

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023, AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER, 825 MIDWAY DRIVE, WILLOWBROOK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

THE VILLAGE WILL BE OFFERING A ZOOM WEBINAR FOR THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND BY VIDEO OR AUDIO IF DESIRED. IF A MEMBER IS USING ZOOM, PLEASE EITHER USE YOUR PHONE OR COMPUTER, NOT BOTH.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Mayor Trilla.

2. ROLL CALL

Those physically present at roll call were, Village Clerk Deborah Hahn, Mayor Frank Trilla, Village Trustees Mark Astrella, Sue Berglund, Umberto Davi, Gayle Neal, Greg Ruffolo, Attorney Michael Durkin, Village Administrator Sean Halloran, Assistant to the Village Administrator Alex Arteaga, Director of Parks and Recreation Dustin Kleefisch, Chief Robert Schaller, Deputy Chief Lauren Kaspar, and Deputy Clerk Christine Mardegan.

ABSENT: Trustee Michael Mistele, Director of Community Development Michael Krol, Deputy Chief Benjamin Kadolph, and Public Works Foreman AJ Passero.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Trilla asked Chief Schaller to lead everyone in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Trilla asked for a moment of silence in tribute at the passing of Western Springs Village President Alice Gallagher.

4. VISITORS' BUSINESS

Present at the meeting, Ms. Donalynne Nipperus, a resident of Midway Drive in Willowbrook, expressed her concern regarding the pickleball court location proposed for the Midway Park project. She requested a meeting with the Mayor and Director Kleefisch and other concerned residents. After seeing the project renderings, her main concerns are the restrooms being so close to her home and the noise level that will be caused from the pickleball court. She wondered if any studies had been done on noise levels from pickleball courts, and the distance the sound travels.

Mayor Trilla acknowledged Ms. Nipperus' comments and advised that additional options were being investigated.

Mr. Patrick Baudhuin, a resident of Willowbrook who lives east of Borse Park, stated that he is opposed to the planned expansions at Midway and

Borse Parks. Some of his concern is for safety issues with the placement of the parking lot and street in close proximity to the children's splash pad and playground. Eleanor Place is a well-traveled street. He also questioned why a pickleball court would be placed in between two residential properties.

Mayor Trilla commented that the children's splash pad will be fenced in. One of reasons for the parking lot placement was that it would be easier for the parents if it is closer to the splash pad.

A third resident, who did not wish to be named or identified by address, spoke. I am a resident near Midway Park, and I met with Dustin [Director Kleefisch] in February when I provided my opposition to the rendering and plans for many of the same reasons as Ms. Nipperus. The main objection is, as pickleball is a known noise pollutant, the placement less than 50 feet from a home is unjustifiable.

Another concern of this resident is the safety issues raised with traffic and parking issues that will occur due to adding more amenities to the parks. The Village staff working with this project have been unable to reassure him that the additional parking will be sufficient.

He did not feel there was much communication about this project. Most of the residents that he had talked with did not know this was happening. Dustin [Director Kleefisch] did speak with me but he felt this was too late, occurring after the renderings were created and paid for. He wished the communication had taken place earlier, before the renderings were completed, so that he might have provided additional feedback.

He also noted that Midway Park is overwhelmed with water. There are clearly some infrastructure issues with the storm water drainage; the back area, where wiffle ball fields are to be located, is always wet. Although he has spoken with Novotny [the engineering firm], the answers and solutions presented have been unsatisfactory.

Mayor Trilla responded that we have reached out to residents and the information was posted on the Village website. We are glad you are here tonight, and we have taken your objections to heart. We are exploring a myriad of other options based on your feedback. Regarding the stormwater issues, the entire lot will be reengineered to address the drainage. As a reminder, this is a 3-year project, and we are just at the beginning; things can change. We appreciate all of your comments.

Resident Mr. Larry Conklin took the podium. I have sent several letters over the 36 years I have lived in the Village, and we have many great things in the Village of Willowbrook. In reviewing Mayor Trilla's election materials, I noticed that the Village has received a AAA bond rating for your entire time in office, which is excellent. My concern is that I have been seeing a municipal tax on my ComEd bill, phone bill,

and probably cell phone bills as well. Since we have all these new businesses, I challenge the Board to abolish the [utility] taxes. Please consider my request. Another question I have is why do we have an eight or nine percent sales tax?

Administrator Halloran stated that the Village collects a one percent sales tax and one percent home rule tax. The balance of the sales taxes being charged are state and county taxes.

Mayor Trilla added that these types of taxes help offset the lack of property taxes. The only property tax collected by Willowbrook is approximately \$13.00 per \$100,000 of a home's assessed value for providing accessible recreation facilities.

Mr. Conklin also asked whether Willowbrook provided a "safe zone" for in person online sales transactions, similar to Burr Ridge. Chief Schaller indicated that, although there is no designated spot for these types of transactions, residents are free to use any of the parking spaces in front of the police department for buyers and sellers to meet.

The next speaker, Mr. Tom Cameli, stated he is an attorney and has been contacted by a number of homeowners with their concerns. The main object of the complaints I've been hearing is that the residents feel the Board does not realize the direct impact their decisions will have on the homes of these residents and on the local streets. These are legitimate concerns.

I have not read the plans, but with all the new parking spots being added that seems to be a lot of potential traffic in the neighborhood. I want to ensure that the residents are being heard. It sounds like they are going to be. I have encouraged each resident to contact you and to get involved. I can't imagine a Board that would want to do something that would so directly affect the residents without considering those peoples' concerns.

