



VILLAGE OF WILLIAMS BAY

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OFFICIAL MINUTES VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by President Duncan at 6:00pm.

Roll Call

Present: President Duncan, Trustees McMannamy, Umans, Vlach, D'Alessandro (6:48-7:46) and Parker (6:57-7:46).

Also present: Interim Administrator Bretl, Clerk Pankau, Police Chief Timm (6:29-7:46), Public Works Director Edwards, Library Director Schnupp, Recreation Director Rowland and Justin LaRue; CivicClerk (6:05-6:43).

Excused: Trustee Wright.

Pledge of Allegiance

CivicClerk User Training Session

Justin LaRue from CivicClerk gave a presentation on how to use CivicClerk as a Board Member, Staff Department Head and Resident.

Minutes

Vlach/Umans motion to approve the Village Board Meeting minutes of February 15, 2021. Unanimously carried.

Umans/Vlach motion to approve the Closed Village Board Meeting minutes of February 15, 2021. Unanimously carried.

Consent Agenda

A. Water Main Condition Study

Umans/Vlach motion to approve the consent agenda. Unanimously carried.

Presentation of accounts and petitions

Duncan/Umans motion to approve Payroll period 01-30-2021 thru 02-12-2021; check date 02-19-2021 in the amount of \$37,763.68. Unanimously carried.

Duncan/Umans motion to approve Library Accounts Payable dated 02-16-2021 in the amount of \$13,295.22. Unanimously carried.

Duncan/Umans motion to approve Accounts Payable unpaid dated 02-26-2021 in the amount of \$438,136.62. Unanimously carried.

Plan Commission

None

Joint Extraterritorial Zoning Committee: pursuant to section 18.171F(A)

No Hearing

Public Comments

None

President's Remarks

- Options for action by the Village Board regarding the Petition for Direct Legislation will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Citizens can now go into the Village Hall for counter service during office hours. Masks and social distancing are requested. The Staff and Board are working on a plan to have hybrid meetings in the future using the OWL Software so that Trustees and select people can be in-person and everyone else can be online.
- There will be a Meet and Greet event tomorrow, March 2nd, from 6:00pm-8:00pm to meet the final candidates for the Village Administrator position. Masks and social distancing will be required. Each candidate will make a 30-minute presentation and answer questions. On Wednesday morning (March 3rd) the Village Board will have a Closed Session meeting to interview the candidates and potentially choose one to extend an offer to.
- GLLEA Court Cases have been moved to Fontana's Court. The GLLEA Board votes on a budget annually and part of that vote decides which Court the cases go to.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Duncan/Umans motion to approve R-4-21 Urging the State of Wisconsin to include certain Municipal Employees in the COVID-19 Priority Group 1B. Unanimously carried.

Committee Reports**Finance & Personnel, Trustee Parker- Chair**

No Report

Protective Services, Trustee Vlach – Chair

No Report

Parks & Lakefront, Trustee D'Alessandro – Chair

No Report

Building, Zoning & Ordinance, Trustee Wright – Chair

No Report

Water & Sewer, Trustee Umans - Chair

Trustee Umans stated that at a previous meeting a resident asked if our Water Plant is protected from computer hacking. Trustee Umans looked into this concern and reported that although nothing is really safe from hacking, Williams Bay's water chemical processing is not controlled by computers and therefore cannot be hacked.

Streets & Highways, Trustee McMannamy – Chair

No Report

Public Comments

None

Other Items for Discussion, Consideration, or Action

1. 2021 Fireworks Show

President Duncan explained that the Board needs to decide if they would like to have the fireworks show this year so that the Village Staff can solicit donations along with the next Water Bill later this month. The Trustees discussed that they would like to do the fireworks show this year even if the Lions Club does not do the Corn and Brat Fest.

D'Alessandro/Umans motion to approve the 2021 Fireworks Show.

Clerk Pankau asked for the motion to include the date of the show and the amount that the Board would like to spend on the fireworks.

D'Alessandro/Umans motion to amend the original motion to include the show date being August 14, 2021 with the spending of \$25,000.00 on the fireworks. Unanimously carried.

2. Petition for Direct Legislation

President Duncan explained that Clerk Pankau certified the signatures and corrections made to the original submittal and found that the Petition qualifies for certification. Duncan stated that the Village Attorney has shared that he does not believe the Petition is an appropriate subject for direct legislation according to State Statute criteria. Duncan explained that the Board could vote no and not send it to referendum, vote yes and send it to referendum, vote yes and pass it, or refer it to the BZO Committee for a closed session with the Village Attorney to discuss liabilities.

