

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
MAY 20, 2019**

Village President Missey Moorman Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Trustees Greco, Host, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum present.

Also present were Village Administrator Thomas Durkin, Director of Community Development and Information Systems Mike Petrick, Director of Public Works Ed Dolezal, Chief of Police Shane Casey, Finance Director Heather Wagonblott, Village Attorney David Silverman and Village Clerk Kristin Hall.

**VP Moorman Schumacher informed everyone present that anyone who speaks at the meeting shall be deemed to have given his/her consent to the recording of their likeness and speech. This meeting is being recorded.**

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**

**Discussion – An Ordinance Amending the Village of Channahon Code of Ordinances with Regard to Village Trustee Assignments – 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

VP Moorman Schumacher stated the attached ordinance modifies the currently established list of the Village Board committee structure that has been in place since May of 2013. Periodically over the years, the committee structure of the Board has been modified to address the needs of the Village. She stated the currently proposed ordinance consolidates the duties of two existing committees, Community Development and the Technology/Community Image/Code Enforcement, modifies the Community and Legislative Affairs duties to include matters regarding tourism and visitors, and re-introduces the committee regarding Natural Resources and Open Space, with the addition of trails and paths to the associated duties. She also stated the resultant trustee assignment structure is:

Finance/Human Resources  
Community and Legislative Affairs  
Public Works  
Community Development  
Public Safety/Emergency Support  
Natural Resources and Open Space

**ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT**

**Discussion and Direction – Backyard Chickens**

- **An Ordinance of the Village of Channahon with Respect to Backyard Chickens (Eliminating Backyard Chickens) – 1<sup>st</sup> Read**
- **An Ordinance of the Village of Channahon with Respect to Backyard Chickens (Allowed Permanently) – 1<sup>st</sup> Read**
- **An Ordinance of the Village of Channahon Amending the Village Code of Ordinances with Regard to “Backyard Chickens” (Extending Pilot Program) – 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

Trustee McMillin entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Durkin stated in late 2017, the Village Board passed Ordinance 1906. He stated this ordinance set parameters for the allowance and keeping of backyard chickens in the R-1 and R-2 Single Family Residential Zoning Districts and also established an 18 month pilot program. He also stated after the pilot program expired, a report was to be provided to the Village Board outlining the results of the pilot program and would include staff recommendations on making permanent, modifying or eliminating the keeping of chickens in these zoning districts. He stated staff received no applications for the pilot program. He also stated a few inquiries were made regarding the keeping of chickens but none resulted in the receipt of an application. He further stated recently, we did receive 2 inquiries on the keeping of chickens which to date has resulted in an application. He stated staff expects a second application to follow shortly in the event the Village Board votes to continue the pilot program or make the provisions contained in Ordinance 1906 permanent. He stated there are three ordinance options listed on the Village Board meeting agenda this evening: He also stated the first ordinance eliminates and repeals Ordinance 1906 completely. He further stated the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinance eliminates the need for a pilot program and makes the provisions in Ordinance 1906 permanent, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> ordinance extends and re-establishes the pilot program.

VP Moorman Schumacher asked if there was a defined application period.

Durkin stated it would be through July 31, 2019. The pilot program would terminate on December 31, 2020. He stated if the Board wishes they can make changes to those. He stated the idea of the pilot program was to see if any issue arose that could be addressed once the pilot program concluded.

Giana Danno, resident of Channahon, stated she wanted to discuss the keeping of backyard chickens whether it be a permanent ordinance or the pilot program. She stated she was one of the recent families to turn in their application and she just wanted to discuss if those ordinance or the initial rules for the pilot program would continue on or if it would be a whole new set of rules going forward.

VP Moorman stated as Durkin said if we approve an extension of the pilot program, then the same rules would stay in place that were initially in place. She stated that those rules are spelled out in the ordinance.

Mrs. Danno stated originally this was started as a 4H project idea. She stated that she and her husband had Giana research for almost a year, about keeping chickens and different breeds of chickens. She stated when Giana came forward with all of that information to us with how much it would cost to continue on and have these chickens, we then applied for the license and found out that it may be discontinued. She stated our hope is that we may be the first family in the pilot program, so she can test it out and see how it goes. She stated we do know several farmers who would take the chickens, in the event the Village would have to discontinue us keeping them in our yard. She also stated they would rehome them if that needs to happen, which of course we are hoping that it doesn't. She stated that Giana has a few points about chickens.

Giana Danno stated that chickens when they are well maintained are clean and hygienic. She stated hens are generally non-invasive, noise wise, they wouldn't bother the neighbors. She stated they don't plan on getting a rooster. She also stated the coop itself would be visually appealing; we don't plan on having an ugly, little shack. She further stated the run itself, which would be the area the hens run in, would be fairly large and would be in a fenced in area. She stated they would be free roaming part of the time. She also stated that the coop would be of 80 square feet, which is over the minimum requirement for four hens. She stated it would be a good 4H project, as chickens themselves actually make very good pets and they behave very similar to dogs. She also stated it would be a good learning experience for organic living, homesteading, animal intelligence for species other than what families are used to for pets and it will be a huge responsibility for both me and my younger brother. She stated the fenced in area of our yard is roughly 550 feet, so they would have quite of bit of room to roam.

