

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF HILLSIDE HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, 425 HILLSIDE AVENUE, HILLSIDE, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, ON MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Joseph T. Tamburino. Board members and those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following members responded as present at roll call:

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| Mayor | - Joseph T. Tamburino |
| Clerk | - Linda L. Gould |
| Trustees | - Lytton H. Andersen |
| | - Frank J. Lomeli, Sr. |
| | - John N. Kramer |
| | - Valerie J. Farries |
| | - Marvin A. Watson |
| Absent | - Trustee David V. Delgado |

Also present were: Russell Wajda, Village Administrator; John T. Flood, Treasurer, Assistant Administrator; Joseph Lukaszek, Police Chief; Jeffrey Pilz, Fire Chief; Joseph Pisano, Public Works Director; Patrick Deady, Village Attorney; Matthew Buerger, K-Plus Engineering; George Gourley, resident; William O'Connor, resident; Roger Romanelli, resident; Tim Curtin, resident; Donna Daniels, resident; Crystal Pettus, resident; numerous Hillside residents

TOWN HALL MEETING:

Mayor Tamburino opened the Town Hall section of the meeting.

Tim Curtin, resident, 1905 S. Wolf Road, expressed his concern about the future of our community. He asked why only certain groups can use the Community Center? Mr. Curtin believes in reforming the schools. He stated that in April, his group called Hillside Forward, was denied access to the Community Center. This doesn't make sense to him. He stated there is no process or written rules as to who can use the Community Center. His asked why the Village decides who can and cannot use the Community Center? Mr. Curtin is interested in seeing written rules or an ordinance stating the process to have access to the Community Center.

Mayor Tamburino stated there is a written process. Administrator Wajda said we no longer rent the Community Center. When the Community Center was rented people lied about usage and there was damage to the Community Center, which is the reason the Village stopped renting the Community Center. There were rules when the facility was rented.

Administrator Wajda also reported that when the Village did rent the Community Center, the rules stated rental had to be by a Hillside resident and for a majority of that person's family in attendance. He also said the Community Center could not be used for profitable, political or religious organizations.

Administrator Wajda said he has been given a two dates that Mr. Curtin wants to use the Community Center and he is working together to find a date that is available. Mayor Tamburino said that when the Village was first approached about using the Community Center he did not know why or for what purpose the group was meeting. Mr. Curtin said there is no political motivation. All this group wants to do is make Proviso West High School better. Mr. Curtin said his group wants to get information out to try and improve Proviso West High School and would like to have the meeting on July 22, 2017. Mayor Tamburino said he would have an answer tomorrow (May 23, 2017).

Roger Romanelli, resident, thanked Mayor Tamburino for speaking to Mr. Curtin. Mr. Romanelli thanked the residents that came with him tonight. He also stated this group has been trying to use the Community Center since January for educational purposes. He explained the meeting was to be open to the entire public for anyone to attend and talk about the Board Elections for the high school.

Mr. Romanelli asked if he could have an answer tonight if the Community Center will be available July 22, 2017? Administrator Wajda said he had to work through the calendar and would have an answer tomorrow (May 23, 2017).

Mr. Romanelli brought copies of written policies from Elmhurst and Westchester regarding rental of their Community Centers. Mr. Romanelli would like the Village Board to establish and publish written guidelines so the public will know what the rules are to be able to rent the Community Center. He also asked for a written explanation as to why he couldn't use the facility in January.

Mayor Tamburino said that in January, when Mr. Romanelli requested to use the Community Center, he was not given a reason why this group wanted to meet. Now that the Village knows it is for a school meeting Mayor Tamburino said there is no problem meeting at the Community Center. Mr. Romanelli said the goal of this group is to get Proviso taxpayers together with the Board making Proviso West the best school. Mayor Tamburino offered the Municipal Complex Board Room if the Community Center is not available. Mr. Romanelli prefers the Community Center because the group will be touring the Proviso West grounds after the meeting.

Mr. Romanelli again asked about when he could expect a draft of the guidelines for renting the Community Center? Mayor Tamburino answered saying the process is that this item be put on the agenda for the next Board Of A Whole Meeting in three weeks for discussion. Current policy will be reviewed. A decision will be made at this meeting if item moves to the Regular Meeting Agenda. It can then be put in Ordinance form and moved to Regular Meeting Agenda.

Donna Daniels, resident, is concerned because the reservoir by Extended Stay has had a lot of flooding. This causes her back yard to flood which causes water in her basement. She asked if the reservoir will be fixed. She feels this is damaging her property. This is not the first time she has flooded.

