

# MINUTES

President and Board of Trustees
Village of Arlington Heights
Board Room
Arlington Heights Village Hall
33 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
June 21, 2022

7:30 PM

# I. CALL TO ORDER

# II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

# III. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

President Hayes and the following Trustees responded to roll: Canty, Grasse, Scaletta, LaBedz, Bertucci, and Schwingbeck. Trustees Baldino and Tinaglia were absent.

Also present were: Randy Recklaus, Diana Mikula, Hart Passman, Charles Perkins, Avis Meade, Cris Papierniak and Becky Hume.

# IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 05/07/2022 Joint Village Board/Library Board Approved

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded

the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta

Abstain: Schwingbeck Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

B. Committee of the Whole 06/06/2022

Approved

Trustee Robin LaBedz moved to approve. Trustee Tom Schwingbeck Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Abstain: Bertucci

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

C. Village Board 06/06/2022

Approved

Trustee Tom Schwingbeck moved to approve. Trustee Nicolle Grasse

Seconded the Motion. The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Abstain: Bertucci

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

# V. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A. Warrant Register 06/15/2022

Approved

Trustee James Bertucci moved to approve in the amount of \$4,163,962.72. Trustee John Scaletta Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

#### VI. RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

#### A. Metra Presentation

President Hayes said residents and the Board have concerns over the status of commuters in the Village. He said he understands the challenges in these post Covid days. For months President Hayes, Trustee Canty, an RTA Board member, and Village officials have communicated directly with Metra directors and other officials regarding the Village's concerns. Arlington Heights feels like it has gotten the short end of the stick, especially when it comes to express trains.

Daniel Miodonski, Metra Service Design Manager, explained the schedule has changed twice in the past month. Ridership plummeted in 2020, so they implemented reduced schedules while maintaining core service. Trains have been added since then, when feasible, to address obvious gaps. Travel patterns have changed with less intense rush hours and a higher share of off-peak riders. Metra is committed to providing consistent and frequent service throughout the day. They are trying to create easily understandable and memorable service patterns, add new express service-when possible, explore reverse commute and new markets, and promote regional equity. Ridership is 40% down from pre-2019 numbers. Now, trains are scheduled with more memorable time frames, i.e., every 30 minutes.

Michelle Dolnik, Metra Senior Schedule Analyst, said the northwest line

pilot was implemented in April to address gaps in service and increased ridership. Twenty-one trains were added over the Covid Schedule. Zones were established based on ridership data and infrastructure. The rush hour is less concentrated reflecting lessened demand. Trip time average has remained the same. She explained trains are scheduled in a three-zone pattern that repeats every half hour. These days, they are observing performance and ridership daily. They are reading all customer feedback and looking to gather more via a variety of methods. Based on early comments, local trains made additional stops beginning 5/31 to add service to Arlington Park and better accommodate intermediate riders. They are still looking at the data and will continue to modify the schedule based on the data. Contact: metra.com with comments. A form is available tonight.

Trustee Scaletta asked about the best way to send comments. Mr. Miodonski said the website is the best vehicle to make comments and all comments are entered into the database. Metra reads the communication and follows up. The busiest stops are Palatine and Arlington Heights and most people are going all the way downtown from those locations. Trustee Scaletta said express trains mean a lot to the people in the Village. A lot of residents are upset and chose to live in the Village because of the previous access of express trains. He added that the app is quirky and does not tell you which track the train is on or give status on delayed trains. When trying to re-route, it is hard to trouble shoot. Mr. Miodonski agreed saying Metra is in the process of updating that system. Trustee Scaletta said residents want to support Metra, but aren't feeling heard. He said on busy weekends, there are few people checking tickets, which is frustrating for people who pay on a monthly basis. Mr. Miodonski said they still don't know what the ridership is going to be, but are trying to be nimble and responsive, He said they don't want to make false promises. Trustee Scaletta said riders want answers and to know that they matter now.

Trustee LaBedz stated she is a longtime commuter, and bought a house so she could walk to the train to avoid being stranded by weather. The access to trains is a draw for the homes here. She said she understands intellectually the changes made, but selfishly, when the 6:38 a.m. train was eliminated, there was no way for her to get to the office by 8 a.m. To not have an express train, when the Village has the largest ridership, is very disappointing. There should be at least one in the morning and one in the evening. A few minutes makes a difference in day care pick up and making children's events in the evenings. She receives the Metra emails, but the announcements should be on Twitter or in real time. Seniors should take advantage of the senior discount and can go to the Senior Center to have one made. She said she hoped Metra will look at adding express trains.

