

**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,
MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021**

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:

| | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| Mayor | - Joseph T. Tamburino |
| Clerk | - Linda L. Gould |
| Trustees | - Herman L. Walter, Jr. |
| | - Frank J. Lomeli, Sr. |
| | - David V. Delgado |
| | - John N. Kramer |
| | - Claudell Johnson |
| | - Marvin A. Watson |
| Absent | - None |

Also present were: Joseph Pisano, Administrator; David Peters, Public Works and Building Services Director; Sandy Lozano, Village Treasurer; Joseph Lukaszek, Police Chief; Ken Carling, Fire Chief; Anthony Faragia, EMA Director; John Nelson, Village Engineer; Joseph Beckwith, 911 Director/IT Manager; Roger Romanelli, Mary Flores, Ms. Flores, Dan Adams, Salvador Valdez, Ruben Fries, Janet Dubsy, Ellis Funchess, residents

TOWN HALL:

Mayor Tamburino opened the Town Hall section of the meeting.

Roger Romanelli, 4406 Madison, feels the best thing for our Village and the State of Illinois is to keep the Prairie Path on Warren Avenue with traffic signals at Butterfield and Forest, also Mannheim and Warren. He continued, it was not safe to move the Prairie Path off Warren onto Butterfield and Washington.

Mr. Romanelli had documents from 2015 and said they were apparently submitted to the State of Illinois by the Village of Hillside about relocating the Prairie Path off Warren. He continued saying that there had only been one Public Meeting to talk about moving the Prairie Path off Warren Avenue and that was on October 2, 2014.

Mr. Romanelli said in 2018 that he and some neighbors submitted a letter to the Mayor and Trustees requesting that any information the Village had for moving the Prairie Path be emailed to them. He said he did not receive any information.

Mr. Romanelli along with some neighbors met with Mayor Tamburino on February 16, 2019, proposing a new children's park at Granville and Warren. He never received any information.

Mr. Romanelli said the Village of Hillside's proposal for the Prairie Path is for a new path on the north side of Butterfield east to Mannheim. He said this is a dangerous intersection and that the sidewalks on the east side of Mannheim are too narrow for people to walk.

Mr. Romanelli said he contacted the Illinois Prairie Path Association for their opinion and was told they received a communication from the Village Administrator that said the sidewalks on the east side of Mannheim could be widened. He said there is no room to expand the sidewalks and his solution is for the Prairie Path to cross at Butterfield and Forest, install a traffic signal there, then install a 10 foot wide Prairie Path lane on the north side of Warren, remove parking on Warren, then continue on Forest, and put a park on Warren.

Mayor Tamburino informed Mr. Romanelli his time was up.

Mr. Romanelli said there should be a Hillside discussion on this issue. He invited people to tour the Prairie Path this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until noon and compare plans for the Prairie Path.

Mr. Romanelli said the people of Hillside should be able to make the decision on the Prairie Path. If the State of Illinois says no to his plan then he will meet with the State of Illinois.

Mr. Romanelli said he will be back at the next meeting and have discussion about the safest way to improve the Prairie Path. He also said if the Mayor and Trustees support their dangerous plan he will go to Governor Pritzker.

Mark Stohl, 48 Oak Ridge, said he was tired of people wasting time. If the State says the safest place to cross the Prairie Path is Butterfield and Mannheim, then that is the safest place. Mr. Romanelli interrupted at this point, he was told his time was over.

Mary Flores, 400 Melrose, said she doesn't care about the Prairie Path and thinks it is a waste of money. She would rather see money invested in more parks for the children. She also thinks the Village should invest in speed bumps on Warren and Madison. She also wants her children and grandchildren to go to Hillside schools, not Bellwood schools. She continued by saying the Village owns two vacant buildings in town and should consider putting in a Pre-School in one of the buildings.

Ms. Flores, 400 Melrose, said there is nothing wrong with the Prairie Path. The Village should fix the schools. She complained she waits too long at Proviso for the school bus.

Dan Adams, 736 East End, said he just received his tax bill. His suggestion is instead of spending \$7,000,000.00 on the Prairie Path, a traffic light can be installed at Warren and Mannheim for the Prairie Path for much less. The Village should then try to give a little money back to the residents.

Salvador Valdez, 454 Bellwood, across from Hillside Lumber, said speed bumps are needed on Warren Avenue. Everything that is there right now to control traffic does not work. His taxes went up about 25%. There is nothing wrong with the Prairie Path. He said if you live in Hillside, you should be able to go to Hillside schools. He also said he pays taxes for Hillside. Mayor Tamburino informed Mr. Valdez his taxes do not go to Hillside Schools, they go to Bellwood School District #88.

Ruben Frias, 454 Melrose, asked what his rights are pertaining to his property and driveway? He feels he is being abused by Door Pro, located across the street from his house. He said the semi-trucks have to use his driveway in order to pull into the docks. The trucks also park and block his driveway. Mr. Frias said he guards his driveway. He has asked the Police, and Ramiro for help. He just wants to know what he can do.

