

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
APRIL 4, 2022**

VP Moorman Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Trustees Greco, Host, Perinar, McMillin, 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.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that Attorney Silverman has some legal counsel this evening, as well.

Attorney Silverman stated to Trustee Greco and Trustee Scaggs that the Village is no longer operating under an emergency declaration. He stated that what that means is, unless you are out of town on business or off because of an illness, you won't be allowed to vote at the meeting tonight. He also stated that you can certainly participate, discuss and state your opinions but you won't be allowed to vote because we don't have that emergency ability. He further stated that if there are any questions he would be happy to answer them.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Recognition – Police and Fire Commissioner Larry Duffy

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that Larry has served eight years on our Police and Fire Commission and is retiring from that position.

Casey stated that Larry Duffy joined the Police and Fire Commission in 2014. He stated that during his eight-year tenure on the commission, Larry has seen 17 new officers hired and has played the part in the promotion of five sergeants. He also stated that Larry is a founding alumni and has always taken an interest in advancing the Police Department. He further stated that Larry could always be counted on to play the part of the bad guy, during our training scenarios. He stated that his unique quality landed Larry, in uncredited parts, as an inmate on the hit TV series Prison Break and the hit movie Derailed, starring Jennifer Anniston. He also stated that Larry has lived a life of service to God, country and community, from his time in the United States Army where is served in the Vietnam War to his time on the Channahon Volunteer Fire Department and ultimately giving his time to serve as Police and Fire Commissioner. Larry is an active member of St. Anne's Catholic Church and donates his time as a handyman to keep the bells ringing. Above all, Larry is a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He is armed with Dad jokes and stories from his past, to bring smiles to everyone within ear shot. He thanked Larry for his work on the commission and for his lifetime dedication to service.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that she had no idea that Larry had a movie career. She stated that she is proud to have served on the Fire Department with Larry and they have known each other a very long time.

VP Moorman Schumacher presented Larry Duffy with a plaque and thanked him for his service.

Larry Duffy stated that he has really enjoyed being with everyone but somewhere along the line you start getting old. He stated he doesn't know what causes that but, it happens. He also stated that it was time to pass it on to some new people and they can get old. He further stated that it has been enjoyable.

Casey thanked him for his service and that he appreciated everything he has done.

Discussion – Appointment of a Police and Fire Commissioner

VP Moorman Schumacher stated with Larry's retirement, we do have an open position. She stated that Paul Lair is here this evening and he was recommended by Elizabeth Murphy. She also stated that she and Casey met with him and are happy to bring him before the board for consideration this evening. Mr. Lair was born and raised in Joliet, graduated from Joliet Central in 1983 and moved to Channahon in 1984. She stated that Mr. Lair was married in 1987 and moved to Morris and he and his wife just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Lair have two grown daughters, age 35 and 33, one grandson age 5 and two more grandchildren due this June and July. She further stated that Mr. Lair and his wife have a German Shorthair pointer named Juno. Mr. Lair went to work for DuPont Chemicals in 1988 and moved to Nevada. She also stated that he spent the next several years working in Battle Mountain, Las Vegas, Nevada and Billings, Montana. He moved back to Morris in 1995 and again to Channahon in 2014. She stated in 2002, Mr. Lair started at Kennedy Energy Facility in Minooka. He is a member of Mission Bible Church in Minooka and is active in their marriage ministry. She further stated that Mr. Lair is a professional PADI and SDI dive master. In their free time, he and his wife enjoy camping in their RV and visiting dive sites in the Midwest. She also stated that he has joined the electric bike craze and enjoys riding the local trails.

Mr. Lair stated that he really appreciates the opportunity. He looks forward to getting to know your Police Department and the Chief. He also stated that it is going to be an honor for him; he's wanted to serve the community and he thinks this is a good fit.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Durkin stated he had no formal items.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Petrick stated he had no formal items.

VP Moorman Schumacher informed the board that we just came from a groundbreaking for Wash Cove car wash.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – An Ordinance Adopting the Village of Channahon, Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023) – 1st Read

Wagonblott stated the following revenues and expenses were subsequently adjusted after the distribution of the draft budget document on March 2, 2022 and after the discussions at the March 19th budget workshop. She stated the following changes are reflected in the proposed budget document that will be discussed at the April 4, 2022 board meeting.

