

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2022**

VP 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, Finance Director Heather Wagonblott, Director of Public Works Ed Dolezal, Chief of Police Shane Casey, 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

Recognition – St. Ann’s Football Team

VP Moorman Schumacher recognized the St. Ann’s Golden Eagle football team along with Program Director, John Krenkel. She asked Mr. Krenkel to let the Board and the public know what the team won and why they are here this evening.

Mr. Krenkel stated we are here because our JV and our Super lightweight team won our first superbowl ever. He stated this was their ninth season and they did great. He also stated that the JV team was on a three-game losing streak, then won four games, tied one and won the remaining games of the season. He further stated that it was an amazing feat for a team that starting coming together two weeks into practice. He stated the Super lightweight team, you need eleven kids to play and we hit our 11th kid in the last week of the season. He also stated that they are really a great group of kids, with great hearts and great coaches. He further stated that after they won the first playoff game, they believed they were going to take it all the way. It was amazing what they did and he is glad that we can honor them in this forum because they do represent the Village of Channahon.

VP Moorman Schumacher presented a certificate and a gift for each of the players.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Discussion – A Resolution Approving A Preliminary Agreement Regarding Formation of a Regional Water Commission, Making Preliminary Declarations of Future Lake Michigan Water Needs and Other Related Matters

Durkin stated in 2015 and 2020, the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) issued reports indicating that the levels of groundwater supply available in the deep sandstone aquifer beneath Will, Kane and Kendall Counties and the surrounding areas is declining and the long-term viability of this supply as a reliable drinking water source is insufficient to support the water needs of the communities. In addition, a 2020 ISWS report found increasing concentrations of chloride and total dissolved solids in shallow wells that negatively affect water quality and require additional treatment for the removal of these contaminants from drinking water. In 2020, an Illinois EPA sampling of water quality of all public water supplies showed some wells have detectable levels of PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl) substances at levels regulated by environmental authorities in

other states. Taken together, these studies reveal that the long-term water supply needs of the communities, provided through the use of groundwater, in all likelihood will not be reliably and cost-effectively met. He also stated in early 2019, Village staff and consultants began earnestly reviewing various options for an alternative water source including the Illinois River, the Kankakee River and Lake Michigan. Through these various reviews since, in conjunction with the aforementioned studies, it has been determined that the Lake Michigan option through participation in a regional water commission provides the Village with the most reliable, safe, adequate and cost-effective option for alternative water source.

The passage of the resolution approves and executes the preliminary agreement (with Exhibits A, B and C), provides the Village's preliminary declarations of its needs for water supply from the Regional Water Commission (Declared 2050 Maximum Day Demand and Estimated Buildout Declared Maximum Day Demand), the appointment and designation of representatives to working groups of the commission, and approval of the first payment of Water Commission formation administration costs pursuant to the preliminary agreement. He also stated the preliminary agreement attached requires the Village to adopt an ordinance and approve an intergovernmental agreement providing for the acquisition and operation jointly, with other members, of a waterworks system and providing for a common source of water supply from Lake Michigan, pursuant to the key principles and basis of design attached as exhibits to the agreement. The Village will also need to approve a water supply agreement between the Regional Water Commission and its members. He stated the Village, along with other communities approving this agreement, within six months after the execution of this agreement, will pay \$110,000 to fund Water Commission formation administration costs. These payments will be held in a separate fund by a member community as agreed to by the members. He further stated if the IGA to form the commission is not approved and in effect by April 1, 2023, each party to the agreement agrees to make an additional payment of \$110,000 by July 1, 2023 to continue to fund ongoing commission formation administrative costs. If funds remain available after commission formation is complete, excess funds will be turned over to the commission or returned to the appropriate members. He also stated that each member must demonstrate the financial ability to fund the required improvements within its water system as well as its share of the commission costs by June 15, 2022 in the form of a 20-year proforma. In the event that a member cannot demonstrate adequate financial capacity to fund the required improvements, they will be allowed to terminate participation in the agreements, will not become members of the commission and be required to pay appropriate terminating costs as contained in the agreement. He stated the agreement also contains provisions for amendments to the agreement and other termination rights of the members. Upon approval of the agreement, the Village will complete and submit an application for a Lake Michigan water allocation permit.

