

**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, MARCH 28, 2022**

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 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; Ryan Wyckoff, Fire Captain; Anthony Faragia, EMA Director; Joseph Beckwith, Communications and Technology Director; Tony Manno, Roger Romanelli, Keegan Goss, Janet Dubsky, Valerie and Brody Farries, Bill O'Connor, Ellis Funchess, residents

**TOWN HALL:**

Mayor Tamburino opened the Town Hall section of the meeting.

Roger Romanelli, 4406 Madison, had Keegan Goss display a photo from a You Tube video which Mr. Romanelli said was evidence promoting the political activities of Chris Welch, State Representative for Hillside and Illinois Speaker of the House.

He said, the photo shows Welch standing inside a Hillside government building with two Hillside Police officers, in uniform and on duty. He also said a reflection of a professional photographer with his equipment is visible.

Mr. Romanelli stated everyone in the photo and those who staged it at the government building broke the law. He continued, Illinois law prohibits election interference by all government entities and public funds cannot be used to urge anyone to vote for any candidate or be appropriated for political purposes.

Mr. Romanelli said Mr. Tamburino must answer for this illegal act tonight. Mr. Romanelli asked the Mayor if he ordered the Police Officers to stand inside the government building with Chris Welch and take the photo. Mayor Tamburino answered no. Mr. Romanelli then asked who did? Mayor Tamburino answered I don't know. At this point Mr. Romanelli asked is this my time or your time. Mayor Tamburino said he was answering Mr. Romanelli's questions. Mr. Romanelli asked for a couple more minutes, Mayor Tamburino said he could have 30 seconds more. There were comments being made from the floor to let him talk. The timekeeper, Trustee Watson, said Mr. Romanelli had 1 minute.

Mr. Romanelli then said the former House Speaker of Illinois, Mike Madigan is a disgrace to our state.

Mr. Romanelli asked if Chris Welch as the new Speaker feels he is above the law? Does Welch think he can cheat and use our government resources for political ads? Romanelli said Chris Welch and Joe Tamburino are not above the law and need to be held accountable.

Mr. Romanelli said he is sharing additional information with the proper authorities and has an additional photo he would be happy to share with the Village.

Mr. Romanelli again repeated that tonight Mr. Tamburino must explain what happened and how this picture was taken inside a government building. Trustee Watson said time was up.

He repeated, Illinois law prohibits election interference by all government entities and public funds cannot be used urging anyone to vote for any candidate or be appropriated for political purposes.

Keegan Goss, 4506 Madison, expressed his disappointment with the Village of Hillside and repeated what Mr. Romanelli said by saying he is disappointed in the Village of Hillside government for violating Illinois law that prohibits election interference by all government entities and public funds cannot be used to urge anyone to vote for any candidate or be appropriated for political purposes.

Mr. Goss had photos from April 7, 2021, the day after the Hillside Municipal Election, showing a Village employee removing political signs from lawns for both Tamburino's political party and the Hillside Neighbors Party which challenged Tamburino.

He continued, the handling of political signs by a Village employee is illegal under Illinois law and should not go unpunished. He also said, that in removing the political signs the village employee was trespassing. Mr. Goss said Public Works should not have removed these signs and Hillside law allows three days after an election for signs to be removed.

Mr. Goss also said, the Mayor broke the same law with publishing the election results in the May, 2021, edition of the Hillside newsletter. He continued saying this is illegal under Illinois law because government resources were used for the Mayor's self-interest and put down his political competitors. Election results are listed on the Cook County Clerks website.

Mr. Goss said tonight, Mayor Tamburino must answer for these actions. Did he order the Village employees to steal our political signs from lawns? If not, who did? Will Tamburino apologize to taxpayers for those actions? Will he repay our village funds with the cost of the employees and village government trucks driving around the village and stealing political signs off the lawn?

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 Delgado. All voting aye, motion carried.

At this time, Mr. Romanelli and his group left the Board Meeting and were not present for Mayor Tamburino's comments.

Mayor Tamburino commented that he did not order any Police Officer to take their picture with Chris Welch either in or out of the building.

Mayor Tamburino also commented that traditionally we have used our Public Works department to pick up all political signs after an election.

Mayor Tamburino further commented that the reason the election results were put in the newsletter was because we had numerous phone calls asking for the results. Hillside doesn't really have the coverage of a newspaper. We now have limited coverage with the Forest Park Review.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Johnson that the minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2022, and Board of a Whole Meeting of March 14, 2022, be accepted and approved.

All voting aye, motion carried.  
Motion declared carried

**VILLAGE CLERK:**

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 January, 2022, in the amount of \$502,444.65, of which \$16,567.53 is from online sales. Amount received for January, 2021, in the amount of \$450,531.40.

Illinois Department of Transportation: Motor Fuel Tax allotment for the month of February, 2022, in the amount of \$19,154.99.

