

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023, AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER, 825 MIDWAY DRIVE, WILLOWBROOK, IL 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 A 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. by Mayor Trilla.

1. ROLL CALL

Those physically present at roll call were, Village Clerk Deborah Hahn, Mayor Frank Trilla, Village Trustees Mark Astrella, Sue Berglund, Umberto Davi, Michael Mistele, Gayle Neal, Greg Ruffolo, Attorney Michael Durkin, Village Administrator Sean Halloran, Assistant to the Village Administrator Alex Arteaga, Director of Community Development Michael Krol, Director of Parks and Recreation Dustin Kleefisch, Deputy Chief Lauren Kaspar, Deputy Chief Benjamin Kadolph, Deputy Clerk Christine Mardegan and Public Works Foreman AJ Passero.

ABSENT: None.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Trilla asked DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin to lead everyone in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. OATHS OF OFFICE

a. Chief of Police Lauren Kaspar

Clerk Hahn had the honor of swearing in the new Chief of Police. Mayor Trilla proudly announced that Chief Lauren Kaspar will be the first women in this position in the history of Willowbrook. Chief Kaspar was congratulated by the Board and the Village staff.

Chief Kaspar introduced her immediate family and thanked her extended family for coming from all over the U.S. to attend her swearing-in ceremony. She also thanked her team, State's Attorney Berlin, aunts, and uncles for this tremendous amount of support.

She noted that she truly hopes when it comes time to hang up this uniform, that she will see the same support that she sees this evening. Her goal in this position is to make this the best version of Willowbrook that it's ever been.

4. VISITORS' BUSINESS

Mr. Arteaga indicated that there were no participants on the call, but several public comments were received by email.

He reviewed the comments received by email:

-Kazee family - Five members of the family including minor children, Gabrielle, Beckett, Aline, Sebastian, and Harrison, provided positive comments in favor of the park renovations, and expressed excitement for the upcoming improvements.

-Kristin Banach, 7640 Cherry Tree Lane - Ms. Banach noted she was unable to attend the meeting in person, but wanted to let Director Kleefisch and the Board know that she is excited about the new park, particularly the hockey rink, pickleball courts and wiffle ball field. She noted this is a safe alternative for her children who often play roller hockey in the Gower [School] parking lot.

-Renee Chlebek, Willowbrook - Ms. Chlebek is in full support of the park improvements. She noted it will be of value to the neighborhood and expressed her excitement.

-Kimberly Temen for the Temen family - She stated that she is excited by the future plans and is in favor of the new park.

-Eric Johnson - Mr. Johnson looks forward to the new improvements to both Midway and Borse Parks. He feels there should be updated amenities for children in sports and to maintain a balance that does not pave over every bit of green space. He also had additional specific questions and comments:

When are speed tables near Borse and Midway going to be installed?

Traffic, especially between 6:00 and 7:30 pm, exceeds the posted speed limit.

Please comment on the effectiveness of speed tables versus speed humps.

Clean up the dead trees and debris left adjacent to Borse Park's proposed Nature Trail prior to other improvements. D Ryan [Tree & Landscape, LLC, a Willowbrook contractor] was expected to report on cleanup.

Please address noise reduction proposals from improvements, e.g., pickleball, construction, subcontractors etc. Will there be a limit to daytime hours? There have been Village subcontractors that have operated in Borse Park after 8:00 p.m. Regarding pickleball, according to the record, the Village engineer stated the volume of

the activity exceeds the decibel level acceptable in residential settings.

Regarding trespassing, what is the Village doing to prevent patrons of the improved Midway and Borse Parks from trespassing onto private property/adjacent residential areas? Fences?

Will leashed pets be allowed? If so, change or remove signs to reflect leashed, curbed pets.

Regarding security and safety issues, please comment on what the Village plans on doing to prevent after hours loitering, or crime in park. There have been current reports by residents.

In a push for transparency, please provide the Village contact information for issues related to construction issues. The Village nonER [sic] number is not always an effective means of getting help.

-Shivani Kamdar, 545 Chaucer Road - This resident expressed excitement about the new improvements at Midway and Borse Parks and feels that that this will make our wonderful community even better.

-Lorraine Patel, 6502 Clarendon Hills Road - Ms. Patel spoke in favor of all the improvements, including designated parking, walking paths and multi-use sport courts, noting this is an amazing addition to the Village. She also suggested, if possible, to please include a water fountain, trash receptacle and benches in some shaded areas. She is happy that Willowbrook is creating more public green space to support a healthy and better-connected community.

-Clio Lawrence - This young resident provided a video which Mr. Arteaga played. In her short video [6 seconds], Miss Lawrence expressed her excitement about the park improvements.

