

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, OCTOBER 26, 2020

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
	- Valerie J. Farries
	- Marvin A. Watson
Absent	- None

Also present were: Russell Wajda, Village Administrator; Joseph Lukaszek, Police Chief; Ken Carling, Fire Chief; Joseph Pisano, Public Works Director; Mike Tecson, Village Attorney; John Nelson, Village Engineer; Anthony Faragia, EMA Director; Joseph Beckwith, 911 Director/IT Manager; Roger Romanelli, Dan Adams, Keegan Doss, Amy Woodrick, Tony Simpson, Ben Umanna, Ellis Funchess, Bill O'Connor, residents

TOWN HALL:

Mayor Tamburino opened the Town Hall section of the meeting.

Dan Adams, 736 East End, is concerned that taxes are being wasted on unnecessary projects such as the bridge over the expressway and the proposal to move the Prairie Path. He said Hillside needs good schools, medical care and public safety, not these projects. He said the taxpayers did not ask for these projects. He also said it is because of government corruption that these grants got approved in Springfield.

Mr. Adams continued saying that Hillside taxes should be spent in Hillside for basic improvements like a traffic signal at Forest and Butterfield. He said the Prairie Path should stay where it is. Our village government needs to work harder for the residents. The state should take back their grant. He said there is corruption in Hillside and statewide. He said it is time for new leaders in Hillside. He continued saying the current officials are wasting millions on projects that we don't need and can't afford.

Keegan Goss, 4506 Madison, reported that since June he has contacted the Village several times on how to request a special use variance to build a fence on his corner property. He doesn't see the process explained on the Village website. He would like to move forward with this project and is asking for information on how to proceed.

Roger Romanelli, 4406 Madison, said he has concerns about decisions made by the Mayor, Clerk and Trustees regarding a 2018 Chicago Tribune article stating that Hillside had received a \$2,000,000.00 state grant to build a Mannheim Road walkway, bike path and bridge over the Eisenhower Expressway. He said the article states Hillside pledged 20% of the total cost to make this happen. He continued that he has asked for written information about this, but no information has been received. He feels this project would be a waste of Hillside and state tax money. He wants the Village to return the state grant and not spend any taxpayer money on this project.

Mr. Romanelli's other concern is that he and a group of neighbors discussed a project in 2019 with the Mayor regarding the reconstruction of Butterfield Road and moving the Prairie Path. He said the project had an estimated cost of \$8,000,000.00 in state funds plus unknown Hillside funds. He continued by saying the Mayor agreed to provide written information about the Prairie Path proposal, but none has been provided. He is asking that Village officials not continue with the plan to move the Prairie Path.

He said residents cannot afford their taxes to go up for projects that Hillside does not need. He would rather see a traffic signal at Butterfield and Forest, bike lanes on Warren and a sidewalk path on Mannheim.

He asked that before the Board move on to additional business tonight, they address his concerns.

Amy Woodrick, 4610 Butterfield, complained about the Village spending money to purchase a building in Bellwood for the Butterfield Road project. She lives on Butterfield and feels this money could be better spent by installing a stop light at Butterfield and Forest. She said this would slow down the drivers that are speeding on Butterfield between Mannheim and Wolf.

Ms. Woodrick said as a Registered Nurse, she feels that during this pandemic, the money for these projects could be better used to help serve our seniors, our families and our children. She is asking that those projects be tabled and that future projects involve the Hillside residents.

Tommy Simpson, 4431 Jackson, asked for the 2020 Street Project be revised to include a section of Jackson from Madison to Vanna Court. He feels this is the most dangerous street in Hillside because there is a lot of street deterioration and depressions where water and ice collect next to the curb.

He said there are no sidewalks in this section. People need to walk or bike in the middle of the street, which is dangerous because this section of Jackson curves and it is hard to see people coming. It is also very dark because there are not enough streetlights.

Ben Umunna, 10 Ashbel, said in 2018 he and others attended a village meeting and they expressed concern over the proposal to build a pedestrian bridge and bicycle path over Mannheim Road. He said they asked that information about this project be put on the website.

Mr. Umunna said he attended another village meeting in 2019 with others and they expressed concern over the \$8,000,000.00 proposal to move the Prairie Path off Warren Avenue. They asked that information on the project be put on the website. He said there is no information on the website about these projects.

He also said the two projects would cost at least \$10,000,000.00 in Illinois taxes and Hillside taxes. He feels this would be a waste of taxpayer money and asks the Governor to take back the grant.

Mr. Umunna is also asking the Governor to block the plan to move the Prairie Path or revise the proposal. He said residents do not want the Prairie Path moved. Instead of wasting \$8,000,000.00 we should install an affordable traffic signal at Butterfield and Forest, have safe bike lanes on Warren and a sidewalk path on Mannheim.

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

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

Mayor Tamburino said the project with the bridge has not been done.

Administrator Wajda commented the State of Illinois and the federal government offered grants for different things. One was improvements for trails and pathways and improving access. We submitted applications for grants to improve Mannheim between Madison and the expressway and to clean the contaminated soil from the old railroad line that was there. The plan was also to do landscaping and a pedestrian/bike path and eventually, a bridge over the highway.

