

**VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD**  
**MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**October 12, 2021**

The Village Board Meeting was held in person at RedTail Golf Club along with Zoom viewing. It was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Stavropoulos. Present at RedTail Golf Club were Trustees Augustine, Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. 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, Administrative Services Manager Sue Villie, and many members of the public.

**PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS:** President Stavropoulos provided update of the following:

- Crystal Lake Park District will be conducting an input meeting at Grand Oaks Rec Center, Crystal Lake, on Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM for the Haligus Road Park Project. Residents are encouraged to attend to share in the design input.
- The next Board Meeting will be held at Crosspoint Lutheran Church and will follow the Public Works Department Meeting scheduled at 6:00 PM.
- Thank you to those that attended Blocktoberfest.
- National Take Back Prescription Drug Day will be held on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Village Hall from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

*There was a slight interruption of the Zoom audio causing a delay in the meeting to resolve technical issues at 7:03 PM.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Trustee Runge spoke of a note she received from a resident expressing gratitude towards the traffic calming measures that have been implemented on Lake Avenue.

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

**A. Approval of Minutes**

1. September 28, 2021 Police Department Meeting
2. September 28, 2021 Village Board Meeting

**B. Bill Lists**

1. Accounts Payable Invoices Dated October 13, 2021 in the Amount of \$134,745.11
2. Accounts Payable Prepaid Invoices Dated September 30, 2021 in the Amount of \$26,094.09
3. Accounts Payable RedTail Manual Checks Dated May 31, 2021 in the Amount of \$9,950.41
4. Village Hall Debit Card Activity for May 31, 2021 in the Amount of \$2,982.30
5. RedTail Debit Card Activity for May 31, 2021 in the Amount of \$1,210.18

**C. Request Approval of 2021 Lake Activity Report**

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

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

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF HIRING A 10<sup>TH</sup> POLICE OFFICER:** Chief Roth summarized concerns presented at the Police Department Meeting held on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

He expanded thoughts of concerns regarding continued overtime strain both financially and physically, along with a part-time officer concluding his service on November 1, 2021. In addition, he has confirmation regarding a vested officer willing to commit to an employment offer.

Provided were spreadsheets showing a shortfall of required hours to fulfill the Village commitment providing two officers per shift and funds required to finish the fiscal year.

**Village Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 12, 2021**

**Page 2 of 4**

Funding would require the use of reserve funds.

Board members addressed the presentation, raising caution to the use of Reserve Funds along with the physical and mental toll placed upon the officers in the police department trying to maintain officer coverage.

*Public Comment: None.*

Trustee Runge, seconded by Trustee Babischkin moved to approve the hiring of a tenth police officer. Voting Aye: Trustees Augustine, Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION ORDINANCE NO. 2021-26 ADOPTING ILLINOIS REQUIRED WHISTLEBLOWER AND ANTI-RETALIATION POLICY:** Village Attorney Scott Puma informed the Board all units of government are required to adopt the policy as a result of recent legislative action. The policy will be an addition to the Village Employee Manual and require a yearly notice.

*Public Comment: None.*

Trustee Runge, seconded by Trustee Fischer moved to approve Ordinance No. 2021-26 Adopting and Establishing a Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation Policy to comply with P.A. 101-652. Voting Aye: Trustees Augustine, Babischkin, Barron, Berman, Fischer, and Runge. Voting Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**PRESENTATION REGARDING MAY 2021 REVENUE/EXPENSE COMPARED TO BUDGET REPORT:** Village Manager Jean Heckman indicated this is the first step in removing the Financials as an item listed on the Consent Agenda. As reports complete a review process by the Village Treasurer and are presented to the Board, documents will be posted on the Finance Department page of the Village website.

*Public Comment: None.*

**PRESENTATION REGARDING NOTICE TO TERMINATE TENANCY OF 11717 PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD, WOODSTOCK, IL:** President Stavropoulos addressed the hazardous and disrepair condition of the property located at 11717 Pleasant Valley Road. The property is owned by the Village and is leased to the current residents. The residents have been notified of the Village's desire to terminate the lease agreement. The tenants have requested to remain until January 2022.

