

**Village Board Meeting Minutes**  
**VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE**  
3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042  
September 28, 2023, 7:00 p.m.



1. **Call to Order** at 7:01 by Mayor McLaughlin
2. **Roll Call** Present: Trustees Brittany Alers, Chuck Cermak, Thadd Lewis, Dan Powell, Stacey Pyne. Absent: Trustee Will Ziegler. Also present: Mayor Richard McLaughlin, Clerk Georgine Cooper, Police Chief Jennifer Paulus, Public Works Director Chris Carlsen, Attorney Jennifer Gibson, Engineer Steve Zehner, Fire Chief Patrick Kane
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Engineer Zehner
4. **Proclamation in Support of Red Ribbon Week** was read by Chief Paulus
5. **Public Comment** included: RE: Fence Ordinance, why is the Village just amending the 25' from the lake? Patrick Stewart of Local 150 heard a rumor that Board member is going to be given a high ranking position in Public Works; feels this is wrong. Response: Applied for job like every other candidate. RE: Concerned about Channel Park being labeled as surplus property; many properties in the Village have no parking access; concerned about negative effects of selling property; feels it would interfere with Mutton Creek work.
6. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. **Approve payment of bills in the amount of \$ 269,831.19**
  - b. **Approve minutes of the 9/14/2023 meeting**
  - c. **Adopt Ordinance 1670-23 *An Ordinance Adopting by Reference the Lake County Watershed Development Ordinance***
  - d. **Approve Mayor's appoint of Ed Venner to the Planning and Zoning Commission**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated [items a – d] by Trustee Lewis,  
Second by Trustee Alers

Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, Powell and Pyne. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Action Items**

7. **1671-23 *An Ordinance Amending Title 1, Chapter 16, Annual Fee Ordinance and Title 7, Chapter 2, Vehicle Licensing, of the Village of Island Lake Code***

Discussion: Mayor McLaughlin: Is just getting rid of vehicle stickers; will keep stickers for boats. Clerk Cooper clarified that boats and golf carts are \$20 in the new ordinance.

Motion to adopt 1671-23 *An Ordinance Amending Title 1, Chapter 16, Annual Fee Ordinance and Title 7, Chapter 2, Vehicle Licensing, of the Village of Island Lake Code* by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Cermak  
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, Powell and Pyne. Nays: none. Motion carried.
8. **1672-23 *An Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 2, 8-2-7 Fence Restrictions, of the Village of Island Lake Code***

Discussion: Mayor McLaughlin: This is just the 25' from the lake going to 5'. Trustee Cermak: Distance is increasing by 20'.

Motion to adopt 1672-23 *An Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 2, 8-2-7 Fence Restrictions, of the Village of Island Lake Code* by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Pyne  
Questions: Trustee Pyne asked about how we grandfather fences in. Attorney Gibson: The Village can choose to enforce fences that are not in compliance. Trustee Cermak: Even though the fence

was made before we passed the ordinance can we go back and require the change? Trustee Lewis: It would now be in compliance—at least on this particular restriction—because we are lessening the restriction Village can address other non-compliant fences.  
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, Powell and Pyne. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**9. Removal of playground structures and fencing and regrading of playground areas at Converse and Maple Ridge Parks to prepare for installation of new equipment in Spring/Summer 2024**

Discussion: Mayor McLaughlin: Converse and Maple Ridge Parks have been there a long time; need to be replaced; will keep bricks and name boards to honor those who have contributed. Trustee Alers: Was on Parks and Lake when the planning. The prior plan was ambitious; she found new, affordable playground that has ADA/inclusive features with a sale price for Converse Park. Maple Ridge Park propose equipment is also on sale: \$89,000. Install cost is \$13,000. Trustee Pyne: Grant money will be used for parks. Mayor McLaughlin: Would it be a savings if the Village installed it? Trustees Alers and Pyne: For liability sake, the professionals should install. Trustee Powell: What is the life span of the equipment? Director Carlsen: 20 years. Trustee Cermak: What is the weight limit? Response: Will check. Trustee Pyne: We have looked at ADA/exceptional child features. We can add on. Director Carlsen: Mayor got donation/grant; it includes engineering. Trustee Alers: Reiterated the need for upgrades; served on Parks and Lake Commission for 2 years panels and monitored deterioration of park equipment; did research new equipment and the proposed plan was expensive; found a new vendor a year ago with the best prices and with ADA accessible equipment; presented those while on the Commission; if anyone has more ideas, share them. Trustee Pyne: Reiterated that money for the Converse Park equipment is coming from a grant. The Maple Ridge proposed equipment allows space for add-ons.

