

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

Session #023

December 9, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fleischer called the Regular Session of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 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:

Joseph E. Budzyn
Debbie Engler
Jillian Hersted
George Metanias
Jim Richmond
Joe Siwinski

Also present were: Clerk Melissa Martini; Village Administrator John Tomaszoski; Assistant Village Administrator Kirk Zoellner; Police Chief Steve Vaccaro; Public Works Director Lou Tiberi; Assistant Public Works Director Mark Detloff; Civil Engineer Dan Peloquin; Street Superintendent Rob Skolds; Community/Economic Development Director Alan Zordan; Building and Planning Director Matt Ziska and Village Attorney Carl Buck.

DISCOVER MOKENA

N/A

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Clerk Martini presented the Community Calendar.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Schlegel expressed his concerns regarding the relocation of Import Car Exchange to 104th Avenue. He hoped that if residents in the area had concerns, that they expressed them at the Site Plan Architectural Review Committee meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Village Administrator John Tomaszoski presented three (3) items on the Consent Agenda for Board approval. These items are strictly administrative in nature.

- a. Motion to cancel the regularly scheduled Mokena Village Board meeting of December 23, 2019.
- b. Motion to approve minutes from the November 18, 2019 Work Session.
- c. Motion to approve minutes from the November 25, 2019 Board Meeting and Work Session.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 6 (a), (b) and (c) as depicted in the December 5, 2019 Request for Board Action prepared by the Village Administrator. Trustee Siwinski seconded.

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Director Barb Damron presented the accounts payable list for December totaling \$1,264,881.24. She highlighted the following invoices to be paid.

- \$378,805.18 Austin Tyler Construction Co. – FY 20 Street Maintenance Program
- \$ 89,529.90 John Burns Construction Co. – LED Street Light Project

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve the monthly accounts payable in the amount of \$1,264,881.24. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion carried

PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS

Appointment of Steven Chianelli to Maintenance Worker Position

Public Works Director Lou Tiberi presented the appointment of Steven Chianelli to the Maintenance Worker position. As the result of staff vacancies created by promotions, the Street Department currently has two openings for Maintenance Workers. The openings were advertised locally and on the Village website with approximately 85 applicants submitting resumes. Staff conducted preliminary interviews and then conducted interviews with the top candidates that were best suited for the position.

Based on the results of these interviews and a review of his training and work experience, it was determined that Steven Chianelli was qualified to fill one of the Maintenance Worker positions.

Over the past several years, Mr. Chianelli has worked in Public Works for the Village of Tinley Park as a Maintenance Worker in the Streets Division, for Summit Hill School District and Frankfort Park District in maintenance and supervisory positions and for Homer Environmental and JF New gaining valuable knowledge and experience in the area of landscaping, snow plowing and general maintenance. He currently has a commercial driver's license (CDL) that allows him to operate all of the Village's current equipment including the 2½ ton snowplows.

Staff is confident Mr. Chianelli possesses the skills and capabilities necessary to perform all tasks required in connection with the Maintenance Worker position, and that he will be an immediate asset to Village operations filling this new role.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve the appointment of Steven Chianelli to the position of Maintenance Worker in the Street Department at the starting step for that position in the Collective Bargaining Agreement executed August 22, 2016 between the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150, Public Employees Division, and the Village of Mokena, effective December 16, 2019. Trustee Siwinski seconded

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion carried

Mr. Chianelli thanked the Board for the opportunity to work for the Village and looks forward to joining the Village family.

Mayor Fleischer welcomed Steve aboard.

Appointment of Dave Blommaert to the Maintenance Worker Position

Public Works Director Lou Tiberi presented the appointment of Dave Blommaert for the second Maintenance Worker position.

Based on the results of his interview and a review of his training and work experience, it was determined that Dave Blommaert is the second applicant that was qualified to fill one of the Maintenance Worker positions.

