

APPROVED MINUTES

VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Village of Antioch, Lake County, Illinois

Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL 60002

Call In # 1-312-626-6799

Public Access Code: 592-598-564

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/592598564>

August 24, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gartner called the August 24, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:36 pm at the Antioch Municipal Building located at 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL and via Zoom.

II. 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.

III. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely

No approval is needed for remote participation pursuant to the Governor's order.

IV. Approval of the July 27, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented

Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to approve the July 27, 2022 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.

V. Mayoral Report

None.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

None.

VI. Regular Business

1. Ordinance regarding decorum in meetings – Mayor Gartner discussed recent Village Board meetings and public comment, and the need to codify and make enforceable standards for those wishing to address the board.

Attorney Vasselli provided an overview of the current law on this matter, and discussed the compliance necessary with the Open Meetings Act and First Amendment. He said this proposed ordinance is brought before the board at a committee of the whole meeting in order to discuss the matter before action is taken at a Village Board meeting. He discussed a binding Attorney General Opinion under the OMA Request for Review 2020PAC65871, 2020PAC65961 and 2020PAC66133, and read applicable law in that opinion, which the board discussed.

Attorney Vasselli added that the first amendment protects profanity. Trustee Macek discussed the previous meeting, and said the board cannot demand an apology from another as requested by the resident.

Trustee Pierce made a point of order stating that this discussion is regarding decorum and not what occurred at a previous meeting. Mayor Gartner said this is an attempt to correct whatever has happened in the past.

Trustee Pedersen asked that a time clock be placed on the dais.

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Trustee Bluthardt thinks it's the Board's job to listen to people at meetings. He agrees there should be a time frame, and the Mayor should have the right to interrupt or stop the speech if it's reaching a limit. In the proposed ordinance, he asked if there's a way to override the chair's ruling. Attorney Vasselli said there is a provision that allows a vote. Trustee Bluthardt said if it becomes an ongoing issue, the Board should look at adopting rules.

Trustee Burman discussed the relevancy of school district business at a Village Board meeting, and attacks on elected or appointed Village officials.

Trustee Dominiak thinks we need to have an ordinance, and asked the attorney if what is read before public comment is acceptable. Attorney Vasselli believes it is good language. Trustee Dominiak agrees with a three minute time limit, but the chair should be allowed latitude. She discussed irrelevancies and public comment that doesn't relate to Village business, and the manner of speech vs. the content of speech.

Trustee Pierce discussed the office held by members of the Village Board, and the First Amendment rights of residents to address their concerns to the board about a specific elected or appointed official.

Trustee Macek asked that the Village attorney speak with the Lake County attorney about their process.

Trustee Burman said our children aren't Village business, and the content of public comment matters.

Trustee Dominiak asked if the clause related to repetition of comments could include same comments made at different meetings. Attorney Vasselli said it would be applicable to repetitive comments made at the same meeting, and multiple people addressing and making comments about the same issue.

Trustee Pierce discussed the enforceability of the fine amount and if it applies to the public only, or Village Board as well.

Trustee Burman discussed the loyalty oath filed with petition papers.

This item will be placed on another committee of the whole meeting agenda for discussion.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel and Pending Litigation, Lease of Village Property, Collective Bargaining – Property Disposition/Acquisition and Personnel and Consultants

Trustee Dominiak moved, seconded by Trustee Pierce, to enter executive session at 8:27pm for property disposal, pending litigation and personnel. Upon roll call, the vote was:

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

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee Macek moved, seconded by Trustee Pierce, to exit executive session at 8:49pm with no action taken. Upon roll call, the vote was:

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

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

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IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Romine, RMC/CMC
Village Clerk