

Village of Winthrop Harbor
President and Board of Trustees Meeting
May 5, 2020
Village Hall Council Chambers

VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING - MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bruno at 7:00 PM

The following Elected Officials **Attended Remotely**:

Mayor: Dr. Michael Bruno

Trustees: Buddy Hargett, John Levin, Robert Marabella, Dana McCarthy, Hartmut "Fritz" Weiss, Alanna Whitmore

Also present:

Robert Long, Attorney
Greg Jackson, Village Administrator
Julie Rittenhouse, Village Clerk
Michael Sheedy, IT Director
Joel Brumlik, Police Chief
Tim Neargarder, Superintendent of Public Works

The Invocation was led by Mayor Bruno

ABSENT OFFICIALS WISHING TO ATTEND REMOTELY

All Officials attending remotely

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve the **April 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (5) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (1) Weiss

MAYOR'S REPORT

ORDINANCE 2020-O-7 An Ordinance Ratifying and Extending Mayoral Declaration of Emergency Relating to Coronavirus

2 - A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and Seconded by Trustee Weiss to Set Aside the Rules of the President and Board of Trustees and Waive the First and Second Reading of **ORDINANCE 2020-O-7** and approve as submitted. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

ORDINANCE 2020-O-8 An Ordinance Amending §31.023 of the Municipal Code of Winthrop Harbor Relating to Designation of a Mayor Pro Tem

3 - A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and Seconded by Trustee Whitmore to Set Aside the Rules of the President and Board of Trustees and Waive the First and Second Reading of **ORDINANCE 2020-O-8** and approve as submitted. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

RESOLUTION 2020-R-7 A Resolution Appointing Margo Nelson and William Stried to the Planning & Zoning Board

4 - A motion was made by Trustee Hargett and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **Resolution 2020-R-7** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

RESOLUTION 2020-R-8 A Resolution Appointing Margo Nelson, Fred Seamon, Gary Powell and Robert Long to the Economic Development Commission

5 - A motion was made by Trustee Hargett and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **Resolution 2020-R-8** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

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Mayor Bruno said last summer he testified, along with 5 other Mayors, before a bipartisan sub-committee regarding infrastructure needs for the Village of Winthrop Harbor. The members of the sub-committee were provided a printout of his presentation and he personally talked to every member after he testified. Because of this testimony, the Village of Winthrop Harbor has been awarded a total of \$444,324.00 as part of the Rebuild Illinois Grant Program. We will receive our first installment of \$74,054.00 in a week or so. The remainder will should be coming by the end of the year. Greg Jackson and Tim Nearingard will be working together to develop a project list.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Local Government Grant – we were told, if money was received, it would be around \$225,000.00. The \$444,000 was a pleasant surprise. It's restricted for infrastructure.
- Governor's Phase report, on the Opening Plan to Restore Illinois, was sent to the Board and Department Heads. We are currently in Phase 2. We don't know when we will be going to Phase 3. There are 5 Phases.
- Talked to all of the Trustees regarding staffing and operational objectives associated with the budget for the next fiscal year. There may be a Committee of the Whole Meeting next Tuesday.
- Had communication between the Lake County Managers and Administrators today. All who participated are averaging about of 15-20% reduction in revenues for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Thursday there will be a final hearing of the Finance Committee of the Lake County Board regarding the deferment of property taxes. Nothing's been voted on yet.
- Representative Mason said the Rebuild Illinois funds were attributed to our infrastructure requests and the Senate testimony. Thank you to Rep. Mason. We will be reaching out to Senator Bush to thank her as well. When asked about the Public Works Building money, Rep. Mason said that it has not been touched and it is on the next wave of Capital Funding that is supposed to go out. She thinks it should be in the next 60 days.
- Tim received an email and passed it along to both Greg and the Mayor, that said kudos to his staff for the first week of branch pick-up. Congratulations to Tim and his crew.
- We are developing a plan to re-open Village Hall. Julie is working with Greg about the amount of cleaning we will do versus once a week. Also what we will need regarding sanitizing, masks and other needs. Greg is developing that plan and will get it out to the Board by the next meeting.
- The Marina opened up this weekend. Friday of this week is our target for security to start.
- We received our payment from ADS for the landfill. We were down 66% this quarter. The Mayor, Greg and Attorney Long had a phone call with SWALCO to discuss the landfill expansion and other things. They said the condition of the landfill expansion is what's causing them to bring in less.
- A request from Cynthia Graham from the Winthrop Harbor Pageant for \$500.00 Scholarship funds for the Pageant Queen. The Pageant has been delayed until maybe September. Greg's recommendation would be to approve this and will put it into the budget for the Board to approve.

