

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF GLENWOOD, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD AT VILLAGE HALL October 4, 2022

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Ronald J. Gardiner. The audience was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Upon Roll Call by Village Clerk **Sandra M. Washington**, the following Trustees responded: **Clark, Dawson (phone), Hadnott, Hart, Lynch, Winston**

REMOTE PARTICIPATION Motion was made to approve remote participation for Trustee Dawson; Motion by Trustee Winston and second by Trustee Lynch.

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Naes: 0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

Ayes: Clark, Hadnott, Hart, Lynch, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues:0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Approved: Yes

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: **Brian Mitchell**, Village Administrator; Village Attorney, **Matt Rose, Attorney; Kevin Welsh** Fire/Building; **Chief Peddycord** Police, **Bill Manousopoulos**, Director of Public Works, **Phil Robinson**, Glenwoodie Golf Course, **Cynthia Smith**, Finance Director; **Carmen Hopkins**, Village Treasurer; **Dave Shilling**, Village Engineer

ABSENT:

VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE **Motion to Approve** the September 20, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Trustee Winston made the motion for approval; **Trustee Clark** second the motion.

Discussion: None

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Naes: 0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:1

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hadnott, Hart, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: Lynch

Motion Approved: Yes

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1). Motion to Approve Bills Payable as presented by Treasurer, Carmen Hopkins

Bills Payable Corporate in the amount of \$167,143.79, Water Account \$39,359.89; Motor Fuel Tax \$273.35; TIF Main Street \$26,892.35; Glenwoodie Golf Course \$70,764.48 TIF \$52,000.00; TIF Halsted South \$5,567.25

Total All Funds \$362,001.11

Trustee Lynch made the motion for approval; **Second by Trustee Clark** to accept the Motion as read.

Discussion: Trustee Hadnott indicated in reviewing the general fund balance that Covid fund expenditures have been made without input from the Board of Trustees prior to allocations; Mayor Gardiner noted Board approved expenditures through Bills Payable; **Trustee Winston** agreed that the Board of Trustees should have been able to provide input before funds were expended in real time with the Bills Payable; inquiry was made about miscellaneous Administration expense from Better Call; Chief Welsh clarified expense was from clean up of weeds on property.

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Naes:1 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 1

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Lynch, Gardiner

Naes: Hadnott, Winston

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: Hart

Motion Approved: Yes

2). Motion to Approve Payroll as presented by Treasurer, Carmen Hopkins. Payroll as of the date September 23, 2022, Corporate in the amount of \$106,187.00, Sewer & Water \$14,100.00; Glenwoodie Golf Course\$31,196.00;

OVERTIME: Police \$6,730.00 Reimbursable \$533.00; Sewer & Water \$343.00, Public Works \$194.00

TOTAL PAYROLL \$158,750.00

Trustee Winston moved; **Second by Trustee Lynch** to accept the Motion as read.

Discussion: **Trustee Winston** asked for a status update on the payroll audit that was requested at the previous board meeting; Mayor Gardiner asked Village Administrator to inquire on follow up call with Sikich; **Trustee Hart** advised against using Sikich to perform payroll audit; keep accounting services separate; **Trustee Hadnott** noted management letter from Sikich indicates risk assessments should be conducted once a year; Village Administrator commented that Wipfli should be in contact with Board of Trustees regarding risk assessments.

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Naes: 0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:1

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hadnott, Lynch, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: Hart

Motion Approved: Yes

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Leon Fields – 307 Minerva

Asked if salary increases are retroactive; it was confirmed salary increases would be retroactive to May 1, 2022 if Board approves salary increases in budget; asked what is the financial status since the village is operating without a budget, under or over budget; will the village be on time for the next budget cycle; Mayor Gardiner affirmed the budget will be on time going forward; staff is currently working on it.

Melinda Plott – 423 W Arquilla

Mrs. Plott noted that the month end close is customary business practice from her experiences working in Finance. It's hard to comprehend why this is an issue for the village. Management letters from auditors year to year indicate previous Finance Director left the village in a mess; yet she was applauded as she read her statement addressing the Board citing criticisms, etc. Residents see minutes documenting finance deficiencies month to month; discrepancies month after month is not acceptable; clarity on why the village did not qualify for the grant discussed at the last board meeting; not understanding why the village has so many bank accounts.

Stacey Thomas – 212 E. Rose

Alnita Miles – 207 E. Rose

Both residents noted concerns with speeders down Rose Street and the accident that recently occurred. The driver ran into the house on Rose. Request that the village invest in speed bumps before someone gets hurt; definitely a safety issue; 3 bus stops for children waiting on the corner; Village should be proactive and take preventative measures now before a tragedy occurs with someone's child; patrol officers will make ticket quota as drivers blow through the stop sign all day on that corner; children can't play in their front yards.

Chief Peddycord encouraged residents to report offenders to police. They can make contact with information; will target area for violators; Mayor Gardiner indicated he would put on the next Board meeting agenda to discuss speed bumps.

Tony Plott – 423 W. Arquilla

Addressed concerns with board of trustees; Budget concerns; It's been too long hearing the same issues every month without getting information, deficiencies, etc; Board of Trustees have to make a decision to make changes for the betterment of Glenwood; either make a change or resign from office; at election time, the residents will make changes if necessary; responses from Board should be consistent and on the same page.

