



Village of Oak Park

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

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Monday, November 2, 2020

5:30 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Abu-Taleb called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M. He authorized a statement be read providing that the meeting is being held remotely due to COVID-19 restrictions and that it is not prudent to have people present at the Village Board's regular meeting location due to public health concerns related to that pandemic.

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. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews and seconded by Village Trustee Moroney to enter into executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) - approval of executive session minutes; and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) - discussion of collective bargaining matters. 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. Reconvene to Remote Regular Meeting in Council Chambers and Call to Order

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 6:32 P.M.

VI. Roll Call

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

Absent: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

VII. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Village Trustee Moroney and seconded by Village Trustee Boutet to approve the agenda as amended, moving Item L. to the regular agenda. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was approved. The roll call 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

VIII. Minutes

A. [MOT 20-072](#) **Motion to Approve Minutes from Regular Remote Meeting of October 19, 2020 and Special Remote Meeting of October 26, 2020 of the Village Board.**

It was moved by Village Trustee Boutet and seconded by Village Trustee Moroney to approve the minutes from October 19, 2020 and October 26, 2020 as presented. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was approved. The roll call 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

IX. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Mary Ann Bender, Board President OPRF Chamber of Commerce: Mary Ann Bender provided a comment urging members of the Village Board and staff to lead in supporting restaurants and small business in light of the Governor's most recent order to further restrict indoor dining in Suburban Cook County due to increasing COVID-19 cases.

X. Village Manager Reports

Village Manager Pavlicek reminded the Board and general public that Village Hall will be closed for election day, November 3rd, due to the Governor's declaration that it is a State Holiday. The Village Board is scheduled to meet on November 9th at 5:30pm and expected to adjourn immediately into executive session and return to open session at 6:30pm. Village Manager Pavlicek responded to Village Trustee Boutet that staff has every intention of responding appropriately to the pending vacancy of the Public Health Director position.

XI. Village Board Committees

None

XII. Public Hearing

B. [ID 20-255](#) **Truth in Taxation Public Hearing for the Proposed Tax Year 2020 Property**

Tax Levy

Village Trustee Boutet desired to explain her "no" vote on the motion for a public hearing stating that it is not necessary to have a "Truth in Taxation Public Hearing" unless the levy is expected to be 5% or greater.

Assistant Village Attorney Rasheda Jackson stated that the notice for this "Truth in Taxation Public Hearing" was posted in the Wednesday Journal on October 21, 2020, as required by State statute, with information on the levy and the means for providing public comment.

Village Manager Cara Pavlicek provided a brief introduction on the annual "Truth in Taxation Public Hearing" as providing for additional transparency. CFO Drazner provided detailed information on the Village and Library levy for FY2020. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$44,425,908. This represents a 0.3% increase from the previous year.

Village Trustee Andrews thanked Village staff for presenting a budget that holds the levy at 3% for three years in a row. CFO Drazner responded to questions from Village Trustee Boutet drawing attention to a budgeted general fund deficit of \$1.6M.

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Public Comment

Pati Flannery: Pati Flannery provided a public comment requesting elected officials at the local, county, and state-level engage in "courageous conversations" with public unions to voluntarily roll back automatic increases as part of a "shared sacrifice" with residents.

Village President Abu-Taleb confirmed that there was no additional questions from Village Trustees and no additional comments from the public. All persons who wish to be heard have been given an opportunity to do so.

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews and seconded by Village Trustee Moroney to open a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing for the proposed tax year 2020 property tax levy. A roll call vote was taken. The motion approved. The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: 5 - Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Andrews, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Moroney, and Village Trustee Taglia

NAYS: 1 - Village Trustee Boutet

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

Motion to Adjourn the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing for the Proposed Tax Year 2020

It was moved by Village Trustee Buchanan and seconded by Village Trustee Andrews to adjourn the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing for Proposed Tax Year 2020. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was approved. The roll call 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

XIII. First Reading

C. [ORD 20-090](#) First Reading of an Ordinance Establishing the Annual Building and Construction Permit Fees and the Zoning Application Fees of the Village of Oak Park

Village Manager Pavlicek informed the Village Board the practice of bringing forward to the Village Board proposed changes in fees annually. Director of Development Customer Services Tammie Grossman provided an explanation regarding a decrease in permit fees due to a healthy construction climate. The FY2021 projected revenue from permits is \$1.4M, FY2020 was \$1.1M. An increase in permit applications shares the cost of processing to more applicants resulting in a decrease in permit processing fees.

