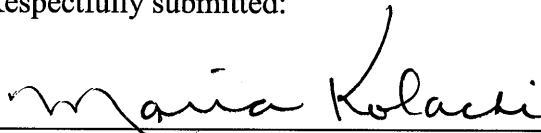
## ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn to Closed Session to discuss the 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) and 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) was made by Trustee Kreis and seconded by Trustee Crowley.

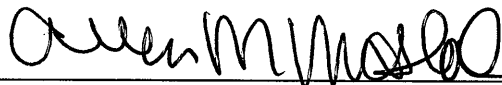
**Roll Call:** Ayes: Trustees Kreis, Crowley, Caveney, Gillis, Ivan and Killelea. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor L'Heureux advised that there will be no further action following Closed Session. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Kolacki, Deputy Clerk



\_\_\_\_\_  
Allen Moskal, Village Clerk