The following are residents who spoke in person at the meeting:

-Elizabeth Oblazny, 215 Midway Drive [adjacent to Midway Park] - Ms. Oblazny provided background on her residency. Based on community surveys, she noted that 92% of respondents wanted green space and parks that allow dogs, walking trails and benches. What is being implemented, wiffle ball field, pickleball courts, and other sports facilities, is not what was indicated as desired by the survey. She feels that Midway Park is a neighborhood park as opposed to Borse Park, a community park of 17 acres. As a community park, she expects the field lights, larger parking areas, and later operating hours. She is dismayed by Midway Park being labelled and utilized as a community park now as well. At only 2.13 acres, it seems small for the number of parking spaces and facilities planned for the area. Most community parks in the surrounding areas are more in line with the size of Borse Park and even larger. She would like an explanation of

how and why it was determined that Midway Park was to be utilized as a community park rather than remaining a neighborhood park with green space.

-Donalynne Nipperus, 205 Midway Drive - Ms. Nipperus read her notes and will provide an email with the information. She wondered which staff members had made the decisions regarding the park improvements. She felt the meeting with Mayor Trilla, Director Kleefisch and Administrator Halloran went well, indicating that all want what is best for Willowbrook. After speaking with many of her neighbors who will be affected the most, there is a consensus not to change anything at Midway Park. The money allocated for Midway should be shared and used with all the parks for new equipment.

Ms. Nipperus also wondered why it was decided to start construction immediately without considering how it will affect the local residents, disrupting this summer's activities. Midway [Drive] is already a highly trafficked area and the construction trucks and other vehicles will add more traffic. This will cause undue stress to residents, especially the elderly neighbors that walk along Midway. Urban green space is a precious commodity that many of the neighboring communities do not have.

-Butch Baudhuin, 106 75th Place - Mr. Baudhuin noted that Midway Park has always been a green space and felt disappointed in the park options proposed at the Open House. He also expressed some reservations about the proposed parking lot at 75th & Eleanor. He understands the need for parking since when there is a softball game the streets, particularly Midway Drive, are jammed. His concerns are because of the location of the parking lot as it could become parking for the high school [Hinsdale South]. This needs to be considered and once you take away green space you do not get it back. Another concern is that there continue to be adequate walking paths in the parks.

Mayor Trilla commented that there are walking paths planned in both parks. For the parking lot, we are considering a gated entranceway during the daytime and no right turn out of the lot, into the neighborhood, forcing traffic back to 75th Street.

-Caryn Verduin and Bobby Verduin - These residents came to thank the Mayor, Director Kleefisch and Village Administrator Halloran for meeting with them and listening to their concerns about SEASPAR [South East Association for Special Parks And Recreation] and Gateway [Special Recreation Association]. She also thanked the Board for their creative solutions. She offered an invitation to everyone to the first game of the season. Bobby [Mr. Verduin] also thanked everyone for listening and helping all the children with disabilities. He offered his thanks for the Board's hard work on behalf of himself and the other Gateway participants.

-Sue Kamuda - Ms. Kamuda expressed her full support of the park projects. She believes it is a good plan and great for the neighborhood. This will also be a good use of green space. She also expressed interest in learning the difference between a neighborhood park and a community park.

-Kyle Evenson, 7702 Eleanor - Mr. Evenson stated that he is impressed by all the positive changes in Willowbrook. He feels we [the Village] are moving forward and likes the idea of the park projects. He is confident that all the issues will be resolved. He is appreciative of the regard for safety built into the plans, like the speed tables and crosswalks. He would also like to see more trees planted.

-Megan Lawrence, 7601 Virginia - Ms. Lawrence noted that it was her daughter Clio in the video, and that she would have liked to attend but had a softball game scheduled. She explained that in selecting her Willowbrook residence, although they did not have children at the time, proximity to the park was a factor in their decision.

One of her concerns, as a mother of a daughter with a disability, is that her daughter is unable to safely use the parks as there is a lack of ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant facilities. The parks are not wheelchair accessible, and the renovations will make the parks accessible for all users. She would like to see all the playgrounds in Willowbrook updated in line with the ADA guidelines. Ms. Lawrence added that her family is totally in favor of renovations and appreciates all the work the Village has put into the project.

Ms. Lawrence added she is very excited about Chief Kaspar's appointment and would love for her to come and speak to the local Girl Scout troop.