Mr. Danno stated we live on McClintock Road, on the corner of McClintock and Kent. He stated that the yards over there are fairly sizeable, about a ½ acre. He stated we have a fair amount of space.

Durkin stated he didn't have the original ordinance, but Ms. Danno mentioned free roam part of the time. He stated he didn't know if that was permissible under the ordinance, he would have to check on it.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

#### **Discussion – A Resolution to Authorize the Village Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with the Canal Corridor Association for Bicycle Rental**

Petrick stated the Canal Corridor Association approached the Village of Channahon about a partnership opportunity for a bicycle rental station along the I&M Canal. He stated the program is being funded in part by a 50/50 tourism grant from the State of Illinois. He also stated the program aims to place rental facilities (similar to Divvy Chicago) at locations in municipalities along the I&M Canal. He stated Channahon, LaSalle, Morris, and Ottawa are tentatively the four participating locations. He also stated PACE/Zagster is the bicycle company to provide the rental bicycles. He stated each bicycle rental facility will have 5 bicycles (or more) that are rented by an "app" that can be accessed via smartphone. He also stated Zagster is responsible for all bicycle maintenance and ensuring that the system remains balanced with bicycles evenly distributed. He further stated the responsibility of the Village of Channahon, and the other three municipalities, will be a contribution of \$10,000 (\$2,000 per bicycle) and a location to contain the rental station. He stated this \$10,000 will fund the program for two years. He also stated the aim of the program is that rental fees will be accumulated in order to fund the program into years three and beyond, as well as provide for potential expansion of the program. He stated while the program is open to residents and visitors alike, a goal of the program is to boost tourism along the I&M Canal and in the Village. He stated an exact location for the rental station has yet to be determined, but the best candidates are in areas of high visibility near to the I&M Canal. He also stated the station is self-contained and does not require power or other connections. He stated as the grant award was just recently received in the past two weeks and funds must be spent by June 30, 2019 so timing is of the essence. He further stated since four municipalities still need to review the contract agreement and negotiate common language, there may not be sufficient time prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> for the board to vote on a final contract. He stated therefore, the resolution authorizes the Village

Administrator to sign the agreement, once favorable language is established between the four municipalities and the Canal Corridor Association.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated one of the exciting things about this is, as far as the municipalities involved in this, we are the furthest east. She stated we have talked about being the gateway to Starved Rock Country and all of that is west. She stated being that we are the furthest east of these proposed locations, that just kind of opens us up to be that gateway place. She also stated this is a great opportunity for us, in terms of bringing people to Channahon for recreational uses.

Trustee McMillin asked who carries the insurance on it.

Attorney Silverman stated the Zagster Company has insurance and they'll name at least the Canal Corridor as additional insured.

#### **FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

Wagonblott stated she had no formal items.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Casey stated he had no formal items.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

##### **Discussion – Purchase of Morbark Chipper**

Dolezal stated the Village budgeted for the purchase of a Morbark M15R wood chipper. He stated the unit would be a new 2018 model direct from the factory. He also stated instead of purchasing a 2019 model, taking delivery of the 2018 model will save the Village approximately \$2700.00. He stated Morbark has contract #062117-MBI with Sourcewell. He also stated Sourcewell completes the competitive bidding process for various services and equipment. He further stated the Village is a member of Sourcewell purchasing Co-op and can take advantage of the process. He stated the price for the chipper delivered to the Village is \$70,278.05 and is \$1721.95 under budget.

VP Moorman Schumacher asked if we were going to do mulch again like we did last year.

Dolezal stated it's out at Jessup street garage now. He also stated we've got plenty of it.

##### **Discussion – Award U.S. Route 6 at I-55 East Frontage Road Signalization Project**

Dolezal stated the project will signalize the intersection of Thomas Dillon/Bradley Street and US 6. Some widening occurs on Thomas Dillon and Bradley Street. He also stated Pilot, future Speedway and Ridgeline distribution building are at this intersection. He stated the low bidder was P.T Ferro in the amount of \$1,832,878.29. He stated the contract completion date is August 30, 2019.

Trustee Scaggs stated that is all the road improvements and all the new lanes are in.

Dolezal stated there is widening and turning lanes on the frontage road and there will be a right turn lane that will go to the future Speedway.

Durkin stated there is also a right turn lane on Route 6, to go south on Bradley Street. He also stated we got a significant amount of money from Venture One, as well as Ridgeline and these improvements also include some of what is associated with Speedway and they will be paying for those improvements. He further stated very little initial money out the door from the Village and all of that will be recapturable back by other pieces of property that develop in the area. He stated at the end of the day, it will be a zero cost to the Village.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated it will cost our residents zero at the end of the day. She stated with Venture One and Ridgeline having already paid their share, we sitting on a good portion of this money.

**Discussion – A Resolution for Authorization to Sign WPCLP Loan Agreement**

Dolezal stated previously the Village had passed a Resolution for the Director of Public Works to sign loan application documents for the expansion of our waste water treatment plant through the IEPA Waste Water Revolving Fund. He stated there is a distinction between loan application documents and the loan documents themselves. He stated since they have documents down there already, with his signature on it, we thought it was easier to come back with a new Resolution that covers the loan documents as well.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Submitted by  
Kristin Hall  
Village Clerk

