

Village Board Meeting Minutes
VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042
April 25, 2024, 7:00 p.m.



1. **Call to Order** at 7:00p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin
2. **Roll Call** Present: Trustees Brittany Alers, Chuck Cermak, Steve Deasey, Thadd Lewis, Stacey Pyne and Will Ziegler. Absent: none. Also present: Mayor Richard McLaughlin, Clerk Georgine Cooper, Attorney David McArdle, Treasurer Dennis Murray, Public Works Director Chris Carlsen, Police Chief Jennifer Paulus, Building Official Ken Adkins; Fire Chief Patrick Kane
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Braeden Carlsen
4. **Presentation by Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Qualifiers**
Sponsor Wendy Mills 118 went to State; 66 National Qualifiers. Students listed introduced themselves and their projects: Faith Healy, Marshawn Gallego, Tristan Seidel, Yuliya Skochylis, Melissa Nava, Lucas Galdine, Daniel Estrada, Max Buchanan, Lilah Hill, Emily Carney, Mackenzie Stieff, Abbas Hussain, Shawn Stonis, Jack Hansen.
5. **Proclamation Honoring Braeden Carlsen for Outstanding Achievement in Academics and Athletics**
After the reading of the Proclamation, Braeden thanked all those who supported him. He will continue his education at Mercer.
6. **Presentation on Pollinator garden scout project for Converse Park sign garden, by Addison Morgan**
Trustee Pyne: Mentioned that 4 scouts were working on Gold Award. Projects. Addison: A junior at Wauconda High School; Gold Award is equivalent to Eagle Scout; wanted to take a space and make it supportive of pollinators and other plants. The garden is multi season; will be blooming except in winter. Sedges will be helpful for stability of the garden and will keep weeds down. Needs to have the bush removed to accommodate more plants and water access to keep them hydrated through the first 2 growing season, when they will become stable. After that, it will need monitoring and not as much care. Citizens for Conservation donated the plants that will be picked up next week.
7. **Public Comment** included: Resident: Has been addressing the need Janet Drive repaving and the water main upgrade. [Looking into low interest loan and possible grant.] Resident: Asked about lake use for irrigation. [Importance of communication of treatment and effect on the lake]; praised Director Carlsen for follow-up dam work.

Action Items

8. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. **Approve payment of bills in the amount of \$ 410,682.17**
 - b. **Approve minutes of the 3/28/2024 meeting**
 - c. **Approve Mayor's [re]appointment of Dennis Murray, Treasurer**
 - d. **Authorize Mayor to sign the JETCO, LTD. proposal in the amount of \$3,200 for exterior cleaning of the 3720 Greenleaf Ave. water tower**
 - e. **Authorize Mayor to sign the Island Lake Dam Inspection Proposal with Kebbes Engineering, Inc. (KEI) for inspection and IDNR report submission in the amount of \$8,450**
 - f. **Approve 2024 Field Use Agreement with Phenom Illinois**
 - g. **Approve 2024 Field Use Agreement with Lakes Youth Athletic Association (LYAA)**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items a – g as stated by Trustee Ziegler,
Second by Trustee Pyne

Questions: Trustee Cermak: Item e does not include fees for structural inspection; is it just a visual? If an engineer does it, shouldn't it be structural. Director Carlsen: Only a licensed engineer can do that inspection. What would the structural inspection involve; would you want them to take a core sample? Director Carlsen will talk to Robinson for a recommendation. Trustee Lewis: IDNR requires the inspection. Attorney McArdle: What is the reason there is not a structural? Director Carlsen pointed out that the IDNR criteria are used for the inspection.

Trustee Ziegler amended the motion to remove item e, Trustee Pyne amended second.
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Deasey, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

9. Adopt Resolution 693-24 A Resolution Authorizing Continuation of the McHenry County Municipal Risk Management Agency

Discussion: Treasurer Murray: Every 4 years it must be renewed; this year it will be 12; it does not change any municipality's option to leave.

Motion to adopt Resolution 693-24 A Resolution Authorizing Continuation of the McHenry County Municipal Risk Management Agency by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Alers
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Deasey, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

10. Authorize Mayor to sign the contract between the Illinois FOP Labor Council and the Village of Island Lake for Police Officers for the period of May 1, 2024 – April 30 2028[8]

Discussion: Chief Paulus: Pointed out that it is through 2028; took two sessions to accomplish. [Cover page lists the 2027 end date.]