Approval of gross payroll for periods February 26 through March 11, 2022, in the amount of \$317,836.94 and March 12 through March 25, 2022 in the amount of \$313,097.47.

Payment of bills for the month of March, 2022, in the amount of \$813,265.15.

Com Ed: Utility tax for the month of January, 2022. (Report not received)

NiCor Gas: Utility Tax for the month of February, 2022, in the amount of \$29,900.16.

Excise Tax for the month of January, 2022, in the amount of \$15,839.13.

Video Gaming Tax for the month of February, 2022, in the amount of \$6,667.91.

Code Enforcement Officer's Reports (February, 2022).

Police Department Report (February, 2022).

911 Dispatch Report (February, 2022).

Fire Department Report (February, 2022).

E.M.A. Report (February, 2022).

Public Works Department Report (January, 2022).

Building Inspector's Report (February, 2022).

Social Services Report (February, 2022).

Motion made by Trustee Delgado, 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 traffic enforcement will be starting in different sections of Hillside every week.

Fire Chief: (Ken Carling)

Captain Wyckoff reported for Chief Carling that the Help Heroes of Ukraine drive was very well received by our residents. Forty-seven large boxes were packed up and delivered in two truckloads to Carol Stream for shipment.

Mayor Tamburino said the Fire Department did a great job along with our residents with donations.

Communications and Technology Director: (Joseph Beckwith)

No report

Public Works and Building Services Director: (David Peters)

No report

Village Treasurer: (Sandy Lozano)

No report

**VILLAGE ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

No report

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Administrator Pisano reported that the legislators are still trying to get the LGDF (Local Government Distributive Fund) increased.

Mayor Tamburino explained the LGDF (Local Government Distributive Fund).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Finance and Administration Committee: (Trustee Walter)

Motion made by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Watson, to approve the findings and recommendations of Prairie Path and Taft Avenue Corridor Plan provided by Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. The plan was a joint engagement between the Village of Berkeley and the Village of Hillside.

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 Delgado)

Motion made by Trustee Delgado, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to approve of proposal in an amount of \$40,800.00 from Visu-Sewer of Illinois, LLC, 9014 Thomas Avenue, Bridgeview, IL 60455 to perform Sanitary Sewer cleaning and televising on various sanitary mains that have issues with drainage.

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 Delgado, seconded by Trustee Kramer, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Tollway Authority allowing for the programming of Hillside Fire Department radio equipment for interagency communications while performing responses on the Tollway and authorizing the Village Administrator to sign and execute same.

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 Lomeli, to approve agreement with Paramedic Billing Services, Inc, 395 W. Lake St., Elmhurst IL 60126 for the decrease in GEMT ambulance billing service fee rate from 5% to 3.5% and authorizing the Village Administrator to sign and execute same.

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 Watson, seconded by Trustee Lomeli, to approve Firefighter/Paramedic Katie Boeke to become a member of the K-9 State of Illinois Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1 and Search and Rescue Strike Teams and authorizing the Village Administrator to sign and execute same.

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 Watson, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to authorize the Village Administrator to contact the Police and Fire Commission to hire one police officer to replace candidate who failed to complete the Police Academy.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Trustee Watson reported thank you letter received from Mr. & Mrs. Johnson for recent services received from the Hillside Fire Department.

Trustee Watson also reported that Proviso West students are back in school.

Zoning Committee: (Trustee Lomeli)

No report

Veteran's and Technology Committee: (Trustee Kramer)

Motion made by Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Watson, to approve payment in the amount of \$9,693.00 to MET International, 1900 Surveyor Blvd., Carrollton TX 75006 for Dell server to replace the failing VDI, virtual desktop servers. This item was budgeted for, and will be delivered and installed during this fiscal year.



Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Community Services Committee: (Trustee Johnson)

Trustee Johnson reported Hillside Youth Commission's annual Easter egg hunt and donuts with the Easter Bunny will be held Saturday, April 16 at 9:30 a.m. at the Hillside Commons.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE: (Trustee Watson)

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to approve Resolution 22-03 of the Village of Hillside, Cook County, Illinois requesting funds from Cook County through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Program Year 2022 in the amount of \$400,000.00 for the Hillside Municipal Complex Project, (gymnasium portion), and authorizing Mayor and Clerk to sign and execute same.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

Mayor Tamburino extended the sympathy of the Village Board and the Village of Hillside to the family of Ray Bishop, a longtime Hillside resident and former Fire and Police Commissioner, who recently passed away.

Mayor Tamburino also extended the sympathy of the Village Board and the Village of Hillside to the family of former Hillside resident, Ronald Singer, who recently passed away. He was a former teacher at Proviso West and former Alderman for the City of Geneva.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next Board-of-a-Whole Meeting to be held at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, April 11, 2022, 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 Watson.

All voting aye, motion carried.

Adjournment: 8:02 P.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda L. Gould  
Clerk