

Village Board Meeting Minutes
VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042
January 23, 2025, 7:00 p.m.



1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call Present: Trustees Brittany Alers, Chuck Cermak, Steve Deasey, Thadd Lewis, Stacey Pyne and Will Ziegler (remotely). Absent: none. Also present: Mayor Richard McLaughlin, Clerk Georgine Cooper, Attorney Brandy S. Quance, Treasurer Dennis Murray, Police Chief Jennifer Paulus, Public Works Director Chris Carlsen

3. Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve Zehner, Robinson Engineering

4. Presentation on Health Insurance Benefits, Colleen Roos

Nonunion staff and Police Department Insurance: United Healthcare: recommended keeping most the same, but adjusting prescription copay; renewal is 5.4 renewal; additional savings to Village. Asked for quotes from other companies (Aetna, Cigna); plan design options should be tweaking copay from \$10 to \$15 for Tier 1 drugs; mail order can be done for 90 day supply.

5. Public Comment included: Resident: Kathleen (Nelson): If we don't have a Park District, why do we have a daycare camp that doesn't benefit the whole community? Do we have enough insurance to cover liability; why not work with existing programs? What happens when adult is absent for the adult to child ratio?

Action Items

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve payment of bills in the amount of \$ 321,487.82
- b. Approve minutes of the 1/09/2025 meeting
- c. Adopt Ordinance 1693-25 An Ordinance Amending Title 1, Chapters 16. Schedule of Fees, Fines, and Chapter 17, Administrative Hearings
- d. Approve GECON Professional Services Proposal soil borings for 2025 MFT Road Program in an amount not to exceed \$4,000 plus, if needed, traffic control at a rate of \$2,900 per day for a total amount not to exceed \$6,900

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read by Trustee Lewis Second by Trustee Cermak
Questions: Trustee Pyne: How do they determine if they need traffic control? Engineer Robinson:
They monitor traffic on the day; there are guidelines and approved personnel who need to
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Deasey, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

7. Authorize Mayor to sign Intergovernmental Agreement for McHenry County Gang Task Force

Discussion: Chief Paulus: It's County-wide and they get officers from various departments who are trained.

Motion to authorize Mayor to sign Intergovernmental Agreement for McHenry County Gang Task Force
by Trustee Pyne, Second by Trustee Alers
Ayes: Trustees Alers, Cermak, Deasey, Lewis, Pyne and Ziegler. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Discussion Items: We tabled hardware for garage doors; we are waiting for one more quote; would like consensus to approve a not-to-exceed \$8,500. Consensus: Trustee Deasey: Safety issue by playground and ball fields. Full consensus.

8. Mayor Comments included: Asked Treasurer Murray to explain the facts of the Police Pension Fund payments. Police Pension Funds have 3 sources of income: 1) from the tax levy, which the Village has

always paid to the pension fund (with one exception in past history that was subsequently paid in full); 2) from payroll deductions—which the Village has *always* paid; and 3) from municipal contributions—which the Village, like many municipalities in Illinois, did not have the funds to pay. It kept building up to millions of dollars. When the State of Illinois took over investments for the Police Pension Fund last year, they required the local Police Pension Boards to list municipalities in arrears and threatened keep tax revenue disbursements—for example municipal shares of sales tax, motor fuel tax, and utility tax—that municipalities need to operate. The Village began paying the municipal contribution it in last year for the first time. The Mayor and Treasurer met with Pension Board to remedy the situation and we have a payment plan. If we didn't have a payment plan, the State could take other funds of ours like MFT. Trustee Deasey: This was a negotiated and approved amount by the Pension Board. Trustee Pyne: If we said we couldn't do it, what would have happened? Response: The State would have taken money we needed to operate. Attorney McArdle advised us when this arose that it was a no-win for municipalities who don't pay. We are safe with the Pension Board. A 40-year payment plan is under consideration by State.

Chief Hanselman is the new Wauconda Fire District; hope to see him at future meetings. Rumor Control: Misinformation out in the community claims that the Village refused a \$500,000 grant; we did not; we never said *no* to a grant. Mayor McLaughlin, Trustee Lewis and a representative went to Senior Lofts; the Senior Lofts developer decided not to put a second building because of the Northern Moraine Water Reclamation District (NMWRD) fees; he will build in another town.

Trustee and Staff Comments included: Trustee Deasey: Check your smoke and CO detectors; check for furnaces; it is hazardous not to have them; has experience as a firefighter with loss of life based on lack of one. Support our businesses in town and be a positive support of our town and help us encourage businesses to invest here. Trustee Pyne: Sled race is cancelled for Saturday; rescheduled for February 15. Registered herself, Trustee Alers and Public Works Director for an ILM conference. Trustee Cermak: In this new year, look at being more kind and understanding with people. Director Carlsen: New filter for Westridge will take a little longer. Chief Paulus: Officer Silva graduated 2nd in his class in physical fitness and did well at academy; Chief Paulus attended graduation. Treasurer Murray: Federal and State tax reports are done; W-2s are done.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Cermak, Second by Trustee Deasey.
All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted by Georgine Cooper