



VILLAGE OF HILLSIDE

MINUTES FOR THE BOARD-OF-A-WHOLE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, 425 HILLSIDE AVENUE, HILLSIDE, IL 60162 AT 7:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Joseph T. Tamburino. 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, Village Administrator; Joseph Beckwith, Assistant Administrator, Communications and Technology Director; Dan Murphy, Police Chief; Ken Carling, Fire Chief; Paul Smith, Public Works Director; Patrick Deady, Village Attorney; Sandy Lozano, Village Treasurer; John Nelson, Village Engineer; Scott Lundgren, EMA Director; Roger Romanelli, Charles Brown, Gwen Neal, Keegan Goss, Kristine M., Deon Lumpkin, Keith Randale, Ramon Feliciano, Carmela Wagner, Janet Dubsy, residents; Lisa Guarino, Berkeley resident

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Tamburino opened the Public Comment section of the meeting.

Roger Romanelli of Hillside commented on his disagreement with the Senior Housing project on Taft and Ridge. He specifically does not like the age of 55 considered for the project and the lack of guaranteed property taxes. He requests proposal be withdrawn.

Charles Brown of Hillside commented on the high property taxes since he retired.

Gwen Neal of Hillside commented on her disagreement with the Senior Housing project on Taft and Ridge. She specifically does not like the age of 55 considered for the project and the lack of guaranteed property taxes.

Keegan Goss of Hillside commented on the high property taxes and does not want the Village to raise the levy. He commented on his disagreement with the Senior Housing project and the Village's purchase of the Stimac's restaurant. He requests the Village auction both sites.

Kristine M. of Hillside commented on the high property taxes and the problem the rise in taxes is causing.

Deon Lumpkin of Hillside commented on the annual financial report and congratulated the village, treasurer and staff for getting the GFOA achievement of excellence award and the favorable view of the financial statements from Sikich accounting firm. He further commented on his disagreement with the Senior Housing project and the purchase of Stimac's by the Village. He had some ideas on other small improvements to the area.

Lisa Guerero of Berkeley commented on her disagreement with the Senior Housing project on Taft and Ridge. She specifically does not agree with the lack of guaranteed property taxes and requests another town hall meeting. She stated that the development affects both Berkeley and Hillside.

Keith Randale of Hillside commented on the high property taxes and his disagreement with the Senior Housing project on Taft and Ridge. He specifically does not like the age of 55 considered and is also concerned with Stimac's restaurant.

Ramon Feliciano of Hillside commented on the high property taxes and his disagreement with the Senior Housing project on Taft and Ridge.

Carmela Wagner of Hillside commented on the Senior Housing Project and the high property taxes. She is concerned with the elderly's ability to continue to live in their house.

Janet Dubsky of Hillside wanted to thank the Village for the great Christmas event that the Village hosted. She commented on the Santa letter program and how well the Village is run and operates. She explained that on her tax bill thirty percent of the bill goes to the Village while fifty-two percent goes to the schools.

As there were no further comments Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion to close the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

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

Mayor Tamburino explained the Village's purchase of Stimac's, TIF districts, and the Senior Housing project. He explained that there is quite a bit of misinformation being spread that is scaring residents. He also clarified the fact that there have been many public meetings and discussions about the Senior Housing project. He stated that School District 87 passed a large referendum that gave a large increase to part of the town's tax bills. He understands taxes are screwed up in Cook County and is working with other Mayors to find solutions that will give relief and fix the system.

Mayor Tamburino explained the raise of the tax levy was due to a huge increase in pensions for police officers and firefighters. He explained the Village is exploring the lead water pipe replacement program that the state has passed legislation on. He also explained that Hotel/Motel taxes have to be spent on attracting tourists to the Village and that is what is used to fund the summer concerts and the Veteran's Day celebrations.

Village Administrator Joseph Pisano commented on some of the misinformation being spread about the affordable, independent senior living project on Taft and Ridge. He believes scare tactics and other negative connotations are causing people to misunderstand the project. There is no guarantee the developer will not pay taxes. The developer has even talked about paying taxes specifically to the Village of Hillside. He also clarified the correct amount of the Levy increase being presented at the meeting.

As there were no further comments, Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion to close the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

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

VILLAGE CLERK:

Clerk Gould reported the approval of the Board Meeting schedules and anticipated changes for 2024 to include May in observance of Memorial Day, November in observance of Veterans Day and December in observance of Christmas will be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2023.