Interim Administrator Bretl explained that a Petition must be an appropriate subject for Direct Legislation according to the criteria listed in the State Statutes and that the Village Attorney does not believe this Petition meets that criteria. Bretl explained that if the Board still wants to look at sending it to referendum, it would be on the April 2022 ballot unless a special Village Election is held and he suggested that it go to the BZO Committee for a Closed Session with the Village Attorney to understand the liabilities of that action.

Trustee D'Alessandro stated that he would like to see it go to BZO to get questions answered by the Attorney. D'Alessandro stated that moratoriums have happened in the past and that the Board shouldn't be taking any re-zone requests right now until they go through the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Trustee McMannamy stated that this particular group has been asking for transparency and open meetings so she doesn't believe that a closed session meeting would be a good response.

Trustee Umans explained that he wants to see a big public meeting in open session but is worried about the timing since this has been going on for a year. Umans stated that the land will eventually be sold regardless and that the Village does not own the land. Umans said that the University of Chicago has been good to Williams Bay and their plan for the three houses is a good one, otherwise it will be sold zoned as Institutional anyways and then the Village would start over.

Trustee Parker stated that the responsible thing to do is to have a closed session with the Attorney to understand everything before taking action one way or the other.

Trustee D'Alessandro stated that he feels like the Board owes it to the many people who signed the Petition to explore it with the Attorney and deliberate it.

Interim Administrator Bretl stated that if no action is taken within 30 days of the Clerk's certificate, the Petition will automatically go on the ballot in April of 2022. Bretl reminded the Board that the University of Chicago is still in the process of getting the land re-zoned to residential and the Board still has the option to approve or deny that.

Trustee Vlach stated that if the Board puts the Petition to referendum that the Village would get into legal trouble with the University of Chicago and he feels that the Board should not approve the Petition or referendum, but to follow up with the public at the meeting regarding the re-zone.

Trustee McMannamy stated that the Village Board and Staff are doing the best they can with the Public Hearings, but right now meeting in an Auditorium isn't feasible with the pandemic going on.

President Duncan stated that he is actively considering a public meeting in the school's gym in April for listening purposes only, but that tonight the Board needs to decide on the Petition specifically.

Trustee Parker stated that right now the University of Chicago could build a dormitory on that land since it is Institutional and that the Board is being asked to stop a single property owner from developing their own property. Parker stated that the past moratorium was on an annexation into the Village, not stopping a property owner from building on their land.

Trustee Umans stated that the Village does not own the property and if the Board pushes this down the road too far the University will sell it as Institutional and someone could build a dormitory.

Umans/Duncan motion to not approve the Petition request and to not approve to move it to referendum.

Trustee McMannamy stated that she does not want to discount efforts that the group made and that she congratulates them, but that she has to agree not to approve it to not mess up the deal between the University of Chicago and Yerkes Future Foundation.

Trustee D'Alessandro stated that he wants to see further discussion and wishes that Trustee Wright was present to vote.

Trustee Vlach stated that he has no objection for further discussion but does believe that action needs to be taken tonight. Vlach stated that he does not think it is right to move something to referendum when the Village Attorney is suggesting not to and that the Village cannot deny the property owners rights of using their property the way that it is currently zoned.

Trustee McMannamy stated that the Village is lucky to have a lot of green space with KNC and the lakefront and that the University of Chicago has promised to keep the lake path intact. McMannamy stated that the University of Chicago has gone above and beyond to serve Williams Bay and this decision is not taken lightly.

Trustee Parker stated that he appreciates the group who took the time on this but has heard the Village Attorney's opinion and is ready to vote tonight.

Trustee D'Alessandro stated that the Village should not re-zone anything until the Comprehensive Plan update is done. D'Alessandro stated that he wants to see it go to the BZO Committee to recognize the people who signed the petition and tell them a plan from there.

Roll Call Vote: Aye-Duncan, Parker, McMannamy, Vlach and Umans. Nay-D'Alessandro. Motion carries.

Adjournment

Umans/Vlach motion to adjourn at 7:46pm. Unanimously carried.

/s/ Jackie Pankau, Village Clerk

These are not official Minutes until approved by the Governing Body.