Mayor Tamburino said this is the first time anyone has come out and mentioned this problem. He also said the Extended Stay is private property and we will be happy to see the owner of property about cleaning out the reservoir.

Ms. Daniels also had concerns about businesses leaving Hillside. Mayor Tamburino said we are not losing business we are gaining business. Hillside has been very fortunate through our economic development programs to bring businesses to town.

Mayor Tamburino also explained the owners of Target Center are in no hurry to replace empty stores. For example, the owners of the Target Center are continuing to receive rent from Staples, even though the store is empty. This is common for most retail space. A new IHOP restaurant will be opening mid-June at the Target Center. Mayor Tamburino also reported there is a development on Roosevelt Road.

Ms. Daniels asked about the Menard's property. Mayor Tamburino reported we have gone to the owner of the property with several different opportunities. He has turned these offers down because he has different ideas. The owner is asking almost six million dollars for the land. Appraisals are between 4 and 4 1/2 million. This is overpriced.

Ms. Daniels also asked about the possibility of a grocery store on Menard's property. Mayor Tamburino said we have Target which has a full grocery department. There is also Leamington Foods that took over Jewel. There is no interest from grocery field to have any store in Hillside.

Mayor Tamburino reported Hillside has a commercial real estate group that works with us. They have brought us Carmax and CVS.

Mayor Tamburino spoke about two upcoming projects regarding the two flood areas. One project is south of the Eisenhower and one is north of the Eisenhower. There will be a huge water detention area at 25th and Washington Boulevard in Bellwood. The second project is south of the Eisenhower in the Oak Ridge area. Public Works Director Pisano explained this project.

Mayor Tamburino also reported that the Village of Westchester has cleaned out their storm sewers. Since then there has been a lot less flooding and water moves better. He further reported that there will be a presentation on the water issue later in the meeting.

Ms. Daniels then asked if so many people are moving out of Hillside because of the high property taxes.

Administrator Wajda explained assessed evaluation. Mayor Tamburino reported some home prices are going up. Mayor Tamburino also said houses are not on the market very long, selling within a few days.

Crystal Pettus, RN, resident, reported in her opinion the town looks like a dump. She feels this area is a crime area. She has invested \$75,000.00 in her home and feels neighborhood is not safe. In her opinion Washington (Butterfield Road) is terrible. She also feels the daycare facilities in Hillside are not good.

Ms. Pettus said that Hillside has nothing to offer for her to stay here. She also feels her home is worth nothing. She can't send her children to school or to the park by her house. She said people are exchanging drugs every other night. She reported that she calls the Police all the time. She has lived in Hillside for 9½ years. She asked what was being done to bring anything to Hillside? In her opinion she has seen nothing but a drastic drop.

Mayor Tamburino explained the Butterfield Road reconstruction project. He said the Village is waiting money from the state, the project has been approved. Curbs, gutters, sidewalks and lighting will be installed. Butterfield Road will be completely improved this year. Village has been working on this project for twenty-five years.

Mayor Tamburino answered that daycare centers are privately owned. They are independent from the Village of Hillside. Daycares are managed and controlled by DCFS. He also said there has been a Police Officer at Proviso West for thirty-five years.

The Mayor also said that when there is a problem in a neighborhood and there have been problems, a patrol car is parked in front of the of the house 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This has been very effective.

Ms. Pettus stated her home is behind the Extended Stay. She feels the Extended Stay has become a drug exchange. She sees police lights in the parking lot very early in the morning every day. She sees people that are high walking the neighborhood. Ms. Pettus has two infants and is extremely concerned. She is ready to put her house on the market but knows she will not get what her house is worth. What can she do? Neighbors send their children to private schools because the school system is so bad. High school is a dump. People use Hillside addresses for city students to go to Proviso West. She repeated that there are no grocery stores. If the schools and shopping are not good here she asks why should she stay here?

Mayor Tamburino repeated that we are very lucky to have Target with a grocery section. We will continue to try but Mayor Tamburino cannot promise there will be a grocery store in town.

Ms. Pettus continued to ask what can be done for Hillside to stand out from Bellwood, Maywood? She talked about the business development in other communities.

Mayor Tamburino said we already stand out. Administrator Wajda reported the Village Board has taken many steps to upgrade and improve our appearance. We worked with the landfill and have a huge entrance sign when entering Hillside. Also, Roosevelt Road was upgraded along

with ornamental lighting a few years back. Administrator Wajda said it was not a fair comparison to compare Hillside to other communities. These communities have more traffic than we have going through Hillside. He also stated we have done a lot to change the appearance of the town and shopping. We have new businesses coming in town.

