

APPROVED MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL 60002
Call In (312)626-6799 Access Code: 592-598-564
July 14, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gartner called the July 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:35 pm in the Antioch Village Hall: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL and via Zoom.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor and Board of Trustees led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Pierce, Macek, Pedersen, Bluthardt, Burman and Dominiak. Also present were Mayor Gartner, Attorney Vasselli, Administrator Keim and Clerk Romine.

IV. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely

There were no absent trustees wishing to attend remotely.

1. Mayoral Report – Acknowledgements: GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Oakwood Knolls Park Renovations: Emily and Daniel Henson.

Mayor Gartner recognized and acknowledged Finance Director McCarthy one last time for her achievement in excellence in financial reporting to the Village of Antioch.

Mayor Gartner acknowledged the Oakwood Knolls Homeowners Association in renovating the public park, in particular Emily and Daniel Henson. Mayor Gartner presented signed photographs of the park and flag to Emily Henson and Isabella Olsen who designed the new flag for the park.

V. Approval of the June 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented - Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee Pierce, to approve the June 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Pierce, Macek, Pedersen, Bluthardt, Burman and Dominiak.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Mr. Mike O'Mara, Village Resident, commented on the recent discussion at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting related to business use regulations, and challenged the comments that the Village Board and Village Staff support the idea of the text amendment discussed at the meeting.

Ms. Christine Zabilski, Village Resident, discussed the purchase of property for a park in Heron Harbor. Mayor Gartner commented on the procedure to place an item on the agenda, and stated there was no request to have this specific item added to the agenda for this evening.

Mr. Jim Parisi, Village Resident, said they were directed at their last HOA meeting to address the Village Board regarding the possibility of putting a garbage can along Bowles Road as a courtesy for dog walkers. He added that the HOA is unable to maintain or take on that task.

Mr. Steven King, Heron Harbor resident, said he moved from Deerfield and thinks that the homeowners are trending younger with more children and supports the idea of a park in their subdivision.

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Mayor Gartner addressed the first comment regarding the Planning and Zoning Board, and stated that anyone interested can address the Planning and Zoning Board at their next meeting when the item will continue to be discussed. That item will also be on a Village Board agenda for debate and discussion after the Planning and Zoning Board makes a recommendation. He also commented that he understands the need for a park in Heron Harbor and fully supports the idea.

VI. Regular Business

1. Overview of Hyper Reach Program for community-wide notifications – Chief Guttschow provided an overview of the existing notification system, and additional services provided with the proposed new vendor. He also discussed the combined effort with the First Fire Protection District and Antioch Township to have shared use and access to the program. Ms. Mary Grace Graham with Hyper Reach provided a brief overview of the system including its applications, customizations and accessibility.

Trustee Macek discussed the opt-out option and asked if it could be required. Chief Guttschow said the program is customizable and when registering you will have the option to choose what type of alerts you would like to receive. Ms. Graham said nobody is allowed to opt out of their landline if we choose to make that a requirement, however with cell phones they do have the option. Those present discussed the alerting program through FEMA, and who will receive messages from which entity. This item will be placed on the next village board agenda for consideration.

2. Discussion regarding food truck regulations – Administrator Keim discussed the influx of food trucks in the Village, and said this proposed ordinance provides regulations for those trucks.

Trustee Macek expressed concern with a truck parking in front of another business taking their sales. Administrator Keim said the board can regulate in whatever fashion they wish. Trustee Macek asked that the insurance certificate also includes adding the Village as additionally insured. Attorney Vasselli will make the changes to the insurance, and Mayor Gartner commented on the restrictions already included in the ordinance regarding location of the truck.

Trustee Dominiak discussed restrictions in the ordinance and asked if we should narrow the restriction on Route 83. Administrator Keim replied that parking is not allowed on the side of a State Highway. Trustee Dominiak discussed the sale of alcohol and asked if this is just for food. Trustee Dominiak commented on the possibility of an existing brick and mortar restaurant having a food truck, and what their requirements may be. Administrator Keim recommended they go through the same approval process if operating a food truck.

