

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2019

The regular meeting of the Sleepy Hollow Corporate Authorities was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Sleepy Hollow Village Hall. Board members in attendance were President Stephan Pickett and Trustees Thomas Merkel, Joseph Nemec, Scott Finney and Edward Harney. Donald Ziemba arrived at 7:36 pm. Trustee Dennis Fudala was absent. Also present were Police Chief James Linane and Director of Finance Henry Mionskowski.

MINUTES

1. Finney moved with a second from Nemec to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2019. Prior to the vote, Trustee Merkel commented that he didn't believe the Village was allowed to contribute to charitable organizations such the WALLS THAT HEAL. President Pickett noted that most of the neighboring communities were contributing some amount for this memorial. On voice vote the motion passed with Merkel abstaining.

PRESIDENT

Before starting the agenda President Pickett took the opportunity on behalf of the Village and Board to offer heart-felt condolences and best wishes to the family and victims of the recent home invasion in the Village. He also publically expressed thanks to Chief Linane and the Village of Sleepy Hollow Police Department for their professionalism in the way they handled this situation and further thanked our neighboring communities for the speed in responding to this incident. The Sleepy Hollow Police Department is part of the Major Crime Task Force and many of the neighboring task force departments responded before any request for assistance was made. Noting that this was an isolated incident President Pickett stated nonetheless all residents should keep their doors locked.

Trustee Nemec moved to advance agenda item 12.D.b. forward to allow for the board's consideration of Chief Linane's request for approval to hire Eric Shmidtke as a part time officer with the Village Police Department. Finney seconded the motion and on a unanimous voice vote the motion was carried. After the Chief presented to the board a list of Mr. Shmidtke's qualifications and work history, Chief Linane asked for the board's approval of this hire. Trustee Finney moved with a second from Ziemba to approve the hiring of Eric Shmidtke for part time employment per the terms of the contract between the village and the police department. On a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously. Officer Shmidtke was given the oath of office by the village clerk.

Returning to the agenda, President Pickett introduced Donald Plass who has expressed interest in serving on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Plass has served on the prior Zoning board and is a resident of the Village. President Pickett asked approval for this appointment and Trustee Ziemba moved with a second from Harney to approve the appointment as resented. On a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

CLERK

No report

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

No report.

ATTORNEY

No report.

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ENGINEER

President Pickett presented an update on the Bullfrog Road culvert replacement project. An earlier report explained the village was waiting for a response from the IDNR in regards to the permit request. Recently, the IDNR provided a letter explaining an error in an earlier communication which neglected to mention a fee payment requirement of \$1080 and that as soon as the IDNR received the payment they would move forward on the permit request. Nemec moved with a second from Finney to authorize the payment of \$1080 to the IDNR for this permit. Aye: Finney, Nemec, Harney, Merkel and Ziemba. Nay: None. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

1. Ziemba moved with a second from Merkel to approve the accounts payable of April 15, 2019 in the amount of \$93,306.39. Aye: Finney, Merkel, Nemec, Harney and Ziemba. Nay: None. Motion passed.
2. Henry Mionskowski reported the completion of the March-End Closing report.
3. Mionskowski requested that he be allowed to carry over 80 hours of vacation time to the 2020 fiscal year budget. The 80 hours involved earned and unused hours that he was unable to use due to the press of business. Ziemba moved with a second from Finney to approve the request. Ayes: Finney, Nemec, Merkel, Harney and Ziemba. Nays: None. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Tracy Conlin, 300 Churchill Court, appeared to inquire regarding the restarting of a neighborhood watch program. This inquiry was in response to the recent home invasion incident. Chief Linane explained the village also has such a program in place and he provided Ms. Conlin with the name of his officer overseeing the program. President Pickett offered the use of the village hall for neighborhood watch meetings.
2. Denise Faler, 721 Pimlico Parkway, appeared in support of the request for the creation of a neighborhood watch program. She stated it appeared to her that there have been fewer squad car patrols in the neighbor of late and asked if the village was cutting back on there patrols. Chief Linane responded by assuring her that there has been no cutbacks on patrols with his department logging over 100,000 miles per year in patrolling the village.
3. Karl and Lori Asen appeared to ask for a change to the maximum length limitation of 20 feet for recreational vehicles stored in the village. She explained that their prior RV was 20' and stored on a concrete pad for recently they sold that vehicle and acquired a 23 foot model. They received a notice from the Village Code Enforcement officer so they are appearing before the board to request an increase in the maximum length limitation. President Pickett thanked her for this request.
4. Rich Schuster, 35W315 Boncoskey appeared to request authority on behalf of the soccer clubs that use the village park to retain at no expense to the village a private mowing service to cut the grass to a height suitable for the soccer games. The board agreed to review the insurance and liability forms of this service and assuming suitable protections to the village were in place to consider this request.