Mayor Tamburino asked Mr. Frias to call him personally if there is a problem that cannot be worked out by the Police or Ramiro. Mr. Frias said he has no issues with the Police Department or the Village, he would just like this resolved.

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

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

Mayor Tamburino spoke as resident and Mayor. He said he has listened to Roger Romanelli and he is tired of this.

Mayor Tamburino said he has been over to meet with people from Mr. Romanelli's neighborhood many times. He has heard different stories from them than what he has heard tonight. Again, the Mayor said if anyone has any problem, all they have to do is call him. His office number goes directly to his cell phone and his home number has been in the book for forty years.

Mayor Tamburino said Roger put out a piece of literature last year that said it was going to cost \$8,000,000.00 to move the Prairie Path. Mayor Tamburino said the Village is not spending a dime on the Prairie Path. IDOT told the Village where the Prairie Path will be. Mayor Tamburino said Mr. Romanelli asked for a crossing light with stop sign and that was done.

Mayor Tamburino said when he met with Roger and the residents, he said he would happy to talk with IDOT, but Roger and the residents said they wanted the Prairie Path extended to a ten foot wide path from where it ends now down to Washington. They wanted people to cross at the traffic signal. (Mayor Tamburino recalled Roger's literature said \$7,000,000.00). Mr. Romanelli interrupted asking how much this project is costing. Again, Mayor Tamburino said this is a state project and is not costing Hillside a dime.

Mayor Tamburino also said when talking about school taxes and school districts the Village cannot do anything to change school districts. There would have to be a referendum held by both sides of the district.

Mayor Tamburino responding to the park issue said he called Jessica Nunez from the group he previously met with and also a candidate for Trustee a couple of years ago. He asked her to come in and look at plans for a park. He said the Village was going to buy a vacant lot in the area and build a park. Mayor Tamburino said Ms. Nunez never got back to him and he still has the plans.

Mayor Tamburino said whenever he talks about speed bumps to residents in that area, they don't want them. He also said speeding tickets are being issued and there is an unmarked car in the area.

Mayor Tamburino repeated the Village of Hillside is not spending a dime to move the Prairie Path. It is not our proposal to move the Prairie Path. All the Village wants is to improve Butterfield Road. This is the last road in Hillside that does not have curb, gutter, proper parking and storm sewer.

Roger Romanelli interrupted the meeting at this time. He was informed he already had his time. Administrator Pisano reminded him to sit down and not disrupt the meeting.

Mayor Tamburino talked about the recent property tax bills. He said his taxes went up \$2,000.00. He has had conversations with all the Mayor's and they will be getting together to discuss. School District 87 taxes went up and the surrounding towns taxes all went up.

Mayor Tamburino informed everyone a Tax Appeal Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at St. Domitilla South Hall. People can come in and file their tax appeals.

No one is happy with their tax bill. In forty years, the Mayor said he has never seen such a screwed up tax system.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Kramer that the minutes for Regular Meeting of July 26, 2021, and Board of a Whole Meeting of August 9, 2021, be accepted and approved.

All voting aye, motion carried.

Mayor Tamburino said back in April there was concern for our budget. A year ago, when our sales tax revenue went down, we didn't think we would have a street project. Our sales tax revenue has now increased as a result of used car sales at CarMax. We will be doing streets.

VILLAGE CLERK:

Clerk Gould reported the Village Hall will be closed Saturday, September 4th and Monday, September 6, 2021, in observance of Labor Day.

Clerk Gould also reported Proviso Township Assessor's Office will hold a Property Tax Appeal Workshop, Tuesday September 21, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., at St. Domitilla's, in the South Hall. To file your appeal, please bring your latest tax bill and identification to the workshop.

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 June, 2021, in the amount of \$527,814.86. Amount received for June, 2020, in the amount of \$298,726.49.

Illinois Department of Transportation: Motor Fuel Tax allotment for the month of July, 2021, in the amount of \$27,143.86.

Approval of gross payroll for period July 17th through July 30, 2021, in the amount of \$321,473.23 and July 31st through August 13, 2021, in the amount of \$376, 781.62.

Payment of bills for the month of August 2021, in the amount of \$1,165,907.48.

Com Ed: Utility tax for the month of May, 2021, in the amount of \$26,446.28.

NiCor Gas: Utility Tax for the month of July, 2021, in the amount of \$6,476.73.

Excise Tax for the month of June, 2021, in the amount of \$16,366.29.

Video Gaming Tax for the month of July, 2021 in the amount of \$6,954.52.

Code Enforcement Officer's Reports (July, 2021).

Police Department Report (June, July, 2021).

911 Dispatch Report (July, 2021).

Fire Department Report (July, 2021).

E.M.A. Report (July, 2021).

Public Works Department Report (No report).

Building Inspector's Report (No report).

