



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Monday, June 15, 2020

6:30 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Abu-Taleb called the Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. He clarified that the Meeting is being held remotely due to COVID-19 restrictions and that it is not feasible to have people present at the Board's regular meeting location due to the public health concerns related to that outbreak.

II. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

Absent: 0

III. Agenda Approval

Village Trustee Boutet requested that Item T be moved from the Regular Agenda to the Consent Agenda for a brief discussion. Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla asked that Item S be moved from the Regular Agenda to the Consent Agenda in order for her to vote in opposition.

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews, seconded by Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla, to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

S. [ORD 20-037](#) An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Budget

It was moved by Village Trustee Taglia, seconded by Village Trustee Moroney, that this Ordinance be adopted. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 6 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, and Village Trustee Taglia

NAYS: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

ABSENT: 0

IV. Minutes

- A. [MOT 20-034](#) **Motion to Approve Minutes from Remote Special Meeting of May 28, 2020, Emergency Meeting of June 1, 2020, Remote Regular Meeting of June 1, 2020 and Remote Special Meeting of June 8, 2020 of the Village Board.**

It was moved by Village Trustee Moroney, seconded by Village Trustee Boutet, to approve the Minutes. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

V. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Logan Siever. Mr. Siever asked what the Village has done to change police procedures in terms of their upcoming labor contract renewal.

Dr. Mary Ann Bender, President of OPRF Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Bender expressed concern regarding lack of communication with and support of local businesses from the Village.

Sue Humphreys and Kevin Barnhart. Ms. Humphreys and Mr. Barnhart asked when police policies and procedures will be reviewed by the Village as promised.

Stephen Morales. Mr. Morales stated that the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee is recommending that CARES funding be given to the Oak Park businesses that need it as quickly as possible.

Meg Svec, owner of Spilt Milk. Ms. Svec expressed frustration with the Village's lack of communication regarding opening of her business and others in Oak Park.

Sandy Pederson. Ms. Pederson spoke in opposition of additional funding for Christopher B. Burke Engineering.

VII. Village Manager Reports

- C. [ID 20-160](#) **Status Reports have been prepared for the Village Board for duration of March, April and May during which time the Village Responded to an Emergency Affecting the Public Health Pursuant to Resolution 20-120 Adopted on March 13, 2020 and Extended by Resolutions 20-124 and 20-128 which Continues the Emergency through June 1, 2020**

Village Manager Pavlicek commented that the Governor approved Public Act 101-0640, that changes some of the processes in terms of remote meetings. These include mandatory roll call votes on all agenda items, every member of the governing board must be identified and all members are required to be able to hear one another in order for the meeting to proceed. She also noted that the Board has received monthly COVID-19

status reports for March, April and May.

Village Trustee Boutet would like the public to be able to appear at these meetings through Zoom technology. Village Manager Pavlicek explained why that is not possible. Village Attorney Stephanides stated that the new law does not require public participation. The current method of public comment has been approved by the Attorney General's Office.

Village President Abu-Taleb referred to the public comments from businesses and acknowledged that people are frustrated. He knows staff has been working hard to follow the Governor's orders and asked for a brief timeline of what staff has been doing.

Village Manager Pavlicek stated that Phase 3 began May 29 and gave a summary of meetings held and various activities approved by the Board and performed by staff. Staff has been working through a process to put in the necessary safety precautions. The businesses do not pay fees, but must name the Village as an also-insured. She noted that some restaurants have not been receptive to any of the solutions or options offered to them, as there can be legitimate safety concerns by putting dining into a public street. Staff is trying to provide assistance and are not trying to make the situation worse. Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla stated that the Village needs to put less responsibility on the business owners and be more proactive, such as shutting down streets on certain nights. Village Manager Pavlicek noted that they have an obligation to provide access for emergency police and fire services and have to take that into consideration before closing streets. Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla asked what Oak Park is not doing that other communities are doing. Village Manager Pavlicek noted that Oak Park is a bigger community than River Forest or Elmwood Park with several business districts and comparison to those communities is unreasonable. Village Trustee Boutet commented that the Village did not have a plan in place prior to Phase 3 like other communities did.