Lona Fields – 307 Minerva

Recommended the Board of Trustees adopt last year's budget since it is so far behind for this year; get ahead of next fiscal year budget; residents should be able to trust the leadership elected to office; come together as a board; spend the taxpayers money like you spend your own; applauded community for coming together for the Cougars football rally; Mayor noted entire Cougar football and cheerleading squad has been suspended because one team player is 13 years old and in high school.

Eric Slaughter – 512 Center Street

Mr. Slaughter expressed his concerns regarding the finances of the Village; every year it's the same; residents need to know where the funds are going; no one has been able to explain to the residents in layman's terms; every year at budget time, it's been the same issues; need to focus on getting our financial house in order before a state, county or federal audit requires it; where are the Covid 19 funds; how is it being allocated. Where is the accountability?

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION

Recycling event is scheduled October 15, 2022 9a-11a, Blakey Center; TVs, medicines, appliances; electronics; paper shredding

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Motion to TABLE Glenwood Commercial Lots Appraisal in the amount of \$3,000 @ \$500 each lot for six lots

Trustee Winston made the motion; **Second by Trustee Lynch** to approve the motion as read

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Naes:1 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hart, Lynch, Winston

Naes: Hadnott

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Approved: Yes

Motion to TABLE consideration of amendment to Redevelopment agreement with OM Glenwood Realty LLC; request to change share to 60%

Trustee Hadnott made the motion; Second by Trustee Lynch to approve the motion as read

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 6 Naes:0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hadnott, Hart, Lynch, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Approved: Yes

Motion to TABLE consideration for amendment to Redevelopment Agreement for Silken Patel on Theatre Parcels

Trustee Winston made the motion; Second by Trustee Lynch to approve the motion as read

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 6 Naes:0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hadnott, Hart, Lynch, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Approved: Yes

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE

Seeking funding for homes with lead pipes needing removal at no costs/low costs to residents; working on economic development website located on the village website; looking into county, state grants on environmental, sustainability, and recycling; leverage lobbyists for federal grants; bridge more services for residents of Glenwood

Trustee Hadnott asked if the second installment of Covid funding has been received; Finance Director, Cynthia Smith noted funds were received and deposited in General Funds.

Trustee Winston inquired about RFP for landscaping contract; Mayor confirmed current 3-year contract expires at the end of this season; Requested copy of all proposals sent to the Board of Trustees; no proposals for street lighting.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Motion to approve Gallagher Asphalt in the amount of \$281,124.50 for CDBG Street Resurfacing Project on Young/Center streets

Trustee Winston made the motion; Second by **Trustee Lynch** to approve the motion as read

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 6 Naes:0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hadnott, Hart, Lynch, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Approved: Yes

NEW BUSINESS;

Trustee Lynch noted that the Village has both financial and operational issues; what the Board continues to allow, will not change; more aggressive action has to be taken; suggest making amendment to budget ordinance to allow Board to take punitive actions if timelines or resolutions for deficiencies aren't addressed appropriately or timely. **Trustee Hart** added Board has to take accountability as well; there is enough blame to go around; what is permitted, is allowed; Ordinances are not being followed as it is currently written; the Board has power to hold Administration accountable without the added expense from legal; **Trustee Hadnott** noted the Board has not been a participant in the budget process; the expectation has been to just approve the budget with little notice or information; **Trustee Hart** is hopeful that the Board can collectively move forward to do things differently in partnership; message has to be clear to Administration what is expected;

OLD BUSINESS:

Southland Water Agency Attorney gave the Board an update on the status of the Southland Water Project; countless hours have been spend on moving the project forward; significant progress made to date; opportunity to acquire property and financing underway; **Trustee Winston** requested Board members should have written presentation available in Board packet prior to having updates presented on the agenda; difficult to follow along without information; **Trustee Hadnott** has concerns with timelines presented to the residents of Glenwood; over promised and under delivered; Erin presented different timeline to village; 2027-2028; Atty stated the contract has different timeline date; there have been delays, inclusion of Joliet was significant when they went a different direction;

Significant project with complexity; timelines will shift because it is a lot that is involved; 14 communities to date; continuously seeking new communities to join. Trustee Winston inquired if the water will be coming through East Chicago; information will be verified by SWA.

Trustee Hart expressed interest in appointment to Finance Committee; inquired about checks to homeowner associations, sports teams;

Trustee Winston inquired about status of the payroll investigation. Is there follow up to the Board; **Trustee Hart** recommended that Sikich is not retained to do the payroll audit since they are the accounting firm for the village

Trustee Winston inquired about the status of the investigation concerning himself; **Village Administrator** Brian Mitchell indicated the investigation is ongoing. They still need to interview Trustee Winston; Trustee Winston noted concern that this investigation has not been expeditiously resolved; it shouldn't take 6-8 months; the attorney previously assigned dropped off the case; questioned why that firm still on retainer; B. Mitchell noted it was a perceived conflict of interest being appointed by the Board to do an investigation regarding a village employee against a board member.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Lynch and second by Trustee Hart.

Trustee Winston made the motion; Second by **Trustee Lynch** to approve the motion as read

Upon Roll Call: Ayes: 6 Naes:0 Recues: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:

Ayes: Clark, Dawson, Hadnott, Hart, Lynch, Winston

Naes: 0

Recues: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Approved: Yes

ADJOURNMENT: The October 4 ,2022Board Meeting adjourned @ 8:38pm.


Sandra M. Washington, Village Clerk