Once the property is vacated and staff has an opportunity to evaluate the conditions, the Village will begin developing an action plan.

*Public Comment: None.*

**PRESENTATION REGARDING RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE ISSUES AT 9711 MUIRFIELD:** President Stavropoulos indicated there has been an on-going property maintenance issue for nearly seven years regarding the location.

While remaining sensitive to the issue, the Village is seeking to address the condition related to the outside.

Village Attorney Scott Puma stated the Village will be able to recoup any expense incurred by placing a lien on the property.

*Public Comment: None.*

**Village Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 12, 2021**

**Page 3 of 4**

**PRESENTATION REGARDING NON-TRAFFIC NOTICE TO APPEAR FOR CODE**

**ENFORCEMENT:** Summary was provided by President Stavropoulos, together with Village Manager Jean Heckman, as to the non-compliance of code violations being addressed by the Village Building Inspector. In order to compel a resident to rectify violations, the proposed Notice was created.

An Ordinance will be present to the Board at the next meeting addressing the Notice To Appear.

*Public Comment: None.*

**PRESENTATION REGARDING PROPOSED CRYSTAL LAKE BOAT FEE INCREASE FOR LAKE**

**MAINTENANCE:** President Stavropoulos summarized a meeting he attended with Village Manager Jean Heckman and the Crystal Lake Park District, City of Crystal Lake, and a citizen based Lake Advisory Committee regarding options for weed control of Crystal Lake.

Part of the funding for the services would be provided by the increased boat sticker fees; which would be based on a graduated scale relative to boat motor horsepower.

There will be an Inter-Governmental Ordinance proposed between Crystal Lake, Crystal Lake Park District and the Village of Lakewood once all information has been received and reviewed.

*Public Comment: None.*

**PRESENTATION REGARDING DELINQUENT UTILITY BILLING – SECOND NOTICE LETTERS**

**SENT TO 95 RESIDENTS:** Village Manager Jean Heckman provided update regarding delinquent utility billing balances. Second notices went to those accounts that have not responded. Per ordinance, steps to initiate water shut off will begin.

*Public Comment: None.*

**PRESENTATION REGARDING INSPECTION OF EARTHEN EMBANKMENT DAM AT**

**TURNBERRY LAKE NO. 2:** President Stavropoulos presented the report and recommendations received from Baxter & Woodman in regards to the inspection of the earth embankment dam at Turnberry Lake No. 2

Quotes to address the items will be presented at a later date for Board approval.

*Public Comment:* Resident John Schrauf thanked the Board and Village Manager for their prompt attention to the condition of the earthen dam. He suggests the removal of the proposed trees be done when the ground is frozen.

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

- Attempts are still being made to contact the property owners regarding the previous concerns addressed for the condition of 7116 Inverway.
- No grading permit has been issued for the Oasis project at Rt 47/Rt 176, however there appears to be activity in preparation once one is received. No response has been received from IDOT in regards to when the expansion of Rt 47/ Rt 176 will be complete.
- The Village is still waiting for a response from parties involved relative to the deteriorating condition of the Bard Road/Beaver Pond road project.
- The Positive Pay program has been implemented with Home State Bank. Daily notifications are being received and addressed.

**Village Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 12, 2021**

**Page 4 of 4**

- The installation of the new utility billing services will generate a decrease in postage usage at Village Hall.
- Audit presentation should occur in October

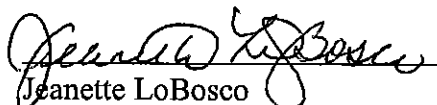
*Public Comment:* None.

**REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Chief Roth** stated the Police Department is participating in the National Take Back Prescription Drug Day on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Residents are encouraged to bring their unwanted medications to Village Hall that day. In addition, together with staff from Public Works, the Village will be participating at the Truck or Treat event sponsored by the Crystal Lake Park District at Main Beach on that day.

With nothing further to discuss, Trustee Berman, seconded by Trustee Barron, moved to adjourn the meeting. Voice Vote: All Ayes: Voting Nay: None. Motion declared carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeanette LoBosco

Village Clerk

Dated: October 26, 2021