1. 01-50-329.010 – the 2nd tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds was budgeted in the General Fund based on the Board's decision to elect the standard allowance option \$899,800.
2. 01-50-383.000 – the State of the Village revenue line item was added back into the General Fund budget since this event should be held in person next year \$2,500.
3. 01-50-535.000 – inclusion of Emerald Ash Borer injections/insect and disease controls expenses \$2,500.
4. 01-52-507.000 – reduction of training expenses \$2,525.
5. 01-52-526.000 – reduction of dues and subscriptions by \$2,000.
6. 01-52-550.000 – reduction in equipment by \$1,900.
7. 01-52-566.000 – reduction in travel by \$2,580.
8. 01-52-610.000 – reduction in police equipment by \$850.
9. 01-53-539.000 – landscaping expenses were decreased from \$63,000 to \$50,000.
10. 01-51-542.000, 01-52-542.000, 01-53-542.000, 01-57-542.000, 30-70-542.000, 30-71-542.000 – increased each department's fuel expense line items in the General and Utility Funds due to the current increased fuel costs using an estimate of \$4.25 for fuel and \$4.50 for diesel.
11. 26-80-538.003 – Addition to the road maintenance program for the reconstruction of Highland Drive \$521,000.
12. 30-70-365.000 – updated the water revenues to \$1,940,000 based on the board approved rate of \$6.93 per 1,000 gallons.
13. 31-70-632.000 – adjusted the construction capital expenses for Well #7 in the Utility Fund to \$1,400,000 (decreased from the original estimate of \$2,360,000). Since this well will only operate as a backup, the reduced estimated costs were received after the final budget draft was distributed creating the \$960,000 decrease.

Wagonblott stated that other than these few changes, the budget that is included remains the same. She stated that at the Budget Workshop we were showing General Fund Reserve utilization, however, since the Board decided to select the standard allowance for the ARPA funds, we are now in the positive. She also stated that these are all estimated numbers and we tend to err on the conservative side with both revenues and expenditures. She further stated that

we have a Public Hearing at the Board meeting and the Ordinance would be before the Board for second read at the next meeting.

Discussion – 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan: Fiscal Years 2023-2027

Wagonblott stated this document was distributed at the Budget Workshop on March 19th. She stated that we wanted to put this on the agenda for discussion if there were any questions. She also stated that it would be on the next Board meeting agenda for approval.

Trustee Slocum stated that we approve the Improvement Plan but it is still just an outline. Is this correct?

Wagonblott stated that is correct. She stated that the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan is one of those things that Moody's looks for in developing their bond ratings. They want to see the Village have a plan. She also stated that it will be very helpful for budgeting purposes, as it keeps those big projects in the forefront of everyone's mind. She further stated that we would come to the Board with a revised 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan every year prior to budget approval.

Trustee Perinar stated that it was very well put together and she likes the priority being on there too. She stated that it is nice to see where it is ranked.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Casey stated he had no formal items for discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Discussion – A Resolution to Enter into an Easement Agreement for the Bridge Street Multiuse Path

Dolezal stated this is the same as the previous five easements received. He stated this is sixth of seven easements needed. He also stated that it includes a couple provisions, with one similar to a previous provision where we agreed to establish an account in the amount of \$15,000 to fund any damage to septic systems that may occur. He further stated that it is good for one year after the activation of the easement. He stated that the other provision states that we are paying above the appraised price in a nominal amount. He also stated that the appraised price was \$3,900 and we are paying \$5,000. He further stated that if you would like to discuss that further, we do have Executive Session listed on the agenda to discuss.

Trustee Perinar asked if that was because the appraisal changed.

Dolezal stated no.

Discussion – A Resolution to Accept a Plat of Right-of-Way Dedication

Dolezal stated that with regard to the far west 45 acres that was purchased recently for the waste water treatment plant, we continue to gather access to that property off of Tabler Road. He stated that there are two plats of right-of-way dedication, one from Five Star properties and one from Equistar.

COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Ferro stated that this morning he had to go to Joliet for an appointment and the traffic on Route 6 is getting worse. He also stated with Lion's Electric coming in saying they are going to hire 1,400 people and all the production they are going to have, have we asked Joliet what they are going to do about the roads.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that yes, they have asked repeatedly. She stated that at Lion's Electrics' build-out they are planning on building 20,000 vehicles a year, which amounts to 55 vehicles a day. She also stated that the Houbolt Road Bridge construction project is coming up and on Wednesday, April 6th there is a Public Meeting for information on what they are doing out there. She further stated that they are also working with the County and the City of Joliet to initiate Phase I engineering to widen Route 6, between I-55 and Houbolt Road.

Mr. Ferro asked where the public meeting was being held at.

Petrick stated the public meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6th from 4-7 p.m. at the Construction Field Office, 1116 Houbolt Road Unit B.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

**Submitted by
Kristin Hall
Village Clerk**