Village President Abu-Taleb noted that Chicago is two weeks behind Oak Park in regards to moving into Phase 3. It is important to follow what the state is instructing them to do. Not all businesses want streets to be closed, as some restaurants have survived on curbside pickup. It is also important to recognize that this virus has not disappeared and there may be negative consequences if they go forward too quickly. He agrees that they should be more prepared for the next phase, but staff can only move as fast as the state moves and as fast as this Board moves. The Village is doing what they can at this point.

Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla asked what the Village is doing to address racial disparity in terms of COVID-19. Village Manager Pavlicek stated that Director of Public Health Mike Charley has placed an allocation into the Contact Tracing Grant application to help with specific activities that focus on the Black and Brown communities. In addition, the Communication Directors will be developing some print materials directed at those areas with a large Black and Brown population. Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla suggested that the Community Relations Commission work with the Board of Health in terms of outreach, as well as the Village releasing some language regarding protesters wearing masks, etc. She also asked for information on self-isolation best practices to minimize risk of COVID spread within one's home. Village Manager Pavlicek stated that the Village already has a process in place regarding offering isolation to someone outside of their home. She will provide the public with more information regarding that.

VIII. Village Board Committees

IX. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

It was moved by Village Trustee Boutet and seconded by Village Trustee Moroney to approve the items under the Consent Agenda. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 6 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, and Village Trustee Taglia

NAYS: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

ABSENT: 0

- D.** [RES 20-114](#) **A Resolution Approving a Customer Work Agreement with Commonwealth Edison Company for Designing the Relocation of Electrical Distribution Facilities for the Vacation of South Euclid Avenue for the Senior Living Center Development at 703 Madison Street in an Amount Not to Exceed \$47,651 and Authorizing its Execution as Reviewed at the September 3, 2019 Regular Meeting**

This Resolution was adopted.

- E.** [RES 20-115](#) **A Resolution Approving Estimates of Cost and Authority to Work Agreements with AT&T Illinois for the Design and Relocation of Communications Facilities for the Vacation of South Euclid Avenue for the Senior Living Center Development at 703 Madison Street in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,250,000 and Authorizing its Execution as Reviewed at the September 3, 2019 Regular Board Meeting**

This Resolution was adopted.

- F.** [RES 20-142](#) **A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Grant Application to Provide Funding for the Police Department's Tobacco Enforcement Program (TEP)**

This Resolution was adopted.

- G.** [RES 20-143](#) **A Resolution Approving a One Month Extension of a Professional Services Agreement between the Village of Oak Park and Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$42,000 for Security Services at Village Parking Structures and Not to Exceed \$4,500 for Security Services at Village Hall and Authorizing its Execution**

This Resolution was adopted.

- H.** [RES 20-145](#) **A Resolution Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Baxter & Woodman, Inc. for the Development of a Risk and Resilience Assessment/Emergency Response Plan in an Amount Not to Exceed \$28,000.00 and Authorizing its Execution**

This Resolution was adopted.

- I. [RES 20-148](#) **A Resolution Approving a Local Public Agency Amendment #2 for Federal Participation for the Feasibility Study of Expanded Bridge Decking over I-290 and Authorizing its Execution**

This Resolution was adopted.

J RES 20-149 A Resolution Approving a Second Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement Between the Village of Oak Park and Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for Design Engineering, Ltd. for Design Engineering Services for the Madison Street Streetscape Project to Change the Not to Exceed Amount from \$674,218 to \$903,861 and Authorizing its Execution

This Resolution was adopted.

AYES: 6 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, and Village Trustee Taglia

NAYS: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

ABSENT: 0

- K. [RES 20-150](#) **A Resolution Approving a Parking Lot Temporary License Agreement with the Beer Shop, LLC for a One Day Event and Authorizing its Execution**

This Resolution was adopted.

- L. [RES 20-151](#) **A Resolution Approving the Letter of Intent between the Village of Oak Park and the Illinois Department of Transportation for the IL64 and IL56/22 Street/Cermak Road Smart Corridor Project and Authorizing its Execution**

This Resolution was adopted.

- M. [RES 20-152](#) **A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant Application with the United States Department of Justice with an Anticipated Funding Amount of \$4,734.50**

This Resolution was adopted.