Mayor Tamburino added we have a #1 rated Fire Department. The Mayor continued there are only ten #1 rated Fire Departments in the state of Illinois. He also said we have limited resources being a town of only 8,200 people and we are doing the best we can.

Donna Daniels asked if Hillside can get grants. Administrator Wajda explained that we get grants for the Police and Fire Department but rarely get general grants. Mayor Tamburino said block grants are based on the income level of municipality and the income level in Hillside is too high for us to qualify. Grants are far and few between. We have talked to big box retailers and they are not interested in coming to Hillside. Mayor Tamburino explained we have professional groups that work for us and check into grants and planning all the time.

Police Chief Lukaszek reported that he worked at Proviso West before he became Chief. The drug problem at Proviso West is not what people think. There is marijuana. Cook County has decriminalized marijuana. All we can do is issue an ordinance ticket for marijuana and bring offender into adjudication court. Other high schools have heroin problems. Chief Lukaszek stated he moved away from this community because of Proviso West. Chief Lukaszek also said Hillside is a great community. The high school in his community is much like Proviso West, but he is paying higher taxes.

Chief Lukaszek said the problem at Proviso West is not criminal activity it is the laws that the teachers have to follow from the state. Chief Lukaszek invited residents to sign up for the Citizens Police Academy. He further stated that Cook County has changed the retail theft laws as to what can and can't be prosecuted.

Chief Lukaszek explained that drug users are going into the city to purchase their drugs. Hillside is first place along 290 where they feel safe and unfortunately they pull off 290 and do drugs. We have had multiple arrests. Chief Lukaszek said he would be happy to meet with anyone to answer their questions.

Roger Romanelli again took the floor. He reminded all that there are two independent grocery stores in the area, Leamington and Berkeley Foods.

Mr. Romanelli also expressed his concerns about the Menard's site and said there was a deteriorated structure on the site he hoped would be torn down soon.

Mr. Romanelli continued to complain about not being able to use the Community Center for a meeting to talk to residents about making Proviso West High School the best in America.

Mr. Romanelli then asked for a written explanation from the Village Board about what the policy is for residents to report speeders. On January 25, from his home, Mr. Romanelli called the Hillside Police Department to report a speeding car. He said he was visited by Chief Lukaszek and was informed that if he didn't have the license plate number he (Mr. Romanelli) would receive a ticket. Mayor Tamburino said he didn't think that was what happened, Mr. Romanelli said it did. Mr. Romanelli, repeated, again, that he wants a written explanation from the Board as to what the policy is in the Village of Hillside to arrest speeders. He would like this to be extremely clear as to if a resident can be issued a citation if they don't get a license plate number.

Judith, a resident, not only complained about cars speeding on her side of the street, but also asked why there are no sidewalks in her area. She feels not having sidewalks is a safety issue. She asked why some residents have sidewalks and others don't. Mayor Tamburino said back in the 1950's there was a referendum as to whether the people wanted sidewalks or not. The resident asked how much sidewalks would cost and the Mayor said we will get the cost together and if the people want there can be a public referendum and the people can vote. The Mayor also said that unless everyone on the block put in sidewalks it would not do any good to just have a sidewalk in front of her home.

A resident asked what is the responsibility of the Village to clean sidewalks in the winter.

Administrator Wajda reported the Village of Hillside plows and salts all local streets and clean off the main sidewalks. We do not clean every sidewalk in community. That is the responsibility of the homeowner.

Mayor Tamburino, in answer to Mr. Romanelli said that anyone can call and complain about a speeding car. If you can't give any other information other than it being a speeding car it is very difficult to issue a ticket. This is how it is in any town. Mayor Tamburino said he was hard pressed to find that the Police Chief said he would issue Mr. Romanelli a ticket for reporting a speeding car.

Donna Daniels asked about installing speed bumps. Mayor Tamburino said that if speed bumps were installed the Village of Hillside becomes responsible for any damage to any vehicle from the speed bumps. He said there will not be speed bumps in the Village of Hillside.

A resident then asked about cameras for speeding. Mayor Tamburino said he would be happy to put out cameras. However, it has been proven that tickets are issued to 8-10 people who live on that block.

As there were no further comments from the floor, Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion to close the Town Hall Meeting.