Clerk Gould also reported the December Regular Board Meeting will be December 18, 2023.

Clerk Gould further reported the Village offices will be closed Saturday, December 23, 2023 and Monday December 25, 2023 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Clerk Gould reported the Village offices will be closed Saturday, December 30, 2023 and Monday, January 1, 2024 in observance of the New Year Holiday.

DEPARTMENT HEAD OPERATING REPORTS:

Police Chief: (Chief Dan Murphy)

No report

Fire Chief: (Chief Ken Carling)

Captain Kukulski explained the Keep the Wreath Red campaign at the Fire Department is part of a national program to increase awareness of fire safety concerns during the holiday season.

Assistant Village Administrator, Communication and Technology Director: (Joseph Beckwith)

No report

Public Works Director: (Paul Smith)

No report

Treasurer: (Sandy Lozano)

Treasurer Lozano introduced Nick Bava from our auditing firm, Sikich. Mr. Bava gave an overview of the auditing process. He added, once the audit is submitted and reviewed by an independent third party the Village will receive their 41st Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award.

VILLAGE ENGINEER: (John Nelson)

Administrator Pisano reported we are starting conversations through the Surface Transportation Program, which is a federally funded program, to see if we would be eligible for funding for two roadways that due to their traffic would qualify. The roadways are Darmstadt Road from Butterfield Road to Wolf Road and then Hillside Avenue from Darmstadt Road to Harrison Street. We are hopeful we will qualify for funding.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:

No report

COMMITTEE REPORTSFinance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Walter)

Trustee Walter reported the following to be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2023.

- A. Approval of gross payroll from November 18, 2023 through December 1, 2023, in the amount of \$341,443.51.
- B. Approval of bills for the month of December, 2023.
- C. Second reading and approval of Tax Levy Ordinance 23-14 for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$14,453.200.00, will be on the Regular Board Meeting Agenda.
- D. Approval of Ordinance 23-15 abating \$222,000.00 tax levied for the year 2023 to pay the debt service on \$1,635,000.00 General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2017A of the Village of Hillside, Cook County, IL.
- E. Approval of Resolution 23-08 providing for the retirement of certain municipal indebtedness \$222,000.00, by the use of Motor Fuel Tax Funds \$1,635,000.00 General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2017A.

Public Services Committee: (Trustee Delgado)

No report

Public Safety and Education Committee: (Trustee Watson)

Trustee Watson reported the following to be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2023.

- A. Approval to add one Seargent position to afternoon shift and authorize the Village Administrator to contact the Police and Fire Commission to provide the appropriate individual from the current promotional list.

Trustee Watson also reported there will not be a Community Awareness Meeting in December, due to the Christmas Holiday.

Zoning Committee: (Trustee Lomeli)

No report

Veterans and Technology Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

Trustee Kramer reported the following to be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2023.

- A. Approval of 2024 annual maintenance for the Dispatch Center 9-1-1 phone system, radio consoles, recorder, and firehouse equipment from Mercury Systems, 123 Ambassador Drive, Suite 151, Naperville, IL 60540 in the amount of \$148,272.96. \$74,136.48, fifty percent, will be reimbursed from the South West Cook County ETSB.

Community Services Committee: (Trustee Johnson)

Trustee Johnson reported the Youth Commission is providing letters from Santa. If you would like your child to receive a letter or email from Santa, place your request in the Santa Mailbox located in the lobby of the Village Hall or email Santa at Santa@Hillside-il.org, beginning Tuesday, November 14th. The deadline for requests is Friday December 15th.

Trustee Johnson also reported the 4th Annual Holiday Parade will be held on Tuesday, December 19th, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Johnson further reported the Tree Lighting and Santa's arrival were well attended. She thanked all village employees and volunteers for their help.

Trustee Johnson reported the Village of Hillside and the Community Relations Commission will be hosting the 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast, Monday, January 15, 2024, 8:30 a.m., at the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 Hall, 4550 Roosevelt Road, Hillside. The last day to purchase tickets is Monday, January 8, 2024. No tickets may be purchased at the door.

Village President:

No report

Announcements:

Mayor Tamburino announced the next Regular Meeting of the Village Board is scheduled for 7:30 P.M. Monday, December 18, 2023 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 enter into Executive Session under the provisions of 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(6) for the purpose of discussing the potential sale of public property.

So moved by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Kramer.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:


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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion declared carried

Adjourn to Executive Session 8:43 P.M..



Linda L. Gould
Clerk