- N. [MOT 20-029](#) **A Motion to Approve the May 2020 Monthly Treasurer's Report for All Funds**

This Motion was approved.

- O. [MOT 20-030](#) **A Motion to Approve the Bills in the Amount of \$3,834,019.38 from May 11, 2020 through June 8, 2020**

This Motion was approved.

- P. [MOT 20-032](#) **A Motion to Accept Staff's Recommendation to Upgrade from Two-Way STOP signs to All-Way STOP Signs at the Intersection of Pleasant Street and Scoville Avenue and Direct Staff to Prepare the Necessary Ordinance**

This Motion was approved.

Q. [MOT 20-025](#) **A Motion to Receive the Fiscal Year 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Supporting Documents as Reviewed by the Village Board at its June 8, 2020 Special Meeting**

R. [MOT 20-026](#) **A Motion to Receive the Fiscal Year 2019 Single Audit Report as Reviewed by the Village Board at its June 8, 2020 Special Meeting**

This Motion was approved.

VI. Proclamation

B. [ID 20-157](#) **Motion to Approve Proclamation for Juneteenth Annually on June 19th.**

Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla discussed the history behind the Proclamation and introduced life-long Oak Park resident Juanta Griffin, who read the Proclamation aloud.

It was moved by Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla, seconded by Village Trustee Boutet, that this Proclamation be adopted. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

X. Regular Agenda

U. [ORD 20-040](#) **Concur with the Plan Commission's Recommendation and Adopt An Ordinance Denying a Special Use Permit for a Major Planned Development Containing a Five Story Multiple-Family Residential Building with 48 Dwelling Units at the Property Located at 435-451 Madison Street**

Village President Abu-Taleb asked that the Board table this Item in order to give the neighbors the opportunity to look at the revisions that the developer incorporated into the plan.

Village Trustee Boutet would like to see this back before the Board within two to three weeks.

Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla requested that information regarding the inclusion or lack of affordable housing within this development be available when it is brought back to the Board.

Village Trustee Buchanan addressed emails accusing the Board of doing "back-door deals" with this developer, which she found offensive. Village Trustees Boutet and Walker-Peddakotla attributed the mistrust of the public to lack of communication.

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews, seconded by Village Trustee Boutet, that this Ordinance be tabled. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

T. [ORD 20-048](#) **An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Budget to Provide for the Setup of Outdoor Dining Locations in the Village's Business Districts in an Amount Not To Exceed \$25,000**

Village Manager Pavlicek stated that this is amending appropriations in the adopted FY20 Budget to allow for funds to be available for the rental fees of jersey barriers required for on-street dining.

Village Trustee Boutet expressed concern that rental of the barriers until July 31 was not long enough and would like this approved now, but be brought back to extend through the end of the summer. Village Manager Pavlicek anticipated extending this, but wanted to start with 60 days. Staff's intent is to bring back an extension in July.

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews, seconded by Village Trustee Boutet, that this Ordinance be adopted. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

V. [RES 20-144](#) **A Resolution Approving a Subrecipient Grant Agreement with Housing Forward for CARES Act Community Development Block Grant-Corona Virus (CDBG-CV) Funding in a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$400,000 and Authorizing Its Execution.**

Village Manager Pavlicek stated that on May 4, Director of Development Customer Services Tammie Grossman provided an update and a report to discuss this with the Board. The Village is receiving an additional allocation of CDBG funds under the CARES Act specifically allocated to assist individuals of low and moderate income.

Ms. Grossman added that staff has been working closely with Housing Forward and they are excited to be giving them this additional funding.

Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla asked if these funds will also go towards shelters for homeless individuals. Ms. Grossman stated that they will not and explained that this is an additional source of funding to assist those at risk of becoming homeless. She added that one use of this could be to move homeless individuals from hotels into housing. She discussed additional sources of funding for that and explained HUD requirements and the documentation requirements of Housing Forward.