Trustee Bertucci said he was upset, residents are upset and he sternly criticized the lack of direct lines from the Village. Mr. Miodonski explained the zone-based system and the attempt to break the long service line in half. Currently there are 4 trains direct from Palatine, but none from Arlington Heights, morning and evening. He did not argue the direct lines to Arlington Heights issue and said they did analyze travel stops. The

express to Des Plaines is a cost savings. Mr. Miodonski indicated they are looking at adding express trains.

Trustee Canty said she hoped Metra was hearing that people are frustrated. The Village has lost a lot of options as riders. Many residents have this shared experience and she has experienced it herself.

Mr. Recklaus said that the Village's infrastructure supporting train transit is one of the reasons the Village is the most popular stop. The community has invested tens of millions of dollars in parking infrastructure and when commuters are forced other places, our parking sales go down, we lose the ability to maintain the infrastructure and the manpower it requires. The Village has made a significant investment to support this line.

Trustee LaBedz agreed noting the transit-oriented development which was built. We have invested a lot to support commuters. People come here without a vehicle, visit our restaurants and the theater. The Village embraced transit-oriented development, making it important for the schedule to work here.

Resident Cary Wolovick said he lives on the north end of the Village. The changes are a quality-of-life issue. He now has to wake up 30 minutes earlier and doesn't get to see his daughter in the morning. He asked for some accountability. The trains are often late. The lack of responsiveness and clarity is frustrating. He now has to wake up at 5:30, and it's a hardship. It is harder to get people to abandon their cars with this uncertain future.

Resident Cari Miller spoke on behalf of St. Viator High School Board. She explained how some students now need to come an hour early or risk being 10 minutes late. Before Covid, 10% of students used Metra. Now the number is 3%. Train service is important to their continued growth and they need help to bring back a 7:30-7:45 arrival time to support their students. Their school draws from 65 primary schools, and needs their students to be able to get to Arlington Heights as they live all over the region.

President Hayes noted that Christian Liberty Academy has students who depend on the rail as well.

Andy Pejorad said he moved to Arlington Heights because of walkability to Metra. Some of the zone talk is irrelevant to Arlington Heights. He asked the Metra representatives to recognize how early they get up and go to work. Right now, there is only one viable option to get to work by 8:30 without getting up extra early. Why? Our property values are driven by accessibility to Metra. The reduced fares and monthly pass discounts are nice, but not the core issue. Metra isn't competing on price, they are competing with the customer experience of working from home. Reliability is important. Price does not drive his ridership; he is less willing to ride with this schedule.

Trustee Canty directed residents to reach out to Metra because your voices will be heard.

President Hayes thanked the Metra representatives from coming. Their presentation and presence were appreciated. The Village would like some accommodation, recognition and relief for our commuters in the near future.

# VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

#### VIII. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Resident Marc Adelman requested information on the status of various flood control projects. How many have been started, completed, and how many sewer rebates have been done annually? He said the Village faces a major infrastructure project coming up and the amount of cement to complete that project will be very large and the amount of open space to absorb rain will be reduced. Before that project gets underway, he would like to know what is going to happen to all that water.

Mr. Recklaus said the 3 biggest projects; Cypress, Berkley/Hintz and Greenbrier/Roanoke are completed or underway and were generally supported by grant funding. These projects are outside the combined sewer area. Significant progress has made over the last 5 years. Regardless of how the Arlington Park property is developed, it will be held to very high MWRD standards. On site water detention must occur and we will be the enforcers. Mr. Recklaus said he was proud of the substantial progress on flood projects. Mr. Papierniak said the Overhead Sewer Program has had some success but he hopes for more success in the combined sewer area. There is still funding available. It is the most cost-effective way to handle water in the combined sewer area.

#### IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Report of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Approved of June 21, 2022

Interview of Brad Katz for appointment to the Special Events Commission term ending April 30, 2025

President Hayes administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Katz.