Mayor Gartner commented on the proposed restrictions which would ensure the safety of the trucks and regulate the uses more than the current code allows. Trustee Bluthardt asked if there could be short term licenses for special events. Administrator Keim said staff would like to approve on a location basis. If parked on village property or right-of-way, it would be controlled by the Village. Mayor Gartner commented on the possibility of a reciprocity if they have licenses from another community. Trustees commented on the number of events/licenses that would be required throughout the year. Administrator Keim asked that comments are sent to him or the attorney to include in the revisions. This item will be placed on a future village board agenda for consideration.

3. Discussion regarding an Ordinance Amending Title 7, Chapter 3 of the Municipal Code of Antioch Establishing Vehicle Weight Limits on several streets– Administrator Keim discussed the previous concern with gravel and larger trucks traveling down Village streets and an attempt to keep them on the main arterials and not collector roads. The Police Chief has ability to utilize scales and enforce the weight limits. Trustee Dominiak asked about license plate designations and where trucks may travel. Administrator Keim said there are some existing designated truck routes in the Village. Trustee Dominiak asked why certain streets are designated as truck routes. Trustees are asked to send staff their comments on the ordinance, and staff will review the roads included in the ordinance and present at a future board meeting for consideration.

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4. Discussion regarding an Ordinance Amending Section 1-4-6 of the Municipal Code of Antioch regarding remote meeting attendance at Board of Trustees Meetings – Mayor Gartner commented on the ability to host virtual meetings in the past year and revisions to the current ordinance in order to align it with new technology.

Trustee Macek commented on the technical aspects of zoom meetings such as speaker views, and fines associated with absences. Trustee Pedersen said everyone should be able to hold an elected office and support their family, and when the technology is available attendance should not be limited. She believes it would be an injustice to place any kind of limit on that, and has had no problem with participation via Zoom. Trustee Bluthardt agreed. Trustee Burman agrees with Trustee Macek with regards to the second speaker and agreed with Trustee Pedersen's comments that a trustee should not be penalized if they do have attend remotely. Trustee Dominiak said we have demonstrated the ability to conduct business via Zoom and agrees with Trustee Pedersen's comments. Attorney Vasselli commented that a negative vote has to be brought up, and this ordinance allows participation unless someone objects. This item will be placed on the next village board agenda for consideration.

5. Discussion regarding the Township Park Committee – Mayor Gartner was approached by Supervisor Shaughnessy regarding an agreement from 2004 initially established to build the Tim Osmond Sports Park. The agreement allows a cooperative group between Village and Township to manage Osmond Sports Park. He discussed the requirement in the agreement for a 501c3 and proposed an amendment allowing the Mayor and Supervisor to appoint a trustee and resident at large to serve on the committee. Trustees asked the attorney to review the agreement and ensure it's balanced and fair to the Village.

6. Discussion regarding Water and Sewer Billing Penalties – Finance Director McCarthy stated that there has been a waiver of penalties and shut offs since the beginning of COVID, and would like direction on whether to begin implementing those again, or approve another resolution waiving the 3% increase in August.

Trustee Pierce doesn't think we should be increasing our fees or shutting anyone off while we are still under an emergency. Trustee Macek said we have a fiduciary responsibility to our infrastructure and thinks the 3% is needed with current inflation rates. Trustee Pedersen said until the emergency is lifted, she believes we should continue what we're doing. Trustee Bluthardt asked if there was any data on the past due fees. Director McCarthy discussed the \$65,000 in late payments currently, which is approximately a 3% increase from the prior year before Covid. She added that there are 12 customers who owe more than \$1000, and provided additional statistics on late fees and shut offs. Trustee Bluthardt said to continue waiving late fees would be a feel-good gesture, but isn't really doing anything. He said he would stand with the board if they want to align with the state of emergency. Trustee Burman agrees with Trustee Macek that the late fees should be reinstated. Trustee Dominiak asked what amount of revenue was budgeted. Finance Director McCarthy responded that the 3% increase was included in the projected revenues. Trustee Dominiak asked what the impact would be if they decided not to do the increase. Director McCarthy will research and respond to the board tomorrow. Trustee Pedersen commented that the Federal Government gave Lake County funds for people affected by Covid for utility and rental assistance, as well as assistance available through the Township.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Romine, RMC/CMC
Village Clerk