It was moved by Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla, seconded by Village Trustee Andrews, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

W. [RES 20-146](#) **A Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a Business Assistance Loan Program Using CARES Act Community Development Block Grant-Corona Virus (CDBG-CV) Funding in an Amount Not to Exceed \$300,000**

Ms. Grossman stated that businesses with fewer than 25 employees would qualify to apply for assistance of \$5,000 in funds to retain low to moderate income workers. As long as the business employs the individuals for a three-month period, the loan would be forgiven.

Village Trustee Boutet asked how this criteria was arrived at. Ms. Grossman stated that under HUD guidelines, the CDBG funds have to be used to benefit low and moderate income households, whether it be the business owner or the employees. Village Trustee Boutet asked if any unrestricted funding was available for business owners to help with rent, etc. Ms. Grossman stated that there are additional loan program guidelines that different communities are using, which is by invitation only and the Village cannot just apply for them. She is encouraged that because of the Village's other programs, they should be eligible.

Village Trustee Boutet asked how the CDBG funds will be administered. Ms. Grossman stated that it will be done on a first come, first served basis.

Village Trustee Andrews asked if it is legal for the Village to recommend certain businesses be given the first opportunity to apply. If that is possible, he would like to see businesses that employ ex-offenders as top priority.

Ms. Grossman discussed how employees are determined as low or moderate income. She also stated that some additional funds have been put aside for non-profits and those recommendations will be coming to the Board.

Village Trustee Boutet interjected and announced that she received a text message from a resident indicating technical difficulties in the broadcast.

Village Trustee Taglia stated that it is important to get these funds out to the businesses as quickly as possible and asked if there was anything they can do to adjust the parameters such as a smaller maximum number of employees and to exclude businesses that participated in the PPP, as they have already received a sizeable amount of money. Ms. Grossman stated that 25 is the maximum and lowering that may lessen the amount of businesses they can help. In addition, duplication of benefits will be looked at before funds are issued. Once the Board passes the Resolution, they will start publicizing the program and there will be a relatively quick turn around.

Village President Abu-Taleb agreed with lowering the maximum number of employees, as this would have a much bigger impact on a smaller business. He would like to prioritize smaller businesses with fewer employees over those with more, while following HUD guidelines. Ms. Grossman stated that this can be adjusted at the will of the Board.

Village Trustee Andrews agreed with Village President Abu-Taleb.

Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla would like to prioritize minority of Black owned businesses.

Village Trustee Boutet pointed out that this is a way to pay employees, not to help businesses survive.

Ms. Grossman stated that this can be marketed to businesses with under 10 employees to start, then increase that every two weeks up to 25. She also reiterated that the business has to certify that the \$5,000 went towards a job for a low or moderate income employee who is retained for three months. There was discussion.

Village Manager Pavlicek stated that there are over 400 businesses in the Village with 10 employees or less. She stated that staff can start at 10, and if there is any money left they can increase the maximum number of employees. There was consensus.

It was moved by Village Trustee Boutet, seconded by Village Trustee Andrews, that this Resolution be adopted as amended by decreasing the maximum number of employees from 25 to 10 in order to be eligible to apply for funding. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

XI. Call to Board and Clerk

Village Clerk Scaman asked everyone to stay safe.

Village Trustee Buchanan discussed the upheaval in society, which she finds exciting and inspiring. She reassured residents that this Board is going to act, and they are all interested in listening to residents and protesters regarding policing, and will take action. She is hoping that additional actions beyond the use of force will be discussed at next week's meeting.

Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla discussed the Freedom to Thrive Report and hopes that these volunteers' research is utilized in regards to next week's meeting. She expressed concern that police complaints have not been taken seriously by the Board. She discussed the Police General Orders and commented that no one is sure if there is use of force in Oak Park. She is in support of less investment in police and more into the community, as well as taking police out of the schools and restructuring of the Citizens Police Oversight Commission's authority.

Village Trustee Andrews stated that a business owner on South Oak Park Avenue relayed to him that the outdoor seating was a boom to his business. He also wished all a Happy Juneteenth.

XII. Adjourn

It was moved by Village Trustee Boutet, seconded by Village Trustee Andrews, to adjour. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 5 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Boutet, Village Trustee Buchanan, and Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2 - Village Trustee Moroney, and Village Trustee Taglia

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M., Monday, June 15, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

MaryAnn Schoenneman
Deputy Village Clerk