Trustee Mary Beth Canty moved to concur with the Mayor's appointment. Trustee Nicolle Grasse Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

B. Report of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Approved of June 21, 2022

Consideration of Recommending to the Liquor Commissioner the issuance of a Class B and Class T liquor license to Richriston, LLC dba Litty Liquors located at 1002 W. Dundee Road

Trustee James Bertucci moved to approve. Trustee Mary Beth Canty Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

# X. CONSENT AGENDA

# **CONSENT APPROVAL OF BIDS**

A. Audio/Visual (AV) Upgrades for Village Hall Approved Board & Community Rooms - Award

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

B. Village Phone System Upgrade - RFP Approved Approval/Award

C. Fire Station 4 Alerting Equipment – Capital Approved Improvement Project

# **CONSENT LEGAL**

A. A Resolution Approving a Final Plat of Approved Subdivision
(1st Amendment to Bob Rohrman's Arlington Heights Auto Mall, 1100 and 1400 W Dundee Rd and 1510-1530 W Dundee Rd)

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve R2022-017. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

B. An Ordinance Amending Chapters 23 and 27 of Approved the Municipal Code of the Village of Arlington

Heights

(Sections from the International Residential Code, International Building Code and

International Fire Code)

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve 2022-037. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

C. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 7 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Arlington Heights to Repeal the Prohibition of Cannabis Business Establishments (Repeal of Article XVI, Cannabis Business Establishments Prohibited)

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve 2022-038. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Nays: Hayes

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

D. A Resolution Approving Certain Property to Approved Participate in the Cook County Class 6b
Assessment Incentive Program
(Razny Family Limited Partnership, Ltd., 416 W Campus Dr)

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve R2022-017. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

# CONSENT REPORT OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

A. Destruction of recordings from the Closed Approved Session meetings of: 03/02/2020, 6/1/2020 and 7/20/2020.

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve. Trustee Robin LaBedz Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

# XI. APPROVAL OF BIDS

# A. 2022 Website Rebuild Project

Approved

Avis Meade gave an overview of the current website with its 1.2 million page views in 2021. Top pages are for online payments, employment, agendas/minutes, e-contacts, permits and guides, and special events (excluding Covid). The current site has ongoing outages. The Village requested proposals for a new site in the spring. Three vendors submitted proposals and staff has chosen Revize. Revize has more experience than one of the bidders and is far less costly than the other. They host 2,500 government sites, including some neighbors. Revize offers unlimited revisions, is flexible, and allows us to choose which designer we use. The Village will be able to: incorporate our own brand, tailor our news items, update calendars and offer upgraded sub-calendars. It can integrate with social media which will save staff time. Importantly, the site will adapt to mobile screens. 61,000 of our users access it through mobile screens. A new site will offer improved search bar results, will be ADA compliant, have language options, tracking options, an RFP portal and an E-notify option. URLs can be customized.

President Hayes said the Board has desired to revamp the website for a long time. It's important to allow for mobile capabilities. He emphasized that it's not just because of the outages that we are looking for change.

Trustee Canty said she was excited for this. Revize is so far outside of the price, is it going to be good enough? Why was there such a difference? Ms. Meade said there are three big vendors for government sites, and only one of those (Revize) submitted an RFP. She believes it is a staffing issue at the other two companies. The other responders are not traditional vendors for municipalities. In speaking with other communications people, there were no negative reports. She said she was not worried about the vendor based on their history and current client base.

Mr. Recklaus said he had lunch with Buffalo Grove Village Manager today.

They recently switched to Revize and are very happy. Their service improved from previous vendor, which we share. Since they work with other municipalities, there is nothing we would give them they could not handle.

Trustee Scaletta asked if the iPhone and other devices will be recognized as this was a problem with the existing vendor. Ms. Meade said yes. It also connects with our new ERP vendor Tyler. There is no reason that should happen ever again. A lot has changed since 2016. A refresh every four years is included. Trustee Scaletta asked about the new branding and the timing. Ms. Meade said right now it is lining up. Mr. Recklaus said some development aspects will be in parallel. The guts and back-end issues of the new site will be worked on first. Ms. Mikula said staff is working to have the time lines agree. We have some extra time built in to the existing website if we need to accommodate a delay based on the branding.

