

Village Board Meeting Minutes
VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042
January 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m.



1. **Call to Order** at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin
2. **Roll Call:** Present: Trustees Brittany Alers, Chuck Cermak, Thadd Lewis, and Will Ziegler (remotely). Absent: Trustee Stacey Pyne. Also present: Mayor Richard McLaughlin, Clerk Georgine Cooper, Attorney David McArdle, Chief Jennifer Paulus, Treasurer Dennis Murray, Public Works Director Chris Carlsen, Fire Chief Patrick Kane
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Wyatt Mascarella
4. **Presentation by Phenom Illinois RE: Use of Baseball Fields 2024**, Wyatt Mascarella
Wyatt: Growing non-profit looking to give more opportunities; noticed Island Lake fields are not used and would like to use them. Phenom is more about development than competition for younger kids.
Mayor McLaughlin: Would Phenom maintain the fields? Response: We take care of everything but mowing the grass. Director Carlsen: Would you like to run concessions? Response: In the future.
Trustee Cermak: Do you have and connection with LYAA? Will kids in our area have opportunities to play? Response: No connection to LYAA. We are trying to get more opportunities. Audience question: Will kids in this area still be able to sign up? Response: Have a couple teams still looking for players in 13 age bracket; directed resident to Facebook page. Trustee Alers: Are you open to new players who have never played? Response: Yes, our goal is to give those players exposure and coaching; offer clinics. We run some free clinics for kids in the program. It is for boys and girls.

Island Lake Lions, Mark Beeson presented a proposal for a pavilion at Eastway Park. The idea has been floated for years for Lions to donate a pavilion; would it to be named Lions' Den and have a plaque with a dedication Andrew Amrich who founded the Island Lake Lions. Two members have already committed \$1,000 each. Construction would be of 6 x 6 beams, 24' span trusses; 20 x 20 with 24 x 24 Roof; 10' height. Club wants to donate to the community. Lots of events at Eastway would benefit; should be able to fit 4 picnic tables. If the Village would like to go forward will work with Building Official. Cost could be between \$5,000 and \$6,500, not including concrete. Could the Village cover the concrete cost? Trustee Alers asked about skill levels of volunteers; Trustee Lewis endorsed the idea of pavilion. Mayor McLaughlin: Have some commitment from some Home Depot for materials donations.
5. **2024 MFT Road Plan presentation: Steve Zehner, Robinson Engineering**
Mr. Zehner presented the map designating the 2024 road projects; looking at rebuilding roads in Newbury; includes curbs and storm sewers; on today's agenda are soil borings to inform the work. Trustee Cermak: Have driven those roads; they need repair. Mayor McLaughlin: We rely on the expertise of our engineers to identify and prioritize roads. Rebuild costs exceed maintenance costs.
6. **Committee and Department Reports**
 - a. Public Works, Director Carlsen
 - b. Lakes, Parks, Recreation, and Education, Trustee Pyne [absent]
 - c. Economic Development and Grants, Trustee Alers
 - d. Building and Zoning, Trustee Cermak
 - e. Police, Public Safety, and Ordinances, Trustee Lewis
 - f. Finance and Administration, Trustee Ziegler

Action Items

7. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. **Approve minutes of the 12/14/2023 meeting**

- b. **Authorize Mayor to sign GEOCON Professional Services LLC proposal in an amount not to exceed \$4,200 for drilling and testing soil borings along various roadways for the 2024 MFT road projects**
- c. **Authorize Mayor to sign contract with Skinner Amusements for the 2024 Lake Fest Carnival on June 21, 22 and 23, 2024**

Discussion: Mayor McLaughlin: We'll be the first of the season.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda a – c as read by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Alers

Questions: Trustee Lewis: What are the units for the \$85 fee? Response: Vendors and games.

Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, and Ziegler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

- 8. **Adopt 1677-24 An Ordinance Amending Title 3, Business Regulations, of the Village of Island Lake Code, Creating Chapter 15, Regulating Omnibus Drivers and all Others Pursuing Like Occupations to Require Coordination with the Village to Manage the Unscheduled Drop-Off of Large Groups in the Village**

Discussion: Mayor McLaughlin: As you know, many buses are dropping people off at train stations; this ordinance is to cover costs if it happens here. Attorney McArdle: Many towns are passing ordinances; many are experiencing drop-offs. The point is to coordinate getting them to Chicago. Drop-offs have been in the middle of the night. Mayor suggested amending it for the next meeting to include impound. This is the best we can do as a non-home rule community. There are many versions; none of the ordinances have been tested. It's a problem because of lack of food, housing and services. Trustee Lewis: Would we have liability if enforcement is not uniform? Attorney McArdle: It's possible; we have not idea where liability lies at this time. Chief Paulus: Have seen it.

Motion to Adopt 1677-24 An Ordinance Amending Title 3, Business Regulations, of the Village of Island Lake Code, Creating Chapter 15, Regulating Omnibus Drivers and all Others Pursuing Like Occupations to Require Coordination with the Village to Manage the Unscheduled Drop-Off of Large Groups in the Village by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Cermak

Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, and Ziegler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

- 9. **2024 Fireworks**

Mayor McLaughlin: We requested proposal from Pyrotecnico for two possible dates. Price is the same as last year; will be same great show.

Trustee Ziegler: I like marrying it with the carnival as a possible draw.

1/25/2024 Agenda Item.

- 10. **Public Comment** included: Resident (Tim) passed out information from McHenry County EMA on drop-offs; mentioned drop offs won't always be at train stations; pointed out that hosting Villages have certain obligations; thanked Public Works drivers for excellent snow plow work.
- 11. **Mayor Comments** included: Happy New Year; have exciting plans for 2024; praised Public Works for snow removal work; Events Calendar in progress with back side to contain community group events; looking to get autopay on some items; would like to get a quote for dredging of portions of the lake; e-learning day tomorrow; looking for some commission members; Village Hall may close early tomorrow for storm; parking tickets will be issued and possible towing for those who park on the street during storms; will begin to Zoom board meetings with a podcast afterwards. Sled race is coming; Braden Carlsen was scoring champion for Wheeling-Braidwood tournaments. Will reopen washrooms at parks. Praise Chief Paulus for knowledge and initiatives.
- 12. **Trustee and Staff Comments** included:
Trustee Alers: Praise Public Works for snow removal; exciting news about Converse; hope residents will be exited with new park; thanked Chief Paulus for report and for community effort of PD.

Trustee Cermak: Thanked Police Department for good work; kudos from residents to handling of complaints. Trustee Lewis: Thanked Public Works for snow removal; reminder to keep fire hydrants clear to help in emergencies. Trustee Ziegler: Lots of positives across the board; good work on take down of Converse; good work on snow removal. Director Carlsen: Thanked the Board for support; Mayor keeps Public Works busy; Channel Park work will be going on. Treasurer Murray: Audit is in progress; federal and state tax reports complete; W-2s come next; budget process to begin.

Chief Paulus: Testing phase for debt recovery program: approximately \$14,000 of debt entered. Police Department is taking back code violation enforcement; Traci is working hard on getting data entered; possible to add bills to the program. Clerk Cooper: Next Agenda items: Pyrotecnico fireworks contract; Phenom Illinois 2024 Field Use Agreement.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Alers.
All were in favor. Motion carried at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by Georgine Cooper