Mayor Tamburino said he does not think any of this will happen. We have not pursued this project nor has the state. He also said the state does not have the revenue and he doesn't know if the grant still exists.

Mayor Tamburino said there is no \$8,000,000.00 plan to move the Prairie Path. The \$8,000,000.00 project is the Butterfield Road project from Wolf to Mannheim. He said that Bellwood requested that when the project happened if the piece of land where Butterfield and Washington meet could be closed off. That would make everything on the other side Bellwood property.

Administrator Wajda reported that part of the reconstruction was to be used for water detention. The property that was purchased in Bellwood, which was purchased under a grant, will become a parking lot in Bellwood, not Hillside. Hillside was the main driver on the project and the one who received the grant. That is why Hillside acquired the property.

Mayor Tamburino said this project will include putting in the proper parking lanes, curbs and gutters. It will mean redoing the entire road, also having a center turning lane, which is now required on roadways. He then said Butterfield is the last road within the Village that needs to be modernized.

The Mayor said he is currently working with the county with trying to get Wolf Road resurfaced. Wolf Road is picking up a lot of truck traffic which tears up roads.

Mayor Tamburino then gave a brief history on the Wolf Road improvements and how long it took to get those done. It takes the state a long time to do projects. The state and federal government pay most of the cost, but the Village pays a percentage.

Administrator Wajda reported that the State told Hillside that one of the requirements to get Butterfield Road done would be that the mid-block crossing for the Prairie Path would have to be eliminated. The Prairie Path would have to go along the north side of Butterfield Road to Mannheim Road with the crossing at a signalized intersection. The State wants this included in the Butterfield Road project.

Mayor Tamburino talked about neighborhoods without sidewalks. He said he would be happy to go to referendum on this issue. He said the sidewalks that are in town now were put in by referendum and the people were willing to pay for them. In the areas that don't have sidewalks, the people voted them down. We are working with our Engineering firm to get the cost of a sidewalk program. Streetlights are another huge project.

He said when he became involved in local government there was federal revenue sharing, and we were able to get grants. There no longer is revenue sharing. When grants are available, we apply for them. We usually don't qualify for grants because our income levels in Hillside are too high. We are now working through a grant to put a gym in the building next door. We just received a grant that will pay 100% of the cost for three additional Firefighters.

Mayor Tamburino there will be issues down the road with redeveloping Mannheim Road. Developers are not interested. We were lucky to have a good developer when we got the Town Center. He said Target and CarMax, both own their property. Again, he stated we are not spending \$8,000,000.00 to move the Prairie Path. He also said he is not sure the state would allow a stoplight at Butterfield and Forest.

Mayor Tamburino said we now have issues with the Coronavirus. All suburban communities will have budget issues next year. We have been able to work with our businesses. Some of these businesses have had to shut down for a period of time and this impacts our sales tax.

He continued, talking about the old Menards property. The people that own the property want a lot of money for the land. Trucking companies have shown interest, but we don't want a trucking terminal.

There was a Town Hall Meeting on marijuana, most in attendance were not in favor of this. With the restrictions on where the marijuana shops could be, there are not many places in Hillside where one could be located.

Mayor Tamburino said he hopes that his explanation has given some the understanding as to the conversations that have been had and will continue to have about being creative with things.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion that there being no additions or corrections to the minutes for Regular Meeting of September 28, 2020, and Board of a Whole Meeting of October 12, 2020, the minutes be accepted and approved.

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

VILLAGE CLERK:

Clerk Gould reminded Early voting is October 19 through November 2, 2020. Nearest polling places are the Villages of Bellwood, 3200 Washington, or Melrose Park, 1000 N. 25th Avenue. Additional information is available at the Cook County Clerk's website.

Clerk Gould also reminded Mail ballot drop boxes are also at these locations, October 19 to November 2, 2020.

Clerk Gould further reminded Mail-in Ballot Applications for the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election are available online at the Cook County Clerk's website or at the Village Hall. Completed forms must be received at the County Clerk's Office by Thursday, October 29, 2020.

Clerk Gould reported the Secretary of State Mobile Drivers Unit will be in the Village of Hillside Board Room on Tuesday, November 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They will offer Driver's License Renewals, Vision Screening for Licenses, Illinois Photo ID Cards and License Plate Renewal Stickers.

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 August, 2020, in the amount of \$422,724.71. Amount received for August, 2019, in the amount of \$391,984.58.

Illinois Department of Transportation: Motor Fuel Tax allotment for the month of September, 2020, in the amount of \$26,140.67.

Approval of gross payroll for periods September 26 through October 9, 2020, in the amount of \$297,200.91; and October 10 through October 23, 2020, in the amount of \$305,670.73.

Payment of bills for the month of October, 2020, in the amount of \$977,091.13.

Com Ed: Utility tax for the month of July, 2020, in the amount of \$39,054.71.

NiCor Gas: Utility Tax for the month of August, 2020, in the amount of \$5,049.16.

Excise Tax for the month of August, 2020, in the amount of \$18,956.89.

Video Gaming Tax for the month of August, 2020, in the amount of \$4,826.51.