From the comments I have received, it seems like the preference is for "passive recreation", especially for the property between the homes. "Passive recreation", examples like walking path, hiking path or a bicycle path, that would not change the natural landscape of the parks, and without upsetting the homes that are directly affected. No one would want a pickleball court within fifty feet from their house. Thank you for listening to the people and me, and to let you know I have encouraged the residents to come to you with their concerns.

Mayor Trilla thanked all the speakers for their input and participation.

5. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

Mayor Trilla read over each item in the Omnibus Vote Agenda for the record.

- a. Waive Reading of Minutes (Approve)
- b. Minutes - Board of Trustees Regular Meeting March 13, 2023 (APPROVE)
- c. Minutes - Board of Trustees Special Meeting - Committee of the Whole - March 13, 2023 (APPROVE)
- d. Minutes - Board of Trustees Special Meeting - Budget Workshop #2 Revised February 15, 2023 (APPROVE)
- e. Warrants \$582,203.87
- f. ORDINANCE NO. 23-O-07- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS (PASS)
- g. MOTION - A MOTION TO APPROVE LORA FLORI, VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK CFO AS PRINCIPAL AUTHORITY ON ALL VILLAGE ILLINOIS FUNDS BANK ACCOUNTS, AND AUTHORIZING VILLAGE STAFF TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORMS, WITH THE ILLINOIS TREASURER'S OFFICE, REMOVING AND REPLACING BRIAN PABST WITH LORA FLORI. (PASS)
- h. POSTPONEMENT TO THE 4/10/23 VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA - A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A REQUEST TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION ("SEASPAR")

Mayor Trilla asked the Board if there were any items to be removed from Omnibus Vote Agenda.

MOTION: Made by Trustee Davi and seconded by Trustee Ruffolo to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Trustees Astrella, Berglund, Davi, Neal and Ruffolo. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Misteale.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

#### NEW BUSINESS

- 6. RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-14 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSAL, AWARDING A CONTRACT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE, ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE, AN AGREEMENT WITH GALLAGHER BASSETT SERVICES, INC. TO PROVIDE SAFETY PROGRAM SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK (ADOPT)

Mr. Arteaga shared that this agenda item is for the execution of a contract with Gallagher Bassett to provide safety program services to the Village. This will provide training for Public Works, with additional staff training for anti-discrimination and sexual harassment in the workplace, or other state-mandated training. The original RFP

was on January 13, Village staff released REP #012 for Safety Program Services. Bids for this RFP were due by February 8. Staff received bids from two firms, Gallagher Bassett Services and Hygieneering, Inc.

MOTION: Made by Trustee Davi and seconded by Trustee Ruffolo to adopt Resolution 23-R-14 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Trustees Astrella, Berglund, Davi and Neal and Ruffolo. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Misteale.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

7. ORDINANCE NO. 23-O-08 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH PARVIN-CLAUSS SIGN COMPANY FOR THE FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF ONE (1) VILLAGE MONUMENT SIGN AND THREE (3) ALUMINUM POST AND PANEL SIGNS AT AN ESTIMATED TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$23,559.00. (PASS)

Village Administrator Halloran reported that we are asking the Board to approve three directional signs on the municipal campus and one additional park sign at Borse Park. Some of the residents are getting lost and they are unsure of which is the correct entry way for each building. We want to help people and make them more comfortable when they are coming to the Village locations.

MOTION: Made by Trustee Berglund and seconded by Trustee Davi to pass Ordinance 23-O-08 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Trustees Astrella, Berglund, Davi, Neal, and Ruffolo. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Misteale.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

#### PRIOR BUSINESS

#### 8. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Neal commented regarding all the public comments that have come in this evening that each one of us [the Trustees] is taking your complaints, concerns, and statements seriously. We are discussing it and listening to you.

After the meeting, we may not be able to discuss this further with you, not because we don't care, we do, but rather a further, separate or private discussion may in violation of the [Illinois] Open Meetings Act. I do care and I am in your neighborhood, working for improvements. I was one of the people that was instrumental in getting the flashing speed sign installed. We do hear you and your comments will be taken into consideration.

Trustee Ruffolo echoed Trustee Neal comments and stated we are all listening and trying to do the best thing for this municipality.

Trustee Mistele was not present.

Trustee Berglund addressed the residents and stated to everyone here we are listening, and we are taking this all into consideration. Your information is greatly appreciated.

Trustee Davi thanked Trustee Neal for her comments and thanked the visitors noting that we all appreciate seeing you all here tonight.

You are our Village; we all live here. We have the same concerns as you do. We have had two major events in the Village we all remember, the first was the gun range and, secondly, the Sterigenics fiasco. Residents came out strong, and we listened to you and fought for you. We want to do what is best for our Village. That's why our Village is doing so well, and I am very proud of it.

Trustee Astrella thanked the residents for coming and said we do hear you. I am right in the area, and I am with you. I even spoke with some residents over the weekend, and I hear you.

9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Durkin had no report.

10. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Hahn had no report.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Halloran had no report.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Trilla told the residents that he appreciated the input and asked the residents to continue to stay in touch with us. Watch for information and updates in your water bills and on the website. There will be another meeting in May to discuss this further. I hope to see you at that meeting.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an Executive Session this evening.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Made by Trustee Davi and seconded by Trustee Neal to adjourn the Regular Meeting at the hour of 7:09 p.m.

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ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Trustees Astrella, Berglund, Davi, Neal and Ruffolo. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Misteale.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRESENTED, READ, and APPROVED.

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

  
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Frank A. Trilla, Mayor

Minutes transcribed by Deputy Clerk Christine Mardegan.