Ms. Mikula explained staff can work on the back end and content first. The logo, colors, labels and visuals can come last. The agreement can start as soon as we need it to. Our current site is done on 10/25 with two possible extensions. If we are running into timing issues, we would extend with our current vendor. Trustee Scaletta said he doesn't want to rush in when there are outstanding issues. Ms. Meade said the new vendor has a 100% uptime rate with redundancy facilities in 2 states. She said she does not foresee the kind of outages we have experienced. Trustee Scaletta asked why there was not a budget for this. Ms. Mikula said this project was moved up, so there was no budget in 2022. It was previously scheduled for 2023.

Trustee LaBedz asked about the status of the branding. Mr. Perkins said logos, taglines, colors have been tested internally and staff has shared the feedback with Springboard. Staff has asked for more ideas, so we are not there yet. Next will be a second round of testing and a focus group, then it will be unveiled. He expects to present it to the Board in 6 weeks. The website time line is not an issue.

Marc Adelman asked why this would occur when Arlington Park is not likely to be finalized when this is launched.

President Hayes said the web site is separate from a development project. The development at Arlington Park will be treated like any other development. These two issues are not related.

Trustee John Scaletta moved to execute a contract with Revize LLC for the redesign of the Village's website, with a total amount not to exceed \$80,600 for the next four years, with \$53,900 due in the first year and \$8,900 of annual hosting costs for the next three years, from the Village's Technology Fund account #625-0601-553.20-39 and approve Ordinance 2022-039 amending the 2022 Budget to increase Technology Fund Data Processing Services by \$53,900. Trustee Mary Beth Canty Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

#### XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 85 W. Algonquin Rd / Sign Variation - DC#22- Approved 022

Trustee John Scaletta moved to approve. Trustee Tom Schwingbeck Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

B. Nuisance Hotels - Proposed Ordinance Approved

Mr. Recklaus said the Village has seen a marked increase in calls for service at some motel locations in the south Arlington Heights Road corridor. While there, officers notice safety violations within the hotels. This has been a drain on police and fire resources. These problems are not the same in all the hotels. Some neighboring communities have implemented nuisance behavior ordinances recently for hotels. The Village wants to be fair and hold the hotels accountable.

The proposed ordinance outlines penalties for "nuisance hotels" and identifies incidents which could trigger the Administrative Adjudication Process: Disorderly conduct, unlawful use of weapons, mob action/street gang activity, possession or delivery of controlled substances, assault/battery, sexual abuse, prostitution, violation of the Property Code, and homicide.

If there are three or more nuisance incidents in a 180-day period, or five or more documented alleged nuisance incidents during a 60-day period, as reasonably determined by the Chief of Police, then the facility can be declared a nuisance. Alleged incidents are incidents where no charges were filed, but where a prohibited activity is documented to have occurred such as the recent stabbing. A meeting will occur between the Village Manager, the Chief of Police and the property management. They will negotiate a voluntary Abatement Agreement. If a hotel meets nuisance declaration threshold, a hearing will be scheduled. The goal is to work out the problems. Possible penalties are; fines, reimbursement of costs, implementation of new security measures, temporary closure for up to 180 days, and license revocation. The Chief of Police may also institute an emergency closure of the facility if there is an immediate threat.

All hotels will be required to install certain basic security measures:

Cameras/monitors, continuous digital surveillance, lighting, and appropriate personnel.

Mr. Passman said this Ordinance was drafted based on best practices. The reference to the "tenant, guest, visitor" in section 14-201 c., may not belong. These words will be removed from our definition.

Trustee Bertucci said he did two ride-alongs recently and the situation was abominable. Our officers are professional men and women on the force. He is in support, saying this action is long overdue.

Trustee Canty said she understands this may be a financial hardship on the hotels because of what we are asking for, but she is also mindful of what we ask of our public safety officers. She said she will err to the side of public safety.

Trustee Schwingbeck indicated the focus is on a few hotels. Staff is trying to write a general nuisance policy, is it too lenient? Mr. Recklaus said broadly, we are not seeing widespread issues. There are a couple hotels with repeated issues. The other hotels indicated they are already doing everything we are codifying. There are always issues of degrees. This is one aspect in an overall strategy. We are also giving officers some additional training to see health and building code issues. While the officer is on site, we can operate a remote inspection or call in an inspector to try to ensure safety and compliance. If this approach does not get good results, we could come back and add additional measures. The recommendation enjoys the support for all the departments. It's manageable and get us the results we're are looking for.