D. [ORD 20-096](#) First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 20 ("Public Health"), Article 7 ("Garbage, Weeds and Littering") of the Oak Park Village Code Regarding Rates for Garbage, Refuse, Yard Waste and Recyclable Materials Collection Services

Public Works Director John Wielebnicki informed the Village Board that the Waste Management contract is due to expire in FY2021. Fees presented will cover costs. He expects to bring forward a contract in the first quarter of 2021. Mr. Wielebnicki provided a brief update on the incentive for composting program. He hopes to continue proposing the first three months free as an incentive.

Public Comment

Carl Roode: Carl provided a comment urging the Village Board to consider 2 sizes of trash containers in advance of renewing the contract with Waste Management so that households who do not require a 64 gallon container have an option that better suits their needs and space limitations.

Village Trustee Boutet shared the spirit of Mr. Roode's comment with regard to composting and suggested a neighbor sharing program. Mr. Wielebnicki responded that a sharing program is already encouraged. He can look into additional sizes for composting but the current size does permit adding yard waste. The fee is driven more from the cost of collection (tipping fee) than the size of the container. Village Trustee Boutet requested a report on the efficiency of recycling in general as part of presenting a future Waste Management contract.

XIV. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Public Comment for the consent agenda, related to Items I., J., and K.

Maria Esquivel: Maria provided a public comment in support of implementing 7 day parking restrictions on the block of 1150 Highland.

Heidi Boos: Heidi provided a public comment recommending parking restrictions for the 1150 block of Highland Ave. in response to excessive noise and disruptive behavior from patrons of a nearby establishment located in Berwyn.

Katie Claussen Bell: Katie provided a public comment sharing stories of incidents from patrons of a nearby establishment in Berwyn and urging the Village Board to institute parking restrictions for the 1150 block of South Highland Ave.

Village President Abu-Taleb commented that he is glad that the Village has been able to respond timely and efficiently to assist the neighbors on the 1150 block of South Highland with the parking restrictions approved on the consent agenda.

It was moved by Village Trustee Boutetand seconded by Village Trustee Andrews 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

- E.** [RES 20-222](#) **A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of 3,600 Tons of Rock Salt from Cargill, Incorporated of Minneapolis, Minnesota at \$47.33 Per Ton For the 2020/2021 Snow Season in an Amount Not To Exceed \$171,000.00, and Waiving the Village's Bidding Process for Said Purchase**
This Resolution was adopted.
- F.** [RES 20-226](#) **A Resolution Authorizing Subordination of a Lien for the Property Located at 1027 S. Cuyler Avenue (SFR-084)**
This Resolution was adopted.
- G.** [RES 20-228](#) **A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Independent Contractor Agreement with Gino's Heating & Plumbing Inc. for Fiscal Year 2020 Emergency Water and Sewer Repairs to Change the Not to Exceed Amount from \$15,000 to \$30,000 and Authorizing its Execution**
This Resolution was adopted.
- H.** [RES 20-229](#) **A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Independent Contractor Agreement with Cerniglia Co. for Fiscal Year 2020 Emergency Water and Sewer Repairs to Change the Not to Exceed Amount from \$25,000 to \$35,000 and Authorizing its Execution**

This Resolution was adopted.

- I. [MOT 20-068](#) A Motion to Concur with the Transportation Commission's Recommendation to Adopt a "No Parking 10 PM-6 AM, Seven Days a Week Restriction" on the 1150 Block of Highland from the Alley North of Roosevelt Rd to Fillmore Street, on Both Sides, and Install Signage for Said Limitation

This Motion was approved.

