

**VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD**  
**MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**November 23, 2021**

The Village Board Meeting was held in-person at Crosspoint Lutheran Church, 8505 RedTail Drive along with Zoom viewing. It was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Stavropoulos. Present at Crosspoint Lutheran Church were Trustees Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. Absent was Trustee Augustine. Also present were Village Manager Jean Heckman, Village Attorney Scott Puma, Village Clerk Jeanette LoBosco, Chief of Police Mike Roth, Director of Public Works Gary Zickuhr, RedTail Golf Club Manager Kenny Goodwin, Treasurer Steve Aronson, and many members of the public.

**PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Lisa Waggoner, resident and legal representative on behalf of some residents within The Reserves Subdivision, addressed concerns of the property located at 8205 Huntley Road. Although the property is not located within the jurisdiction of the Village of Lakewood, they need help to address the outside maintenance, possible residential business operation violation, and concerns of livestock issues was sought.

Gregg Fields, a resident of The Reserves Subdivision, addressed the Board with personal knowledge and experience of the property being discussed. Additionally, he has addressed the concerns directly with McHenry County Representatives. He is seeking additional help from the Village of Lakewood to have the concerns addressed.

Village Manager Jean Heckman was made aware of the conditions through a posting on social media. She made contact with appropriate McHenry County Representatives to address these concerns. Representatives confirmed awareness of the property and violations have been issued. Also recommended was to contact McHenry County Animal Control when livestock matters need to be addressed.

Village Attorney Scott Puma encouraged residents to continue addressing their issues with McHenry County Officials.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The following were considered and enacted on a single motion by Trustee Fischer, seconded by Trustee Babischkin:

**A. Request Approval of Meeting Minutes**

1. November 9, 2021 Public Works Department Meeting, Part 2
2. November 9, 2021 Village Board Meeting

**B. Request Approval of Bill Lists**

1. Accounts Payable Invoices Dated November 24, 2021 in the Amount of \$305,550.68
2. Accounts Payable Prepaid Invoices Dated October 31, 2021 in the Amount of \$103,375.81

**C. Request Approval of 2022 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting Calendar**

Voting Aye: Trustees Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared carried.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

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**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION FOR ORDINANCE NO. 2021-29 – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTIONS 19.15, F AND G AND SECTION 29.14 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING PERMIT AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEES:** Village Manager Jean Heckman summarized a review of Building Permit Fees conducted with Building Inspector Brian Fragassi. A current budget revenue loss for the past three years was indicated. Fees have not been updated since 2006. Additionally, in 2019, the previous Board had acknowledged higher fees would need to be assessed to offset the change of rates when a new inspection service retained.

*Public Comment:* Resident Joe Lyons asked for clarification regarding fees for pool permits. In addition, he acknowledges the process within the Building Department is getting better.

Trustee Babischkin, seconded by Trustee Runge moved to approve Ordinance No. 2021 – 29 updating Building Permit and Management Fees. Voting Aye: Trustees Babischkin, Barron, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: Trustee Berman. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared carried.

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2021- (30) – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 2.05 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING REGULAR MEETINGS:** President Stavropoulos addressed the time required to produce board packets. In an effort to create efficiencies within Administration, a proposed one scheduled Board Meeting the second Tuesday of the month, and a placeholder for the fourth Tuesday should a meeting be needed, was made.

Village Manager Jean Heckman indicated as a tool to keep communication open with Board Members, a weekly email update would be sent.

Board Members expressed concern over the modification of this proposed schedule. A recommendation to institute a hybrid version was discussed.

Attorney Scott Puma stated the Ordinance will still need to be addressed in order to amend the meeting start time to 7:00 p.m. and change of location due to potential remodeling of RedTail Golf Club.

*Public Comment: None.*

Trustee Berman, seconded by Trustee Babischkin moved to table Ordinance N. 2021 – 30 regarding the proposed Village Board Meeting Schedule. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared tabled.

**CONSIDERATION OF 2022 VILLAGE BOARD MEETING CALENDAR:** The 2022 Village Board Calendar was not discussed and will be presented at the following December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting when Village Code regarding Regular Meetings is readdressed.