Social Services Report (July, 2021).

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

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion declared carried

DEPARTMENT HEAD OPERATING REPORTS:

Police Chief: (Joseph Lukaszek)

Chief Lukaszek reported the stationary radar unit located on Warren Avenue is functioning. It registered 5,493 readings last week. From those readings, 99% were under the threshold for issuing citations. Seventeen vehicles were over the speed limit, which is less than half percent of all the vehicles that drive down that street.

Fire Chief: (Ken Carling)

No report

Public Works and Building Services Director: (David Peters)

No report

Village Treasurer: (Sandy Lozano)

No report

VILLAGE ENGINEER'S REPORT:

No report

Mr. Romanelli left the meeting at this time.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Pisano reported on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The Village has been approved and will be receiving their first allotment of \$539,222.00 in funds sometime in October. The second allotment will be received one year from that date.

Mayor Tamburino asked Administrator Pisano for an update on Litt Drive entrance. Administrator Pisano he received the last piece of documentation today and is now able to move forward.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Watson, to approve payment in the amount of \$6,843.98 to Villa Park Office Equipment, 1120 N. Villa Ave, Villa Park, IL 60181 to equip the old Dispatch Center for Police Department records.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to approve the purchase of a Flag Retirement Box, to be located in the parking lot of the Village Hall, from American Security Cabinets, P.O. Box 177, Rogers, MN 55374 in the amount of \$1,878.00.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Public Services Committee: (Trustee Walter)

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Lomeli, to approve payment in the amount of \$10,385.00 to Cerniglia Co., 3421 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park, IL, 60160 for emergency work performed to replace nineteen feet of deteriorated water main at 322 Clayton Road.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Public Safety and Education Committee: (Trustee Watson)

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to authorize the Village Administrator to contact the Police and Fire Commission requesting the hiring of 2 police officers to fill vacancies for two pending retirements and 1 Firefighter/Paramedic to replace the vacancy created by Firefighter Rodney Bradberry's retirement.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Zoning Committee: (Trustee Lomeli)

Motion made by Trustee Lomeli, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to accept and place on file the minutes and findings of the Zoning Board Meeting of August 3, 2021, granting First Fence Co., 10 N. Elm Street, Hillside, IL 60162, a Special Use in a R-3 District, to permit a tutoring service to operate within a portion of the building, at 10 N. Elm Street, Hillside, IL 60162.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Motion made by Trustee Lomeli, seconded by Trustee Watson, to grant the Special Use Permit submitted by First Fence Co., 10 N. Elm Street, Hillside, IL 60162, seeking a Special Use Permit in a R-3 District, to permit a tutoring service to operate within a portion of the building, at 10 N. Elm Street, Hillside, IL 60162.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Motion made by Trustee Lomeli, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to accept and place on file the minutes of the Zoning Board Meeting of August 10, 2021 to consider a petition submitted by Thurman F. Simpson-Medley, 5248 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL, 60644, on consideration for Variance in B-1 Zoning District, to reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces, at 37 N. Hillside Avenue, Hillside, IL 60162.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Motion made by Trustee Lomeli, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to accept and place on file the minutes of the Zoning Board Meeting of August 17, 2021 to consider a petition submitted by Rosemary Santiago, 224 Iroquois Road, Hillside, IL, 60162, on consideration for Variance in R-2 Zoning District, to permit coverage of the lot by impervious surfaces from 20% to 24.8%, at 224 Iroquois Road, Hillside, IL 60162.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walter, Lomeli, Delgado,
Kramer, Johnson, Watson
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion declared carried

Technology Committee: (Trustee Delgado)

No report

Mayor Tamburino requested the Police Services Committee start to get everything together for body cams for the Police Department.

Community Services Committee: (Trustee Johnson)

Trustee Johnson reminded Tuesday Summer Nights in Hillside continues August 24th with *Shagadelics* and August 31st with *The Buckingham*s. Concerts start at 7:30 p.m. Food and beer will be available for purchase, with Cruise Nights and the Market Place beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Trustee Johnson also reported all the children had a good time at the "Back to School Lunch" held on Saturday, August 21, 2021. Mayor Tamburino and Trustee Johnson also thanked everyone who helped at this event.

IT Director Beckwith said COVID vaccines will be available at the concert tomorrow night. Mayor Tamburino said we will be having a vaccine booster clinic when that becomes available.

Trustee Delgado reminded that there will also be COVID testing tent at the concert tomorrow night.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

VILLAGE PRESIDENT:

Mayor Tamburino read Proclamation: National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

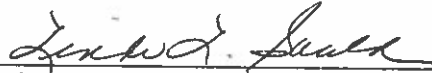
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Board-of-a-Whole Meeting to be held at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, September 13, 2021, 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 Kramer, seconded by Trustee Delgado. All voting aye, motion carried.

Adjournment: 8:31 P.M.


Linda L. Gould
Clerk