-Laura Benning, 7624 Virginia - Ms. Benning thanked the Mayor and the Board for the opportunity to speak. Her family, with three growing boys, moved into the neighborhood specifically for its proximity to Borse Park. They are excited about the potential that Borse and Midway both have with the improvements and the work being done by Dustin [Director Kleefisch] and his team. She feels the updated parks will be an asset to our community and is happy about the variety of improvements being planned. The new parks can be utilized by all children and adults of all ages. She also noted that she would also like to see the parks changed to allow dogs.

-Zoltan Baksay, 7806 Eleanor Place - Mr. Baksay indicated he is appreciative of the hard work being done by the Village Board and staff. The Village has done an outstanding job in incorporating the results of the Village survey and in planning for the park improvement designs and upgrades at Borse and Midway Parks.

The beautification and development of Midway is a top priority for our

local neighborhood. Mr. Baksay submitted a petition from his neighbors at the open house last week in favor of the park renovation. These parks and the facilities are good for all ages, and they will be beautiful. He is looking forward to additional information as the project moves forward on how the planned safety issues will be implemented.

6. 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 Committee of the Whole Meeting May 8, 2023 (APPROVE)
- c. Minutes - Board of Trustees Regular Meeting May 8, 2023 (APPROVE)
- d. Warrants \$483,862.57

Mayor Trilla asked the Board if there were any items to be removed from the 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, Mistele, Neal and Ruffolo. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

7. DISCUSSION - MIDWAY PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND PHASE I OF THE BORSE PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Director Kleefisch thanked the Mayor and the Board. He provided a timeline and details of the evolution of these projects.

In January 2023, staff presented all findings and suggestions to the Board of Trustees and received directions to begin communicating with the neighboring residents. As part of that Board presentation, staff proposed completing the Midway Park Improvement Project in 2023 and creating a three-year development phase for the Borse Memorial Community Park.

On March 15, 2023, the Village hosted an initial open house to gather general feedback from the residents within the area. Changes were made to the plans based on that feedback and the suggestions made.

At the May 11, 2023 open house, staff presented two options based on resident feedback from the first open house and incorporating results from previous surveys as well. Three concepts were presented, Concepts A and B submitted by staff as well as Concept C submitted by the residents of 205 Midway Drive. Although expected the residents from 215 Midway Drive did not provide conceptual plans.

Director Kleefisch presented the concepts. The first was the original plan for Midway and Borse parks. Concept A, which was voted as the most popular concept at the May 11th meeting, has significant changes from the original. The southern end of the park will be a natural grass and native flower area. This is in keeping with a directive from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to preserve, promote and protect the habitat of the migratory path of the monarch butterfly which exists in this area. This planting area will allow for a significant benefit in this program. There will also be a walking path around the area. The ball field will remain grass with a fence and arbor vitae [evergreen trees grown as a hedge to provide sound, wind, and privacy protection] as well as a score board. Other features of the park were redesigned to provide activities to appeal to a diverse group with different interests and ages.

Concept B had a different feel, reflecting the survey interest of community gatherings, including a pavilion structure. However, this concept was not selected by those voting at the open house.

Based on resident feedback and staff recommendations, staff would like to proceed with Concept A for Midway Park and Phase I of Borse Memorial Community Park.

Director Kleefisch indicated that this process of updating the parks will continue into the coming fiscal years and will include more public meetings as we move to make improvements to the other Village parks.

Trustee Davi commented that as one of the residents speaking this evening noted, some of the parks in our Village are not as accessible as they should be. He asked for the Director's comments.

Director Kleefisch explained that there are some issues with ADA compliance as far as surfacing is concerned. For example, the playground surface at Creekside Park is sand based which is not accessible to anyone in a wheelchair. This park is not ADA complaint. The IRMA (Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency) inspection was conducted last week, and compliance is an area that is scheduled for change and improvement in order to meet the ADA guidelines.

The Trustees agreed to move forward with the Borse and Midway Park improvements as outlined by Director Kleefisch.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-22 - A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION ("SEASPAR") ANNUAL LEVY RATE ASSESSMENT (ADOPT)

Director Kleefisch noted that the SEASPAR agreement to join was signed and passed at the last board meeting. This resolution is to outline the fee structure and how to compensate SEASPAR and Gateway [Special Recreation Association]. As the parties in the agreement operate under different fiscal years, this document outlines when, to whom, and in what amounts the various payments will be made.

MOTION: Made by Trustee Mistele and seconded by Trustee Davi to adopt Resolution No. 22-R-22 as presented.

