

**Village Board Meeting Minutes**  
**VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE**  
**3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042**  
**November 14, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**



1. **Call to Order** at 7:00 p.m. by Clerk Cooper in the absence of Mayor McLaughlin
2. **Roll Call** Present: Trustees Brittany Alers, Chuck Cermak, Thadd Lewis, Stacey Pyne and Will Ziegler (remotely). Absent: Trustee Deasey. Also present: Clerk Georgine Cooper, Attorney David McArdle, Treasurer Dennis Murray, Police Chief Jennifer Paulus, Building Official Ken Adkins, Fire Chief Patrick Kane
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Larry Loos, Veteran and Lion

Motion to appoint Trustee Cermak Mayor Pro Tem by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Alers  
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

4. **Presentation on Storm Water Maintenance Retaining Wall Rebuild in Westridge near Burr Oak and Carriage Hill: Ringers Services, Mike and Tyler**

PowerPoint laying qualification of Ringers crew out options was presented. Suggested that granite boulders are the best option for this project; will last a lifetime—as opposed to a timber wall that has notable movement. A block wall would encroach on yards, are made of concrete and will fade and corrode. Met with Public Works about the project; Public Works installed braces to support the deteriorating wall; replacing just a section of it will not be effective. Will rebuild two sections; recommend that the entire wall be replaced.

Trustee Alers: What is time frame? Response, we're booked up this year and it will rain all next week; we switch to snow removal after Thanksgiving; would take a week to 10 days to complete; do not want to have incomplete project over the winter. Public Works braces will last until spring; we can get out there then—Mother Nature cooperating. All the walls around the ponds are aging. Trustee Pyne: Is this an HOA pond? Why would we do it? Official Adkins: We need to protect our storm sewer and avoid flooding. \$44,495 is estimated cost.

5. **Public Comment** included: Tina Loos, Island Lake Lions Events Coordinator, presented a request for upcoming events from the February 1 Fishing Derby through the November Veterans Day Flag Display. Don Saville mentioned his presentation about Northern Moraine Water Reclamation District (NMWRD) and his question about how NMWRD came up with their rate; feels that their rate is not just; asked a Board Member to contact NMWRD how they determine billing; asked about proposed increase for the mayor; mayor doesn't need to work 40 hours. Trustee Lewis; we weren't trying to raise the mayor salary; it would apply to the next and it didn't pass.

6. **Committee and Department Reports**

- a. Public Works, Trustee Alers
- b. Lakes, Parks, Recreation, and Education, Trustee Pyne
- c. Economic Development and Grants, Trustee Deasey (absent)
- 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. **Approval payment of bills in the amount of \$220,036.94**
- b. **Approve minutes of the 10/24/2024 meeting**

c. **Authorize Mayor to sign McHenry County Law Enforcement Regional Training Center (MCRTC) 2025 Terms and Conditions of Membership in the amount of \$400 per officer, a 2024-2025 Fiscal Year budgeted expense**

d. **Grant request from Island Lake Lions for use of Island Lake Parks for 2025 Events and Commemorations**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Pyne  
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**8. Approve the 2024 Tax Levy for 2024 Tax Year in the amount of \$1,628,103**

Discussion: Attorney McArdle: Before we approve the tax levy, we need to make a determination of the estimate of that levy 20 days before we adopt the ordinance; we'll adopt the ordinance at the December meeting (no later than the last Tuesday in December).

Motion to determine the estimate of the proposed tax levy to be \$1,628,103 by Trustee Lewis, Second by Trustee Alers

Question: Trustee Cooper reread the motion for accuracy.

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

**9. Approve Robinson Engineering Task Order 23-R0748 for Design of the Janet Drive Water Main Replacement in an amount not to exceed \$87,000**

Motion to approve Robinson Engineering Task Order 23-R0748 for Design of the Janet Drive Water Main Replacement in an amount not to exceed \$87,000 by Trustee Ziegler, Second by Trustee Pyne  
Questions: Trustee Pyne: I'm surprised it's not more expensive; is this just a portion of it? Engineer Zehner: This is just the design portion and final application. We have estimated the cost will be between \$900,000 and \$1,000,000; it must be moved outside of the easement for IDOT. It is a process and will require negotiation; we are in line for a 2% low interest loan from the State revolving fund with a 20 year payback.

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

**Discussion Items**

- a. Converse Park Playground additional equipment purchased from non-grant, budgeted funds: Trustee Pyne: We spent \$11,000 more on equipment than the grant supplied; we had budget to do it; we should be able to add more equipment. Attorney McArdle: There are some inconsistencies in interpreting documents; so be careful.
- b. 176 and Westridge Drive intersection crosswalk: Engineer Zehner: Explained that high cost estimate of \$320,000 estimate is because of IDOT requirements; grants may be available for 80%. \$220,000 is construction cost and \$90,000 - \$100,000 for a sidewalk that would increase eligibility. 2029 is first scoring year; we would have to have a contract Phase 1 Task Order in the amount of \$35,000 in place by next meeting. Trustee Cermak: Crosswalk is a light with a walk signal. Trustee Pyne: There are community grants, but we don't have a close neighbor. Attorney McArdle: Possibility of approving Phase 1, then withdraw it in March if we determine to discontinue. Trustee Lewis: When is the soonest that money would have to be expended? Trustee Pyne: How many people actually cross? Engineer Robinson: More might if it were safer. 2029 is the first time other money would have to be expended.

**10. Mayor Comments** absent

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

Trustee Alers; Thanked residents for comments; relieved to see progress on Janet Drive; thanked staff and volunteers and staff for Senior Dinner. Ziegler: Happy Thanksgiving. Trustee Lewis: Thanked the Lions—especially Tina and Larry Loos for Veterans display; thanked Public Works and Park'D for work on the Disc golf; 72 played in the tournament; breakfast at McDonald's and lunch at Chi-Town. Trustee Pyne: Craft Fair coming. Official Adkins: Future of using salt on roads is diminishing; brine use is

coming in the future and will be easier on our streets and can be reapplied; met with Smooth Paving folks who purchased the Hummel Property and are cleaning it up (75% complete); our ordinance allows 6' fence; would like to see a 8' fence for buffer. Treasurer Murray: Largest increase is 18% sales tax—likely the expenditure; bump in revenue is bank loan; bump in expenses in equipment. Auditors will move money to liability when they do the audit.

Clerk Cooper: Next agenda will include tax levy approval, Westridge Pond retaining wall, 2025 meeting schedule, Robinson Task Order for crosswalk, possible division of Parks and Lake Commission. Mentioned Disc Golf Ribbon Cutting was well attended; Holiday Meals and Angel Giving Program is in progress for collection of money and gift cards; working on submittal for Puri Family Park matching funds. Mayor is working with Jewel to get the meals; he was the only area official who collected money for it; Jewel donated fixings for the Island Lake Seniors Thanksgiving Meal. Thanksgiving luncheon for the seniors went well—thanks to many volunteers; wished all a happy Thanksgiving and reminded that there is much to be grateful for. Trustee Cermak will contact Mayor McLaughlin on the status of a response to issues raised about NMWRD.

**12. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Alers  
All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Submitted by Georgine Cooper