- J. [MOT 20-069](#) A Motion to Concur with the Transportation Commission's Recommendation to Adopt a "No Parking 10 PM-6 AM, Seven Days a Week Restriction" on the 1150 Block of South Cuyler from the Alley North of Roosevelt Rd to Fillmore Street, on Both Sides, and Install Signage for Said Limitation

This Motion was approved.

- K. [MOT 20-070](#) A Motion to Concur with the Transportation Commission's Recommendation to Adopt a "No Parking 10 PM-6 AM, Seven Days a Week Restriction" on the 1150 Block of Wisconsin from the Alley North of Roosevelt Rd to Fillmore Street, on Both Sides, and Install Signage for Said Limitation

This Motion was approved.

XV. Regular Agenda

- M. [RES 20-232](#) A Resolution Declaring an Emergency Affecting the Public Health through February 16, 2021 Due to the Outbreak of COVID-19 Disease in the State of Illinois

Village Manager Pavlicek provided an overview and explanation for the benefits and reasons for declaring an emergency affecting the public health as providing the resources to staff to respond to community needs without delay during a national pandemic. Village Manager Pavlicek responded to Board discussion of whether there should be an end date on the proposed resolution for now. Discussion resulted in leaving the resolution as is.

Village Trustee Boutet shared her opinion that the resolution does not need to include providing the Village Manager with spending authority responsive to the pandemic when spending should be predictable and easy enough to bring to the Village Board for approval.

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews and seconded by Village Trustee Boutet to approve a Resolution Declaring an Emergency Affecting the Public Health. A roll call was taken. The motion was approved. The roll call 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

L. [MOT 20-064](#) A Motion to Approve the Unaudited Year-to-Date Quarterly Financial Report as of September 30, 2020

Village Trustee Boutet requested this agenda item be taken off of consent out of concern for the deficit in revenue from the parking fund. CFO Drazner stated that this discussion has been reviewed as part of the budget discussion and a balanced budget has been proposed. The concern is more for beyond 2021. Staff will be providing additional information for long-term strategies when they review the enterprise fund at the November 9, 2020 Board meeting.

It was moved by Village Trustee Boutet and seconded by Village Trustee Moroney to receive the Unaudited Year-to-Date Quarterly Financial Report as presented. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was approved. The roll call 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

XVI. Call to Board and Clerk

Village Clerk Scaman stated that tonight, November 2, 2020, is the last night for early voting at Village Hall. Voters seeking to vote on election day need to go to their polling place. That information can be found on the Cook County Clerk website. She urged voters to not vote provisionally with a second ballot if they have already mailed or placed their absentee ballot in a secure ballot box.

Village Trustee Andrews complimented members of the public for following safe measures during trick-or-treating.

Village Trustee Boutet urged members of the Village Board to respond to assisting the small business community in response to the pandemic.

Village Trustee Moroney shared his concern for restaurants in the pandemic and his opinion that restrictions be more evidence based. He would welcome information from the restaurant community on their thoughts regarding the Governor's order.

Village Trustee Taglia thanked staff for quickly addressing the concerns of residents on 1150 S. Highland in response to patronage of a nearby Berwyn business that is challenging for that block. Trustee Taglia shared his desire for Village staff to allocate funds in the budget for removing graffiti.

Village President Abu-Taleb shared Trustee Taglia's suggestion regarding

graffiti. President Abu-Taleb confirmed as a restaurant owner that current restrictions are devastating for the restaurant community. He cautioned that subsidy relief needs to come from the State, public safety is still a priority. He does believe that the Village can send a message of "Open for Business", and he expects staff to bring forward a proposal on how that can be done, but the greatest responsibility from his perspective is on the State.

XVII. Adjourn

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews and seconded by Village Trustee Taglia to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.. The roll call 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: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Walker-Peddakotla

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Scaman
Village Clerk