PARKS, ROADS AND STREETS

No report.



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FINANCE

Ziemba reported the finance committee will be meeting this week to complete their work on the budget for fiscal year 2020.

WATER AND SEWER

No report.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Trustee Finney asked Chief Linane to present his department's request for the purchase of a new squad car. The new vehicle will be a 2020 will be a hybrid SUV with a final purchase price after the sale of the existing squad car of \$37,900.62. Finney moved with a second from Harney to approve the purchase. Ayes: Finney, Nemec, Merkel, Harney and Ziemba. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Trustee Finney noting this will be his last board meeting publically thanked Chief Linane for making his job easier during his tenure as a trustee. Trustee Finney, Ziemba and Nemec publically praised the actions of the village police department in responding to this incident.

Chief Linane also presented to the board his monthly activities report for March.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

Trustee Harney reported the Village has been approached by a vendor recommending the installation of solar panels the next time the village repairs the roof of the village hall. The vendor indicated they would install and maintain the solar panels at no charge to the village and that it could result in a 30% savings in repair costs to the village. Since this was a proposal for a future event no action was taken.

BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

President Pickett reported a problem with Ordinance 2019-3 as presented and passed by the board in an earlier regular session. Unbeknownst to the board at the time of passing, Kane County had increased their fee for the filing of liens from \$47.00 to \$52.00. Further the prior ordinance was silent on the imposition of a fee to cover the work of the village staff. **Ordinance 2019-4 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING CERTAIN ANCILLARY CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICES IN THE VILLAGE** was presented to the board for approval. Nemec moved with a second from Finney to approve Ordinance 2019-4. Ayes: Finney, Nemec, Harney and Ziemba. Nay: Merkel. Ordinance passed.

Merkel asked for a report on the process of selecting a new police chief. President Pickett reported the search committee has completed the first report of the applications and has culled the number of candidates down to 20. A second questionnaire has been sent to those applicants and upon review of those responses the committee will cull the number to 6 with the intent of conducting personal interviews thereafter.

Nemec reported seeing ATT work crews hanging wires on Willow and asked if the Village has received an update of the eventual removal of the utility poles. As of the meeting date no such report has been received.

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Nemec asked for a report on the removal of ATT's utility poles. President Pickett indicated he would contact ATT at the first available opportunity and report to the board in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

The village has received a new contract from Kane County Animal Control which identifies the services and resultant charges if the county's animal control services department is requested to assist by the village. Chief Linane reported for over a year his department has been able to return lost and recovered animals to residents without having to ask for assistance from Kane County Animal Control. Chief Linane noted these results in a considerable savings to residents due to lower fees charged by his department. However, he recommended the board agree to execute the proposed contract in case his department needed to request assistance from the county. Ziemba moved with a second from Nemec to approve the execution of the contract with Kane County Animal Control. By unanimous vote of the board the motion passed.

President Pickett noted April 29, 2019 has been proclaimed ARBOR DAY. Nemec moved with a second from Finney to authorize President Pickett to sign a proclamation celebrating April 29, 2019 as ARBOR DAY in the Village of Sleepy Hollow. On a voice vote this motion was unanimously approved.

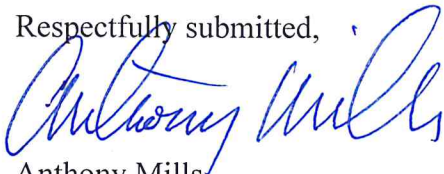
Chief Linane reported the Finance Committee is recommending the police department be allowed to enter into an agreement with the vendor CourtMoney for the collection of money paid for AWT bonds. The vendor will accept payment by credit card whereas the Village accepts cash or payment by personal checks only. The vendor will charge an additional fee up to 7% for the convenience of using credit cards over cash payments. Before the board takes any action on this recommendation, Trustee Merkel requested a copy of the proposed contract for his review. No action was taken at this time.

Trustee Ziemba noted if this process is successful it might serve as the basis for the village using a similar process for other payments to the village.

ADJOURNMENT

Ziemba moved with a second from Harney to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. On a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Mills  
Village Clerk