*Public Comment: None.*

**PRESENTATION OF THE ESTIMATED 2021 VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD AND SSA TAX LEVIES:** Village Manager Heckman presented three scenarios regarding the tax levy: leaving the levy as is; raising the levy by 2.15%; raising the levy by 4.83%. All three scenarios will still create a shortfall to the 2022/2023 Budget.

Recommendation was given to raise the tax levy by a proposed 4.83%, creating a manageable shortfall of about \$100,000. Using the median house average value of \$400,000 within the Village would result in an increase to a tax bill of about \$55.

President Stavropoulos noted Trustee Financial Review Committee Representative Babischkin and Barron met individually with Village Manager Heckman to discuss the financial recommendations.

*Public Comment: None.*

**CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTIMATED 2021 VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,739,573**

Trustee Runge, seconded by Trustee Babischkin moved to approve the estimated 2021 Village of Lakewood Tax Levy in the amount of \$1,739,573. Voting Aye: Trustees Babischkin, Barron, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: Trustee Berman. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared carried.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTIMATED 2021 VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD TAX LEVIES**

SSA #2 Brighton Oaks	\$1,000
SSA #3 Westlake Woods, also knows as Diasio's Resubdivision	\$8,500
SSA #4 Hidden Lakes	\$7,560
SSA #5 Reserves of Lakewood	\$3,000
SSA #6 Worthington Homes/Cambria Subdivision	\$1,000
SSA #7 Woodland Hills and Autumn Ridge	\$1,000
SSA #8 Turnberry Lakes	\$34,200

Trustee Babischkin, seconded by Trustee Fisher moved to approve the estimated 2021 Village of Lakewood Tax Levies for Special Service Areas #2 - #8. Voting Aye: President Stavropoulos, Trustees Babischkin, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: Trustees Barron and Berman. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared carried.

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES:** Village Manager Jean Heckman reported results of an inquiry to upgrade IT services and support.

Representatives from the proposed provider were present to address any questions or concerns.

*Public Comment: None.*

Trustee Fischer, seconded by Trustee Barron moved to approve DeKind Computer Consultants as providers of Information Technology Services. Voting Aye: Trustees Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** The following updates were reviewed by President Stavropoulos:

- Audit review is expected to be presented in January. The requested extension is due to allow auditors to address areas concerning reconciliations related to converting over to the new software system.

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- A meeting was held with Baxter & Woodman, along with Village Manager Heckman and Director Zickuhr, discussing a preliminary review of the completed road survey. A formal presentation with recommendations will be in January.
- Beaver Pond/Bard Road paving issues continue to be addressed. Unfortunately at this time, cooperation from HR Green, the project engineer representative, has not been helpful. Suggestion as to legal assistance may be sought.

*Public Comment: None.*

**REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:** Director of Public Works Gary Zickuhr reported: road patching services by Hastings Asphalt has been completed; the electrical and control cabinet installation for the Lift Station located near West Beach has been completed; parts to complete the upgrade to the SCADA system continue to be on back-order.

Village of Lakewood Public Works participated in an event honoring a member of South Elgin's Public Works Department. In addition, over 75 municipalities helped line the streets of South Elgin where the processional route was to pass through.

On a final note, the department is prepared for snow removal season to begin.

Chief Mike Roth reported two new police officers have been recently hired. Both Officers have many years of experience; Kyle Macko served with the Lake County Sheriffs Office and Michael Jedlicka served with the City of Crystal Lake. In addition, Officers Matt Wiegel and Sean McGrath will be promoted to the rank of Sergeant on December 1, 2021.

He also announced Santa will be visiting Village Hall on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Joining him will be Mrs. Claus and Police Officers. Everyone is invited to visit and enjoy cookies and hot chocolate!


Village Manager Jean Heckman encouraged participation during the Toys For Tots Drive. A drop off box is located at Village Hall.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made at 9:27 p.m. to convene in Executive Session to discuss dismissal of specific employee(s) of the Village by Trustee Barron, seconded by Trustee Babischkin. Voting Aye: Trustees Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Trustee Augustine. Motion declared carried.

At 10:10 p.m. the Village Board returned to the regular Village Board Meeting.

With nothing further to discuss, Trustee Runge, seconded by Trustee Barron moved to adjourn the meeting. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Voting Nay: None. Motion declared carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Jeanette LoBosco  
Village Clerk

Dated : December 14, 2021