

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

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

VP Moorman Schumacher stated it is with a heavy heart that she has to share that Trustee McMillin's father-in-law passed away this past week. The family will be having private family services at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. She asked at this time for all to join her in a moment of silence for Bob Weir.

On a much happier note, our own Trustee Perinar had a milestone birthday recently and she wished Trustee Perinar a very happy birthday.

This past weekend was our 2nd Annual Potato Fest and we had a wonderful time. She saw a few of the Trustees out there too. The band was phenomenal and the kids had a good time with the potato sack races and rock painting. An orthodontists' office sponsored where kids could create their own Mr. and Mrs. Potato Heads with real potatoes. There were lots of creative potato heads.

Trustee Host entered the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Trustee McMillin entered the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Trustee Perinar stated that the winner of the best potato head got a gift certificate of their choosing.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated the weather was beautiful, there was a little breeze and it was perfect. She also stated that the band was phenomenal and food vendors were very popular. Spud Speedway with Big Wheel races for kids and adults was also well attended. We had some car show folks there as well.

She also stated that she was very surprised with the turnout because there was so many things going on with the Minooka High School Homecoming, St. Ann's Football League Homecoming, and other events in Channahon, Minooka and Morris. It seemed like a lot more people came later in the evening just to listen to the band. It was a lot of fun and we are looking forward to doing it again next year with maybe moving it back into October so we can avoid homecoming next year.

Discussion – An Ordinance Increasing the Number of Class B Liquor Licenses Available in the Village of Channahon – 1st Read

VP Moorman Schumacher stated if the Board remembers a while back, we made the decision to increase the number of Class B liquor licenses with the opening of restaurants. If the restaurant were to close, the license would remain available so we didn't have to go through an enormous process to get another one approved. Sheri and Mark Pieroni approached us a while ago with a business idea initially for a video gaming parlour. Mark owns a truck repair business back on Northern Illinois Drive and when people bring their trucks there to be repaired they have a very long time to sit and wait. Sheri's initial request was to add video gaming. We informed them that we had three licenses for beer and wine only which is typically associated with video gaming parlors, they are all taken and we are not inclined to issue anymore video gaming licenses. VP Schumacher informed her that if she was to open a restaurant, we had a license available.

Sheri Pieroni stated that she has met some of you and some of you she has not so it's a pleasure to meet all of you together. In 2016, they decided that we were going to take a leap of faith and open their own business. She provided information on how the business started and how they made their home in Channahon. They have bought additional buildings and have been thinking what they are going to do with that space. One day, they were sitting in the office and one of the drivers said that it would be great to have some food. The closest restaurant to them is Lallo's but it's not actually close and if your truck is not running, there is really no way to get there. They kicked around some ideas of having video gaming and food and that is where we started the process of talking to the Village. They could have up to eight drivers sitting in the office waiting and we thought it would be an awesome opportunity for them to walk next door to get some food and pass the time. She researched information for the Illinois Gaming Board and not only does it benefit the business, it benefits the State and the Village. During the initial meetings with the Village, they decided that food could be an option and be successful. There is lots of traffic, people are hungry and everyone needs lunch. Lucky Dogs would be the name of the restaurant because it reflects two of the intentions of the business. They intend on opening a hot dog bar that is more reflective of the type of the customers we want. They will bring you the Chicago experience right to Channahon. They have also been working with some pizza places in Chicago to custom make Chicago pizzas and have them delivered every week. They would like to bring the city experience to the suburbs and offer that to anyone who would like to come eat with us. The gaming should capture the people that are sitting there even longer and still have time to wait. An added benefit is that revenue is also generated for the Village.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that this is on the agenda as a first read but if the Board wishes to waive second read and approve, the Peronis are interested in moving quickly. They cannot get their State license without getting our license first. The process of fingerprinting and background checks has begun.

Trustee Perinar asked what would the hours of operation be.

Mrs. Pieroni stated they currently propose 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., but they are still learning. She also stated that Monday through Friday is extremely busy, but the weekends might be different.

Trustee Slocum asked if they were going to hire someone to run it.

Mrs. Pieroni stated there is a simplicity to it. There are some restaurant components, but really it is a steam table, a recipe and some pizzas to cook. Their intention is to create a small Chicago style hot dog place. Those places do fantastic in Chicago so she is hoping that we can replicate that here.

