

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION
11004 Carpenter Street, Mokena, Illinois 60448**

Session #014

July 22, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fleischer called the Regular Session of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Trustees and members of the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Clerk Martini called the roll and the following Trustees were present:

Debbie Engler
Jillian Hersted
Jim Richmond
Joe Siwinski
Joseph Budzyn

Absent: George Metanias

Also present were: Clerk Melissa Martini; Village Administrator John Tomasoski; Finance Director Barb Damron; Police Chief Steve Vaccaro; Assistant Public Works Director Mark Detloff; Building and Planning Director Matt Ziska; Civil Engineer Brian Fei and Village Attorney Lorien Schoenstedt.

DISCOVER MOKENA

Cindy Gamboa thanked the sponsors and volunteers for the 4th of July parade. She then presented trophies to the winning entries.

Mayor Fleischer thanked Cindy Gamboa and her family for all the work they put into the parade each year.

Ken Grey provided information about Will County Childrens Advocacy Center and the Men Who Cook fundraiser that benefits the Center.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Clerk Martini presented the Community Calendar.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amanda Montgomery spoke about incidents of racism in the community and referenced the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry's participation during the July 4th activities and urged the Board to take a stand against racism.

Alvin Kempf spoke in favor of the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry and stated that they are promoting an understanding of history.

Mark Cerkvenick stated that he recently met with Mayor Fleischer, Administrator Tomasoski and Chief Vaccaro. He appreciates the dialogue they had and offered his support to help Mokena grow in the 21st century.

Jim Schlegel expressed his support to Ms. Montgomery. He spoke about the Neighborhood Watch program and explained what is being done to welcome new residents in his neighborhood. Mr. Schlegel spoke about his adopted son who is of mixed ethnicity and how, as he grew up was accepted and welcomed by the community. He feels the Neighborhood Watch Program will help put an end to graffiti in the community. Mr. Schlegel stated that Ms. Montgomery has the support of the community. He does not have a problem with the cannons but would like Ms. Montgomery to feel comfortable in the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

Village Administrator John Tomasoski presented two (2) items on the Consent Agenda for Board approval. These items are strictly administrative in nature.

- a. Motion to approve the proposed site, landscape and photometric plans, light fixture cut-sheets and building elevations for the properties located at 9900 and 9801 W. 191st Street.
- b. Motion to approve minutes from the July 8, 2019 Board Meeting and Work Session.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 7 (a) and (b) as depicted in the July 18, 2019 Request for Board Action prepared by the Village Administrator. Trustee Siwinski seconded.

Trustee Budzyn stated that he did not see the flag pole on the drawings submitted by Schillings.

Bob Blandford stated there is a flag pole and they will be coming forward with a variance request so the flag pole can be taller than what is allowed.

AYES: (5) Engler, Hersted, Richmond, Siwinski, Budzyn

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Metanias

Motion carried

PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS

N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS

N/A

OLD BUSINESS

Animal Control Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)

Police Chief Steve Vaccaro reported that Frankfort Township provided animal control services at no cost to the Village for many years. With the retirement of Karen Zobjek, Animal Control Officer, in 2018, Frankfort Township opted to discontinue animal control services to the Frankfort Township communities.

The Police Department has made arrangements with P.A.W.S. in Tinley Park for the short term holding of stray animals. This arrangement has worked quite well. For animal control services beyond the capabilities of our police officers, police department staff has reached out to Will County Animal Control. We have utilized the services of Will County Animal Control over the past year; however, they prioritize their response based upon whether or not an agency has a current IGA. Will County Animal Control has advised that they will require an IGA prior to the commencement of priority animal control services, and they will be available for the Village of Mokena on an as-needed (on-call) basis.

Will County Animal Control has provided a fee structure in the agreement, which is utilized throughout Will County for municipalities requesting their services. Legal Counsel has reviewed the agreement and it is staff's recommendation that the Village enter into this agreement with Will County Animal Control.

Trustee Engler made a motion to enter into an agreement for the provision of animal control services with Will County Animal Control, and to authorize the Village President and Village Clerk to execute same. Trustee Siwinski seconded.

AYES: (5) Engler, Hersted, Richmond, Siwinski, Budzyn

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Metanias

Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Village Administrator Tomasoski requested Building and Planning Director Matt Ziska update the Board on development and business activities. Mr. Ziska provided an update on pending development projects and highlighted businesses offering back to school physicals.

Adminsitrator Tomasoski provided information on two Forest Preserve volunteer work days. He also highlighted their "Don't be a Jerk" campaign which reminds visitors of proper behavior when visiting Forest Preserves.

TRUSTEE'S COMMENTS

Trustee Budzyn thanked Cindy Gamboa and her family for all of their work on the 4th of July parade. He spoke about past controversies in the Village but feels the 4th of July parade is more representative of the community, everyone coming together to celebrate the country. He spoke about the movie Sweet Home Alabama and the civil war re-enactment scene. He does not feel the town is racist and questioned the agenda of an audience member. Trustee Budzyn stated that he does not advocate for slavery. He requested that before anything is posted on social media, they contact the Village.

Trustee Richmond stated that this is a great country and a great community. He feels the 4th of July and Christmas Fest are great events that bring the community together. He encouraged residents to call the police department if they see something wrong.

CLERK'S COMMENTS

N/A

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Fleischer thanked Mr. Cerkvenik for meeting with him. He emphasized that if something happens, nothing can be done until residents notify the Village. He further stated that the Board does not condone the discriminatory actions that had taken place previously.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Siwinski made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:54 p.m. Trustee Engler seconded.

AYES: (5) Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Budzyn

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Frank A. Fleischer, Village President

ATTEST:

Melissa Martini, Village Clerk