VP Moorman Schumacher questioned that the decision to move forward with the allocation hinged on approval of this IGA.

Durkin stated no, it does not hinge on this. He stated that Mr. Ulm has stated in the past that the water allocation is a process that should have been started already.

VP Moorman Schumacher thanked Mr. Ulm for a phenomenal job of presenting at the Public Information Forums and other times. She thanked Durkin, Dolezal and Attorney Silverman for putting in an enormous amount of work into this. The document that we have now truly bears little resemblance to what we started with two years ago. This document has come a long way

and thanks to everyone in getting us to the point there is a proposal that is more palatable for all the member communities. She further stated that the Board has received the lengthy document and all of the folks are here tonight that can answer any questions that you have.

Durkin stated that last week we had the public information meetings and staff is working through those videos. He stated that we are also working on the FAQ's that we had talked about. Those items are in process and the information should be put out on the website in the next couple days.

Trustee Scaggs asked what the \$110,000 in administrative fees is for.

Durkin stated that is intended to be a cost associated with the legal fees of the commission, as well as the cost for the formation of the commission. He stated that it's not just legal fees but the engineers working on the project as well.

Trustee Scaggs asked how many members are contributing \$110,000.

Durkin stated that there is a possibility of seven members. He stated that each member that adopts this will pay that amount.

Further discussion took place regarding the fees, costs and potential ways to minimize cost impacts to residents.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Petrick stated he had no formal items for discussion.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – A Resolution Authorizing the Dissolution of the Rebate Fund, or Fund 14

Wagonblott stated many years ago, the Village and various businesses entered into sales tax rebate agreements. Fund 14 was created as an additional General Fund to account for the revenues and expenses related to the sale tax rebate agreements. This fund recorded the sales tax revenue and related rebate payments along with any other operational expenses related to the rebate agreements. She further stated in addition to the sales tax rebate agreements, Fund 14 was dedicated for the annual principal and interest payments related to the 2011 GO Bonds. These bonds were issued in part to fund the construction of the current Village Hall building. She also stated the 2011 GO Bonds are now paid in full and Fund 14 no longer receives revenues (other than bank interest) or expenses. If Fund 14 is dissolved, the remaining fund balance of approximately \$4,425,200 will be transferred to Fund 11 (General Capital) unless the Board desires the funds to be transferred to the alternate General Fund, Fund 01.

Trustee Scaggs stated that we were just talking about funds with regard to Lake Michigan water.

Wagonblott stated an enterprise fund should be self-sustaining to function off user fees. She stated that if the Village Board chooses to transfer money from a general fund into the utility fund, that would be something the Board would have to vote on and decide. She also stated that it is not a commonly accepted because of the fact that a utility fund is designed to be self-sustaining.

Trustee Scaggs stated that spending \$75 million for Lake Michigan water isn't a normal thing either. These are unusual times.

Wagonblott stated that she's not saying that it cannot be done – it is not common practice.

VP Moorman Schumacher asked how that would affect us in the audit process.

Wagonblott stated that it wouldn't look good in the audit process.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that if we do that and it's not a common accounting finance practice, how does that look in terms of bond rating.

Wagonblott stated that she didn't know if it would affect our bond rating.

Trustee Scaggs stated if we are spending it on infrastructure, why would that be a bad thing.

Wagonblott stated because an enterprise fund is by definition self-sustaining. She stated that the enterprise fund should be funded from user fees. She also stated that this \$4.4 million is from sales tax revenue.