Further discussion took place.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Durkin stated he had no formal items for discussion.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Petrick stated he had no formal items for discussion.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Wagonblott stated she had no formal items for discussion. We did receive our second part of the ARPA funds in the mail today in an amount of \$900,812. This is the second and last payment.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Authority to Advertise for Position of Records Clerk

Casey stated as the community, police department, and duties of the Records Division continue to grow, it is important to plan for the expansion, development, and increased workload within the Records department. The duties placed on the records personnel has increased dramatically; and has become drastically varied and diversified, and under amplified scrutiny, over the last several years, with an increased emphasis on accountability and reliance on technology. The police department once had three employees associated with records and we have been working with two for over a decade. He further stated the workload placed on the Records Division, internally and externally, has dramatically increased with legislation, beginning with the Community Improvement and Relations Act, Vehicle and Pedestrian stops data, cannabis and juvenile expungements, FOIA requests, and most recently the many additional reporting requirements associated with the SAFE-T Act. Many of these newly mandated duties and reporting requirements carry with it civil and criminal penalties to the employee and Village if not properly overseen or completed. Additionally, we have mandated monthly and yearly reporting requirements associated with most of our grants. Body Worn Cameras will add significant duties to Records. He further stated this is a Union position, covered by the current collective bargaining agreement with the Operating Engineers Local 150, with a starting pay range of \$44,705. This is a budgeted item.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that this is a budgeted item for the record. If the board recalls back at budget time, we did budget for it but the Board wanted Chief Casey to come back and talk to us about it when he felt it was a necessity to fill the position. We heard today that in all likelihood there will be no veto session so some of the issues with the Safe-T Act will not be addressed this year.

Casey stated that we will post internally for two weeks and then we will go back to the applications that we already received that we said we would keep on file for one year.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Hire Contractor for Parkway Tree Replacement Program

Durkin stated in response to the large number of ash trees being removed from the Village parkways, a Tree Replacement Program was funded. At the request of residents who have had a parkway tree removed, the Village will contract for a new tree to be provided and planted and share the cost 50/50. The Village budgeted an expense of \$20,000 for the program in the current fiscal year. Two landscape companies were contacted to provide quotes: The Fields and Celtic Landscaping. Fields was the low bidder and we have used The Fields the last four years prior for this program. Currently, there are 20 participants in the program as of 9/14/22.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Will County Center for Economic Development Email regarding Infrastructure Coalition presentation.
2. IDOT Letter dated September 2, 2022

Durkin stated that in your packets, there are two larger packets from the Will County Executive's Office regarding the update of their transportation endeavors in the county, as well as a presentation that was included on Bult Field. This information was present at the Coalition meeting two weeks ago, and he wanted to share that information with the Board. He also stated that Route 6 is mentioned in there as a plan the county is working on and that is good to see.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated the next item is related to the Phase One engineering of the Rt. 6 capacity improvements. We actually got the letter from IDOT stating they will be providing revenues for this expenditure.

Durkin stated that we did receive the letter from IDOT regarding their financial participation in the Route 6 Phase 1 study, in the amount of \$1.6 million.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that she is not going to celebrate too much until we have the check in hand but at least it is in writing now.

Durkin stated that we did receive some information from the county regarding an IGA that we are reviewing. This project is about seven years in the making and we are glad it is finally moving forward..

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that even when we got the county and the City of Joliet to participate, the State was dragging their feet. She also wants to thank the consultants who also made calls to IDOT to move this along.

Further discussion took place.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Ferro, resident of Channahon, referenced I-55 and Route 6. A couple of weeks ago, he was sitting at the red light and two to three cars pulled right through the red light, disobeying the no turn on red restriction. He questioned if the Village could open up some dialogue with the State to see if there was a temporary light enforcement that we could put in there for traffic control situations. If people are running the red light, maybe they could receive a ticket in the mail.

VP Moorman Schumacher asked if they were coming from Thornton's.

Mr. Ferro stated that they are coming off of I-55.

Trustee Scaggs stated that everywhere in America or in Illinois, if there are two right hand turn lanes, they allow the person that to turn right on red, except here. He doesn't know why that is.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that it is because that right lane goes into the turn lane for Thornton's.

Further discussion took place.

Mr. Ferro stated that he was able to make it to Bolingbrook and Shorewood to hear a couple different bands. He was wondering if our development and growth program includes any performing art areas.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated yes, our Town Center plan that has long included a Village green area with the possible inclusion of a band shell. Arroyo Trails was also designed to include an amphitheater.

Further discussion took place.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Submitted by
Kristin Hall
Village Clerk