So moved by Trustee Andersen, seconded by Trustee Kramer.
All voting aye, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion that there being no additions or corrections to the minutes for Regular Meeting of April 24, 2017, the minutes be accepted and approved.

So moved by Trustee Andersen, seconded by Trustee Kramer.
All voting aye, motion carried.

VILLAGE CLERK:

Clerk Gould reported the Village Offices will be closed Saturday, May 27, and Monday, May 29, 2017, in observance of Memorial Day.

Clerk Gould presented the Consent Agenda.

All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered a part of the Board Member's committee business.

Illinois Department of Revenue: Sales tax returns for month of March, 2017, in the amount of \$327,911.72. Amount received for March, 2016, in the amount of \$348,277.87.

Illinois Department of Transportation: Motor Fuel Tax allotment for the month of April, 2017, in the amount of \$17,859.51.

Approval of gross payroll for periods April 15, through April 28, 2017, in the amount of \$277,112.40, and

April 29 through May 12, 2017, in the amount of \$299,829.67.

Payment of bills for the month of May, 2017, in the amount of \$1,586,015.47.

Com Ed: Utility tax for the month of February, 2017, in the amount of \$34,398.81.

NiCor Gas: Utility Tax for the month of March, 2017, in the amount of \$14,684.05.

Excise Tax for the month of March, 2017, in the amount of \$24,067.49.

Code Enforcement Officer's Reports (April, 2017).

Police Department Report (April, 2017).

Fire Department Report (April, 2017).

E.M.A. Report (April, 2017).

Public Works Department Report (April, 2017).

Building Inspector's Report (April, 2017).

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Farries, to accept and approve Consent Agenda.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Andersen, Lomeli, Kramer, Farries, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Delgado
Motion declared carried

DEPARTMENT HEAD OPERATING REPORTS:

Treasurer/Director of Economic Development: (John Flood)

No report

Police Chief: (Joseph Lukaszek)

No report

Fire Chief: (Jeffrey Pilz)

No report

Public Works and Building Services Director: (Joseph Pisano)

No report

VILLAGE ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineer Buerger presented Village Storm Water Master Plan.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Wajda reported that after being in Springfield last week he doesn't have much hope that a state budget will be passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

No report

Public Services Committee: (Trustee Andersen)

No report

Public Safety and Education Committee: (Trustee Watson)

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to approve Village Administrator to contact the Fire and Police Commission to hire a police officer, due to the resignation of James Ahern.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Andersen, Lomeli, Kramer,
Farries, Watson

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Delgado

Motion declared carried

Trustee Watson reported next Community Awareness Meeting is Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

Zoning Committee: (Trustee Lomeli)

Motion made by Trustee Lomeli, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to set a Public Hearing for Monday, June 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m., to discuss the merger of the Hillside Plan Commission and the Hillside Zoning Board of Appeals, and any other possible changes to the Zoning Board that may arise. (The Village Board of a Whole will follow immediately).

All voting aye, motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Lomeli, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to approve appointment of Peter Sarangelo to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5 year term, expiring April 30, 2022.

All voting aye, motion carried.

Technology Committee: (Trustee Delgado)

No report

Community Services Committee: (Trustee Farries)

Trustee Farries reported on Project UFO being cancelled due to inclement weather on Saturday, May 20, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Finance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Farries, to approve Resolution 17-02, Determining to Levy an Additional Tax of .02% for Library Purposes, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Andersen, Lomeli, Kramer,
Farries, Watson

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Delgado

Motion declared carried

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Andersen, to approve Ordinance 17-04 to Opt Out of Cook County Minimum Wage Ordinance, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Andersen, Lomeli, Kramer,
Farries, Watson

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Delgado

Motion declared carried

Public Safety and Education Committee: (Trustee Watson)

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Lomeli, to approve Ordinance 17-03, Donation of Ambulance, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Andersen, Lomeli, Kramer,
Farries, Watson

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Delgado

Motion declared carried

VILLAGE PRESIDENT:

Mayor Tamburino reported Hillside's Annual Memorial Day Observance is at noon on Monday, May 29th, at the Veterans Memorial in the Hillside Commons.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Board-of-a-Whole Meeting to be held on Monday, June 12, 2017, following the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Municipal Complex, 425 Hillside Avenue, Hillside, IL, 60162.

As there was no further business before the Board, Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion to adjourn.

So moved by Trustee Andersen, seconded by Trustee Kramer.

All voting aye, motion carried.

Adjournment: 9:13 P.M.



Linda L. Gould
Clerk