Trustee LaBedz noted officers have to keep going to the same places multiple times a night which takes them away from other parts of the Village, like Alfresco. Mr. Recklaus agreed saying just this year 414 officer hours were spent at two different properties. That's time they could be doing other things. Trustee LaBedz said its important police are seen in other parts of town; it makes people feel better. She asked about the continuous digital surveillance, would there need to be an employee watching the cameras 24/7. Mr. Recklaus said no, those recordings could be accessed 24/7 at any given time at the hotel, someone there just needs to have access.

Trustee Grasse said she liked the Ordinance and appreciated that we have a higher fine amount than the other towns, it's a good deterrent. She liked giving our police the tools to hold those hotels accountable. It will help the police, residents and visitors. She also appreciated the required meeting and having that as a start.

Trustee Bertucci said some rooms smelled of smoke and the guests had disconnected the smoke detectors. If an officer sees that, what happens? Mr. Recklaus said a protocol is being developed where the officer can call an inspector and show the violation to them. A safety violation ticket could

be written, or the officer could conduct a remote inspection via facetime or video and a citation can be issued.

Trustee Scaletta expressed his concern that the Ordinance goes too far. He noted this would change how all hotels are operating because of two bad actors. He said there is a lot of subjective language and thought the list of responsible parties cast too broad of a net. The definition of 14201 b. sounded like it could be the Lutheran home. He asked how we distinguish between hotels/motels and other structures. With digital registration, how do we make hotels responsible when people don't check in at the front desk? With 24-hour access to video, do we no longer need a search warrant?

Mr. Recklaus answered that it would be up to the operator to access the recording, we're just asking for someone to have access, for them to have the ability to share. Mr. Passman said they are not obligated to share. Twenty-four-hour access to recordings is different than 24-hour monitoring. Mr. Recklaus said these bad situations are a threat to their business as well and staff is confident that they will agree. Trustee Scaletta asked if an operator would be deemed a nuisance if they do not share their film. Mr. Recklaus said no. Mr. Passman said digital surveillance is not considered in the same provision as a nuisance hotel. The Village might seek that information, but it is not grounds to declare a nuisance. Nuisances are only based on criminal behavior. Trustee Scaletta said their business is part privacy, and they need to reassure their guests that there is privacy. Although he trusts Mr. Recklaus and Chief Pecora, he doesn't know who will come after. He said the definitions are too broad, the criteria subjective, and he worried about stereotyping or discrimination.

Mr. Recklaus acknowledged the hotel authority definition could be tidied. All the activities, which would make a hotel a nuisance, are illegal. The same filter happens on any call. Many of what people see and say are not a crime nor are they actionable. Officers will apply the same professional standards. The Village is trying to make sure the operators are doing all that is reasonable. If something is unreasonable, they can appeal through the court. There is due process under program. Yes, there is some subjectivity, but this is a policy issue for the Board to consider.

Trustee Scaletta asked what happens if there aren't enough alarms and video cameras. Mr. Passman said it would be a code violation, which leads to a fine. The violation would allow suspension if they continued to violate it. Trustee Scaletta said the policy tries to hit a fly with a sledge hammer and gives too much control to two people. He will be voting no. We are creating this because we can't control the guests any other way. Trustee Scaletta questioned the specific people identified as responsible parties, and said it seems to cover everybody and is just too much.

President Hayes did not share the same concerns. He noted the hotel authority definitions mean someone who has a legal or equitable interest, or who has oversight authority. He said he respects the responders, and has

confidence in our current office holders. It's incumbent on the Board to hire good people and rely on the Village Manager's appointed staff to carry out the policy.

Trustee Bertucci said one of our more reputable hotels is already fulfilling these measures. He saw the aftermath of violent crimes, guns, knives, assault, sexual assault, and times at night a person might flee. If a hotel staff member can get access to video, police can follow up and it might be helpful. If they don't want to, fine. We'll go to court to get what we need. He expressed his deep concern for what is happening.

Trustee James Bertucci moved to approve Ordinance 2022-040 with the deletion of "tenant, guest, visitor" from Section 14-201 c. Trustee Mary Beth Canty Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Schwingbeck

Nays: Scaletta

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia

XIII. LEGAL

XIV. REPORT OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

XV. APPOINTMENTS

# XVI. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

# **XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Robin LaBedz moved to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Trustee Tom Schwingbeck Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Bertucci, Canty, Grasse, Hayes, LaBedz, Scaletta, Schwingbeck

Absent: Baldino, Tinaglia