Motion to authorize removal of playground structures and fencing and regrading of playground areas at Converse and Maple Ridge Parks to prepare for installation of new equipment in Spring/Summer 2024 by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Pyne

Questions: Mayor McLaughlin: Do we have a timeframe? Engineer Zehner: The sooner the better for retirement of current equipment; fill material in at least by January 1.

Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, Powell and Pyne. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Discussion Items**

**10. Discussion of and direction to Attorney for Resolution disposing of surplus property belonging to the Village, appraised at \$2,800**

Trustee Lewis: This is premature and should be tabled at this point; Trustee Powell agreed. Trustee Lewis: Background: A year ago we began looking into it; there has been a lot of work in progress regarding the property; we found out that it was not owned by Village and was not a park. It was owned by the defunct Property Owners Association. We had to go through legal hoops to get Lot 1 back to the Village so that we can incorporate it into the park; we are looking into all entities that will need to access property—for example, Public Works and Fire District—and we are working with the Village Attorney to see how to go forward.

**11. Approve development and installation of Disc Frisbee Golf 18-Hole Course at Sunil Puri Park and a portion of Veterans Park contingent upon fundraising in the amount of \$18,000 and the matching donation from Sunil Puri**

Discussion: Mayor McLaughlin: Looking for sponsors per hole; spoke with attorney Marvin Keyes [attorney for donor] and the plan is still to match up to \$50,000; people he spoke to are in favor; would like to get it started. Trustee Cermak: Are there enough donors to raise the \$18,000? Response: Yes, already talking to some; local club will also donate; will probably get that much and then some. Trustee Pyne: Walked the property and raised the issue that there may be protected wetlands on the Veterans Park portion. Director Carlsen: It is not on the Army Corp maps; elevation determines wetlands; it has buckthorn and has not been mowed. The retention pond does not qualify as wetland due to level and grade. Trustee Cermak: Does it need to be 18-holes? Response: Will make sure there is no risk of

interaction between people and discs; for it to be a destination, it would need 18 holes. 9 holes would be more of a local use.

Add to 10/12/2023 Agenda.

**12. Mayor Comments** included: Halloween Trick-or-Treat on Halloween. We are having businesses clean up properties, including facades and parking lots; we are trying to attract new business. We still have speeding and stop sign violations; it's mainly our residents; considering stop sign cameras. OktoberFest went well; thanked volunteers and Public Works. Angie Perkins will run a craft fair with some proceeds to support senior center; will be speaking with a potential events coordinator

**13. Trustee and Staff Comments** included:

Trustee Alers: Thanked Public Works and volunteers; OktoberFest gets bigger and better every year. If Parks and Lakes Commission has other suggestions for playground equipment, we welcome their ideas. Emerald Dispensary will open Nov. 1

Trustee Cermak: Thank you to everyone who worked OktoberFest. Trustee Lewis: Thanked people who come out and speak up; we need input to shape our community; welcome input wherever it is.

OktoberFest was a great event for the community; thanked Public Works and volunteers

Trustee Powell: Thanked people for coming out; praised OktoberFest volunteers and turnout.

Trustee Pyne: Trunk-or-Treat on October 28; thanked Trustee Lewis and Director Carlsen for support.

Are we going to rent out the gym again? Mayor McLaughlin asked Attorney Gibson if such events would be covered. Response: Check with your insurance; you may also want to ask users for a certificate of insurance.

Chief Paulus: Wishes she had 3 new people; new part-time officer is doing well; has asked Police and Fire Commission to put him on full-time. High Five Friday was started at Cotton Creek and is going well; doing lockdown drills with the schools. Director Carlsen: Public Works welcomes Michael Paulus with 5 years of experience in Highland Park and Chris Adkins who has experience in Algonquin; also welcomes Pete Skowron to water. If you want good people to take care of your water supply, you need to pay them; our pay scale is low. OktoberFest was great; fun and a lot of work.

Attorney Gibson: Glad to be here. Clerk Cooper: Grateful for elimination for vehicles stickers; shout out to the women from Wauconda Community Bank for their work at OktoberFest.

**14. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Powell

All were in favor. Motion carried at 7:57 p.m.

Submitted by Georgine Cooper