Code Enforcement Officer's Reports (September, 2020).

Police Department Report (September, 2020).

Fire Department Report (September, 2020).

E.M.A. Report (September, 2020).

Public Works Department Report (September, 2020).

Building Inspector's Report (No report).

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

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion declared carried

DEPARTMENT HEAD OPERATING REPORTS:

Police Chief: (Joseph Lukaszek)

Chief Lukaszek reported the Police Department has initiated an emergency plan to assist in the mitigation of any future outbreaks internally.

Fire Chief: (Ken Carling)

Chief Carling reported the supply of PPE has been increased and the Fire Department is continuing to sanitize vehicles along with all areas of the Fire House.

Public Works and Building Services Director: (Joseph Pisano)

Director Pisano gave update on the 2020 Road Project. He also reminded all that the Board approved eliminating Electric Avenue from Taft to Hillside from the 2020 Road Project and the addition of Iroquois from Madison to Jackson to the 2020 Road Project.

VILLAGE ENGINEER'S REPORT:

No report

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Wajda reported the Governor is shutting things down again. Mostly all indoor dining and bars are shutting down. Room attendance is also going down. Seating in here will be 25 people. We will continue to monitor and see if other things shut down.

We did get some grant monies awarded to us, but then last week the state came out with the rules. We can't use the money or spend it for any capital projects. It has to go through the State of Illinois to get approval and letting with their MFT schedule. We can't use it for any of the current projects and it's not large enough to do a project on its own.

Administrator Wajda also said we were informed that Representative Welch got us a grant for about \$350,000.00 for capital improvements through the Department of Economic Opportunity. We don't yet know what the requirements will be to have a project and it is contingent on the state having funding. If the state doesn't have the money, they won't fund the grant. This has happened to the Village before.

Administrator Wajda continued that he is working on the tax levy that will be passed in December. He is also concerned about the revenues coming in for the rest of the fiscal year. Revenues are significantly down, and we are in a deficit situation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

No report

Public Services Committee: (Trustee Walter)

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Lomeli, to approve annual Intergovernmental Agreement for Provision of Environmental Health Inspectional Services with Cook County Health, for period of December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2021, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Lomeli, to approve holiday lighting proposal from Holiday Creations, 202 Stephen Street, Lemont, IL 60439, for the amount of \$76,338.21, and authorizing Village Administrator to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Watson, to approve proposal in the amount of \$15,607.60 from Traffic and Parking Control Co., Inc., 5100 West Brown Deer Road, Brown Deer, WI 53223 for replacement street sign blades for various local roads.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Farries, to approve payment in the amount of \$10,545.00 to Cerniglia Co., 3421 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park, IL 60160 for work performed to restore 511 Taft Avenue and 635 Taft Avenue with ten (10) inches of concrete and three (3) inches of hot mix asphalt following water main breaks repaired by Public Works.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Public Safety and Education Committee: (Trustee Watson)

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Farries, to approve payment to Abt Electronics, 1200 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025, for \$15,422.48, for kitchen appliances at the fire house.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Farries, to Motion to approve quote from Alpha Prime Communications, 1808 Janke Drive, Suite E, Northbrook, IL 60062 quote of \$13,700.00 to replace old Fire Base Station, and authorizing Village Administrator to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Trustee Watson reported Community Awareness Meeting is Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

Zoning Committee: (Trustee Lomeli)

No report

Technology Committee: (Trustee Delgado)

No report

Community Services Committee: (Trustee Farries)

Trustee Farries reminded Halloween Trick or Treating Hours are 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st.

Trustee Farries also reminded the Village of Hillside and Youth Commission are sponsoring a pumpkin decorating/carving contest. Drop off at the Village Hall is October 27th and 28th 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the 29th until 7:00 p.m. Trick or Treat bags will be handed out from the Village Board Room on Halloween from Noon until 2:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Finance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Watson, to approve Ordinance 20-07, Amending Solicitors, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Farries, to approve Resolution 20-06, Determining to Levy Additional tax of .02 percent for Library Purposes for FY 2020-2021, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Farries, to approve Resolution 20-07, Appointing Authorized Agent for IMRF, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to adopt Resolution 20-08, authorizing the Village President to execute an Intergovernmental and Subrecipient Agreement for Corona Virus Relief Funds With Cook County, Illinois, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Public Services Committee: (Trustee Walter)

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Lomeli, to approve Ordinance 20-08, Amending Buildings and Building Regulations, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Public Safety and Education Committee: (Trustee Watson)

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Farries, to approve Ordinance 20-09 for the sale of surplus Village equipment and vehicles, and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

VILLAGE PRESIDENT:

Mayor Tamburino entertained a motion to concur in the appointment of James (Jack) Gilio to the Hillside Historical Society.

So moved by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Farries.

All voting aye, motion carried.

Mayor Tamburino reported that Hillside will salute our Veterans with a parade beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 7, 2020. Due to the safety of all, there will be no marching groups.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:


Next Board-of-a-Whole Meeting to be held at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, November 9, 2020, 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 Farries.

All voting aye, motion carried.

Adjournment: 8:43 P.M.



Linda L. Gould
Clerk