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

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

9. RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-23 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK AND THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR THE ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME GRANT PROGRAM (ADOPT)

Deputy Chief Kadolph provided information on the grant offered by the Attorney General (AG) of the State of Illinois for participation in their Organized Retail Crime Program (ORC). The AG office has recognized that organized retail crime has a major impact upon retail merchants in the state and throughout the Village. Addressing this ongoing and growing problem requires working together with various agencies in different jurisdictions and even regions of the state. The AG's office formed a task force of both law enforcement and prosecutors to address this problem. As part of their collaboration, the AG's office has begun offering a grant to local police agencies to assist in this effort.

The Organized Retail Crime Grant Program has been established to provide funds to police departments to pay for technology cameras, forcible stop equipment to identify and apprehend organized retail criminals and funds are also being made available for personnel costs to investigate organized retail crime.

The Willowbrook Police Department applied for the AG's ORC grant in late March of 2023 which was awarded in April 2023. The scope of the grant is as follows:

- Mobile Pro Sentry Cameras for \$150,000
- Starchase Handheld GPS Launcher for \$7,000
- Overtime costs of up to \$25,000

This grant is a reimbursement grant with no matching fund requirement, and no out-of-pocket costs to the Village. The obligation for use of the funds must be completed by June 30, 2023. The award of this grant will provide valuable equipment, resources, and reimbursed personnel costs to address the growing problem of organized retail crime in Willowbrook.

Since the deadline is June 30, 2023, and the Village was recently notified of the award, staff are asking for approval to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the AG's office. At the next Committee of the Whole meeting in June, staff will provide a presentation of the implementation of the cameras and seek Board approval to spend these funds on the equipment.

Deputy Chief Kadolph provided a description of the GPS launcher based on a question by Trustee Mistele. Trustee Mistele also wanted to know who would be responsible for the monitoring of the additional cameras. Deputy Chief Kadolph indicated that the department would have the ability to monitor the cameras. Although they would not be under continual monitoring, the program does have the ability to issue alerts based on parameters set by the department. He also noted that although the cameras are designed for mobile use, Willowbrook's would be mounted on poles in the various shopping centers in the Village.

MOTION: Made by Trustee Ruffolo and seconded by Trustee Berglund to adopt Resolution No. 22-R-23 as presented.

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

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

10. RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-24- A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A ONE-YEAR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT INSPECTION SERVICES (ADOPT)

Director Krol stated that since 2000, the Village has partnered with Karyn Byrne as a consultant for code enforcement services. The contract has been extended on an as needed basis. In February 2023, Mrs. Byrne notified staff that she will be ending her services this spring and decided not to renew her contract. Since April, Community Development staff has begun performing code enforcement duties while looking for a new code enforcement officer. Staff within the Village Administrator's office also contacted neighboring municipalities to seek interest in shared services, but there is no interest at this time.

In May 2023, staff were notified that a former colleague of Ms. Byrne and current code enforcement officer for the Village of Hinsdale, Lourdes

Garcia, was interested in the position for the Village of Willowbrook. Ms. Garcia has worked as a code enforcement consultant with Ms. Byrne for more than five (5) years in surrounding municipalities, including managing several of her clients.

Ms. Garcia currently holds an International Code Council (ICC) certification in property maintenance and brings over 20 years of code enforcement experience to the Village of Willowbrook. Ms. Byrne has made a positive recommendation to the Community Development staff about bringing Lourdes Garcia on board as a code enforcement consultant. Ms. Garcia has one employee, Mark Randall, who will also assist with code enforcement duties within the Village. Ms. Garcia and Mr. Randall will take over all code enforcement duties and will respond to inquiries provided by staff beginning Tuesday, May 23, 2023. The rate charged by the new contractors is the same as the previous contract. The contract will be evaluated and renewed on an annual basis.

MOTION: Made by Trustee Mistele and seconded by Trustee Davi to adopt Resolution No. 22-R-24 as presented.

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

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRIOR BUSINESS

11. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Neal had no report.

Trustee Ruffolo had no report.

Trustee Mistele had no report.

Trustee Berglund had no report.

Trustee Davi had no report.

Trustee Astrella had no report.

12. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Durkin had no report.

13. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Hahn had no report.

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Halloran congratulated Chief Kaspar and he was happy to see the great support provided by her family, friends, and staff.

He also wanted to acknowledge the hard work put in by Deputy Chief Kadolph and Chief Kaspar in obtaining the AG's grant. They have been working night and day to get this done.

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Trilla no report.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an Executive Session this evening.

17. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Made by Trustee Mistele and seconded by Trustee Davi to adjourn the Regular Meeting at the hour of 7:37 p.m.

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

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRESENTED, READ, and APPROVED.

_____, 2023.

Frank A. Trilla, Mayor

Minutes transcribed by Deputy Clerk Christine Mardegan.