Further discussion took place regarding enterprise funds.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Ratification of New Police Officer

Casey stated after an orientation and written examination, a hiring panel comprised of Deputy Chief Craig Gunty, Sergeant Paul Potts, Officer Edward Bischoff and Human Resources Director Jodi Denton interviewed thirty-one (31) candidates who passed the written exam and accepted an offer to interview with our agency. He stated that following previous board direction to replace retired Officer Edward Bischoff, Michael Bowen was one of the candidates identified, and endorsed, as a potential hire with the police department. He also a comprehensive background investigation, polygraph, psychological assessment and medical examination has been completed for Mr. Bowen. He further stated Michael will fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Edward Bischoff. He stated with the anticipated reduction in workforce due to potential retirements, our agency would like to stay on pace with the replacement of personnel to minimize overtime costs, not unduly burden FTO staff, and most importantly avoid any disruption to the delivery of police services. He also stated Mr. Bowen is currently a resident of Hampshire, IL, and graduate of Western Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. He further stated Michael Bowen has completed all the hiring criteria as required by Village of Channahon Ordinance; and with the unforeseen cancellation of the January 3th board meeting, Village President Missey Schumacher administered the "Oath of Office" to Michael Bowen that evening in preparation of a January 17th academy start date. He stated with the Board's approval, he would like to ratify the hiring of Michael Bowen at a starting pay of \$62,461 as set by the MAP collective bargaining agreement. He also stated this is a budgeted item.

Trustee Greco asked after you get him on board, how many officers down will the department be?

Casey stated we will be fully staffed. He stated that with the Safety Act passing in 2021, police retirements nationwide are up to 43% from last year and resignations were up 23% from last year.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated who could blame them.

Trustee Perinar asked if overtime had gone down with all the new hires.

Casey stated a lot of the overtime is actually incurred due to holidays.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that with the current climate, it's surprising anyone wants to get into law enforcement.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Approval of Strand Task Order for Lake Michigan Water Allocation

Dolezal stated if the Village decides to join the Lake Michigan Water Commission, we will need to receive an allocation of Lake Michigan water from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. He stated the application procedure involves an engineering report, a good amount of legal work, and a formal allocation hearing. Strand's task order covers the engineering scope. He also stated of the \$129,000 total cost proposal, \$31,500 is noted as "if authorized". He further stated the requested action is written to provide Board authorization at this time. He stated Strand would not proceed with any of that work without subsequent staff authorization. He also stated the water commission has asked that all water allocation applications be made by the end of March. He further stated in order to meet this date, Strand needs to begin work now. He stated of course, it is possible that the Board waits until the end of February to vote on joining the commission. He also stated regardless, if the Board waits until then to decide on joining the commission, this work must be well under way.

Discussion took place regarding the immediate costs for allocation application prior to the alternative water source decision being made.

Discussion – Venture One (Crossroads 55) Building Improvements, Building A Tenant Improvements, and East Frontage Road Improvements – Acceptance of Public Improvements and Release of Improvement Completion Guarantee

Dolezal stated the improvements completion guarantees for all three projects are held with a single bond. He stated in accordance with Subdivision and Development Regulations, the developer has requested the Village release the currently held Improvements Completion Guarantee (ICG) and accept public improvements consisting of: watermain, sanitary sewer main, curbed roadway with storm sewer, streetlights and parkway landscaping. He also stated per Village Ordinance, acceptance of public improvements and release of the ICG must include provision of a 2-year Maintenance Guarantee at 20% of the original ICG. He further stated Public Works Staff has inspected all improvements and finds they are 100% complete and in good condition.

Discussion – Venture One (Crossroads 55) Exchange Boulevard Extension Improvements – Acceptance of Public Improvements and Release of Improvement Completion Guarantee

Dolezal stated this guarantee is held as a single bond. He stated in accordance with Subdivision and Development Regulations, the developer has requested the Village release the currently held Improvement Completion Guarantee (ICG) and accept public improvements consisting of:

curbed roadway with storm sewer, streetlights and parkway landscaping connecting the previous terminus of Exchange Blvd to Amoco Road. He also stated per Village Ordinance, acceptance of public improvements and release of the ICG must include provision of a 2-year Maintenance Guarantee at 20% of the original ICG. He further stated Public Works Staff has inspected all improvements and finds they are 100% complete and in good condition.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chamber of Commerce 2021 Year in Review

Durkin stated that for the Board's review there is a 2021 year in review newsletter from the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

PUBLIC COMMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

**Submitted by
Kristin Hall
Village Clerk**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristin Hall".