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- Trustee McCarthy asked about the enforcing of 2-person boat rule at the Marina. Greg told him that the Governor is asking that local government use their law enforcement to help enforce the requirements of the stay at home order no matter what Phases they are in. Greg believes the waters fall under the Conservation Police. Chief Brumlik said, regardless of whether we are down there or not, the law enforcement aspect of this can be enforced by any number of agencies, state, county and local. We won't intervene where we don't need to unless we get complaints.
- The Mayor received 12 positive text messages on his cell phone regarding branch pick-up. Kudos to Tim and his crew.
- This week will be Greg's one-year anniversary as Village Administrator and it's been an unbelievable journey. As he finishes his first year, he appreciates the accolades he's received from the Trustees. What makes the job a lot easier is being able to work with the cohesive elected body who shares the same vision for the Village and knows what direction they want to go in. Thank you to each of the Board Members for being available to him, listening to him and looking what he puts on paper and challenging him where he needed to be challenged. Bob Long has been a valuable resource. We have a remarkable staff who have stepped up to the plate during this difficult time. He looks forward to the next year. Everything that gets done doesn't get done alone. It takes the entire team.

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

None Reported

OLD BUSINESS

None Reported

NEW BUSINESS

Accounts Payable Warrant

6 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Marabella to approve **Accounts Payable Warrant W2020-1** in the amount of **\$137,991.72**. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

February 2020 Treasurer's Report

7 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **February 2020 Treasurer's Report** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore

Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

March 2020 Treasurer's Report

8 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **March 2020 Treasurer's Report** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) **Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore**
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Approval of Insurance Renewal – Stolarik Insurance

9 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Marabella to approve **Insurance Renewal with Stolarik Insurance** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) **Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore**
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

One-time Extension of Employee Benefit Time FY 19/20 Into 20/21

10 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and Seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve the **One-time Extension of Employee Benefit Time FY 19/20 Into 20/21**. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote

Ayes: (6) **Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore**
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval to Extend IGA with Benton Township for Snow & Ice Control with the Addition of Pot Hole Patching.

11 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and Seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve the **Request to Extend IGA with Benton Township for Snow & Ice Control with the Addition of Pot Hole Patching** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote

Ayes: (6) **Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore**
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)

Passed: (0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None Reported

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustee Hargett – Community Development

- Happy Anniversary to Greg. It has been a good year having you on Board. We are moving a lot of good things along.
- Thank you to all of the Staff. We're in a really good position, not just to weather this storm with the pandemic, but to come out of it ready to recover and be able to continue moving on the positive things that are out there.
- Question to Greg; will there be a PZB Meeting this month or will we wait until we can get back in person? Greg responded, he thinks we will wait until we can be in person due to having public attend and having evidence being presented. Attorney Long said it was problematic due to swearing in witnesses and having neighbors involved etc.

Trustee McCarthy – Police Department

- Mayor's testimony in Springfield, thank you for your willingness to do this and to be proactive and to build relationships that we didn't have.
- Question to Chief Brumlik; how many Birthday parades have the police and fire had to do? Chief said about 3 or 4. Thanked the police and fire departments for doing this.
- Thank you to Staff and all of the Trustees and Department Heads. I hope all of you are doing well and your families are healthy and safe as well.

Trustee Whitmore – Recreation Department

- Also have approached my 1-year anniversary as well. Have enjoyed this last year. Really enjoyed getting to know the ins and outs of the Village Board. Really looking forward to the next few years.
- Happy Anniversary Greg. Thank you for all you've done over the past year.
- Thank you to the Mayor, Department Heads and the Village Board for keeping everything running smooth.

Trustee Weiss – Finance Department

- Happy Anniversary to Greg. It's been a pleasure to have you on board, first as a consultant with all of your expertise and connections in Springfield, Second, working with the Mayor to bring the Village into the 21st Century. It's been wonderful. It's phenomenal to see the growth that we've had. You, the Mayor and the rest of the Trustees have all worked to make this a better community. With this Covid-19, you have gotten all of the information out, along with Bob Long. If Greg hadn't been here, it would have been extremely difficult for the Trustees and the Mayor to make some clarity out of this whole thing.
- Thank you for the \$440,000.00 additional funds. This is the most we've had for this Village. Thank you Greg, Mayor, Trustees and Bob.
- Stay healthy, stay strong and wear masks when you need to.

Trustee Levin – Fire Department

- Happy Anniversary Greg and Trustee Whitmore.
- Stay safe and healthy

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Trustee Marabella – Public Works

- Appreciates the job everybody is doing. The staff is doing a great job.
- It’s hard times and we’ve had to cut back. Glad that we have somebody who’s been tough enough to make those decisions that a lot of people do not want to make. You have to do what’s best for the whole instead of a few. It takes a leader to do that. Thank you Greg, for being that leader.
- Public Works has a guy that’s been there 39 years and is retiring. Public works is going to have a reduction in staff and will stay that way for a while.
- Glad the branch pick-up went well. There are 2 young guys doing it. Glad the Mayor received the positive comments.
- Everybody stay safe

Mayor Bruno

- The crew that did the branch pick-up went above and beyond. Very good to see.
- Happy Anniversary to Greg. It’s been a great year. Greg gives great information.
- During this pandemic, I can’t imagine what would have happened if Greg hadn’t been on board. You were pro-active instead of reactive. Thank goodness, because it’s not hitting this Village as hard as other municipalities. We are blessed that you are on board.
- Stay safe and healthy.

ADJOURNMENT

12 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Bruno declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07p.m. on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: (6) Hargett, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

APPROVED:

DR. MICHAEL BRUNO, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JULIE RITTENHOUSE, VILLAGE CLERK

Note: This is not a verbatim record.