Motion to authorize Mayor to sign the contract between the Illinois FOP Labor Council and the Village of Island Lake for Police Officers for the period of May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2028 by Trustee Lewis,
Second by Trustee Deasey
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Deasey, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Discussion Items:

11. Feasibility of daily lake use boat pass and direction for possible ordinance

Trustee Pyne: The kayak launch was installed to encourage people to use the lake; we don't have enough police presence to patrol currently. We just got rid of vehicle stickers for the cost of administration. QR codes still have to be entered into accounting database; how can you get stickers on weekends? Fees can be waived for special events; how can you monitor one time trial use? Daily pass in Lake Forest \$65; other fees range from \$20 – 425 for daily pass. Recommend putting up a sign and giving a try, then encourage people to come out and buy a sticker. Trustee Deasey: I launch my boat on the Fox River; now there's an app to launch; higher fee for non-residents of the County; it's an honor system. Trustee Lewis: If you do a daily pass, you don't need a sticker—just a printed receipt. Trustee Cermak: I launch my boat once a year in McHenry; it's \$25 for a pass. Trustee Pyne will look into equipment for app and QR code.

12. Prohibition of use of lake water for irrigation and other private use for possible ordinance

Trustee Pyne: Our lake needs treatment more and more; we have 6 algae sprays contracted for this year; a contact herbicide used for treatment will kill plants. Last summer when there was a drought, someone was irrigating from the channel. We don't know how many people irrigate from the lake. It may be time to have an ordinance. Trustee Cermak: I know about 6 people who use lake water for watering for 40 – 50 years; see nothing wrong with it; evaporation takes more water; put it in the newsletter that it's at your own risk. Trustee Deasey: Still communicate when lake is treated; indicate risk at treatment times. Mayor McLaughlin: Put it in the newsletter that water use is at your own risk.

13. Concept of tax rebate for development of commercial property

Mayor McLaughlin: Topic came up in the course of a meeting with a potential purchaser of the Island Foods property who wants to have a grocery store and a restaurant; they would like to have a rebate of grocery tax; asking for 5 years. Lake County grocery taxes to the Village have been decreasing every year. Am willing to “eat” that tax to get a grocery store; the governor is trying to eliminate grocery tax anyway, so it might not affect us. Trustee Lewis: Development will spark interest as old properties are being rehabbed; you might lose \$18,000 dollars. How long would property sit vacant with no incentives to develop? Attorney McArdle: We are only talking about grocery tax—not liquor, etc. Trustee Cermak: What percentage is from Island Foods? Treasurer Murray: We do not get data by vendor. We wouldn’t lose the whole tax; just a percentage. The potential buyer plans to redo the parking lot and to do other improvements. Trustee Deasey: The potential buyer is interested in remodeling—not tearing down.

14. **Mayor Comments** included: Dispensary will open on Monday, April 29, 2024; spoke to a grower who is interested in developing a grow facility; will look at the Knight property. Spoke with Joe Zeinz; church that owns property by Camping World wants to develop housing there; they are considering water and sewer hookup fees. Ball fields look good; Phenom and LYAA are using the fields.

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

Trustee Alers; Congratulated FBLA students and Braeden Carlsen; business owners have approached about amusement fees for kids games at \$100 per; add to next agenda. Trustee Cermak: Thank you to residents for attending meetings. Trustee Deasey: Interesting to hear about companies looking at Island Lake and improving downtown; attracts more business; exciting time to be involved. Trustee Lewis: Liked seeing Future Business Leaders of America; thanked Addison Morgan for the wonderful program she put together for Converse garden; like teaming with residents; praised Braeden Carlsen for breaking records; praised Administration and office for work behind the scenes; are actively pursuing improvements for the Village. Trustee Pyne: Earth Day Expo on Saturday was not as busy as last year; Carp Fest has new vintage T-shirts; this year adding a kids’ fishing derby; Converse Park equipment delivery on May 13; may be installed by May 18; hope to have a grand opening. Had an algal bloom after lake treatment—as did lakes all around; algae does keep sun from helping plants grow on the bottom. There is new product, EutroPHIX, to bind phosphorus to keep plants from growing; parks budget is turned over to Director Carlsen—instead of in the hands of an advisory commission; Director Carlsen is the project manager of park projects; reevaluating aerators, as they may be stirring up sediment instead of solving a problem. Trustee Ziegler: RE: Janet Dr. water main replacement, Director Carlsen reached out to Robinson Engineering and will get a quote for next year’s budget; “red tape is there for a reason” when it comes to funding.

Director Carlsen: Praised students for accomplishments; thanked Mayor McLaughlin for showing up for them; phosphate absorption bags may help; Golden Oaks is using them and it should help lake health; 25+ years of Fluoridation awards; just received another. Building Official Adkins: Over 40 permit applications this month so far; 10 – 12 more ready for pickup; busy season is here; each permit for work increases value of property. Chief Paulus: Spring brings tall grass complaints; software integration was been going well until it wasn’t; problem solving in process. Fire Chief Kane: Dropped off 2023 Annual Report; it’s also on their website. Clerk Cooper: Next Agenda item: Donation for FBLA Nationals trip to Orlando; ordinance RE: Coin Operated Amusement fees. Water report was included in newsletter. Treasurer Murray: Thanks the Board for reappointment; direct questions to him about tax.

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Ziegler
All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Submitted by Georgine Cooper