Over the past several years, Mr. Blommaert has worked for the Mokena Park District as an Equipment Operator and Team Leader in the Maintenance Department. He comes highly recommended by the Park District and has snow plowing and welding experience. He currently has a commercial driver's license (CDL) that allows him to operate all of the Village's current equipment including the 2½ ton snowplows.

Staff is confident Mr. Blommaert possesses the skills and capabilities necessary to perform all tasks required in connection with the Maintenance Worker position, and that he will be an immediate asset to Village operations filling this new role.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve the appointment of Dave Blommaert to the position of Maintenance Worker in the Street Department at the starting step for that position in the Collective Bargaining Agreement executed August 22, 2016 between the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150, Public Employees Division, and the Village of Mokena, effective December 10, 2019. Trustee Metanias seconded

Trustee Metanias addressed Mokena Park District Executive Director Mike Selep concerning their loss of Mr. Blommaert.

Mr. Selep stated they excited for him but are sorry to see him go.

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

Mr. Blommaert thanked the Board for the opportunity to continue serving the residents of the Village.

Mayor Fleischer welcomed Mr. Blommaert aboard.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

N/A

PRE-SCHEDULED PROPOSALS/PRESENTATIONS AND VISITORS

N/A

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Elected Officials Salaries

Village Administrator John Tomasoski presented compensation for the elected officials.

Mr. Tomasoski stated that the elected officials' salaries have not been adjusted since 2000. He reviewed the current compensation levels. As part of this process, Staff conducted a survey of thirteen similar-sized communities ranging from 14,050 to 28,000 for an average population of 20,622. The Village of Mokena's population is 20,305 as of the 2017 special census. As a result of the survey, it was determined that the Mayor's salary is 51% of the average, the Trustees' salaries are 52% of the average and the Clerk's salary is 52% of the average.

Administrator Tomasoski discussed what is a reasonable adjustment when comparing the surveyed communities, including the responsibilities of elected officials, position workload, and the Board's conservative fiscal policy. The adjustments being recommended for the elected officials are Village President/Mayor \$15,000 (include Liquor Commissioner), Village Trustees \$7,500 and Village Clerk \$6,000. The proposed compensation for all categories combined is approximately 80% of the survey average for nearby, similar-sized southwest suburban communities.

Mr. Tomasoski stated that this is the first proposed adjustment in elected officials' compensation since 2000. It aligns compensation more closely with duties performed by each elected position, keeps stipend levels well under the average of comparable local communities and recognizes the time commitment required of elected officials. Administrator Tomasoski reviewed the effective dates of the adjustment.

Mayor Fleischer commented that an adjustment was being considered in 2007, but it was abandoned due to the downturn in the economy and Village staff not receiving raises.

Trustee Metanias commented that the Board is obviously not doing this for the money, but after twenty years an adjustment is due.

Trustee Siwinski stated this is more of a housekeeping issue and keeping up with inflation. It will not become effective until after the next election.

Trustee Engler made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-O-041, an ordinance pertaining to the salaries of the Elected Officials of the Village of Mokena and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk to execute the same. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (7) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski, Fleischer

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Village Administrator Tomasoski requested Community/Economic Development Director Alan Zordan update the Board on development and business activities. Mr. Zordan provided an update on pending development projects, new businesses and highlighted businesses providing services and products for holiday gifts.

Village Administrator Tomasoski wished the Board, residents and businesses a Happy Holiday season. He also provided information on the Forest Preserve's Hoot in the New Year Activity on January 3 and 4th at the Hickory Creek Preserve

TRUSTEE'S COMMENTS

Trustee Hersted wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Trustee Budzyn also wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Trustee Siwinski wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Trustee Metanias wished everyone Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Trustee Engler read the list of years of service awards for Village employees. She also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Trustee Richmond wished everyone a Merry Christmas and reminded everyone about the Christmas tree at the VFW to benefit veterans at the Manteno Veterans Home.

CLERK'S COMMENTS

Clerk Martini wished everyone Merry Christmas.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Fleischer wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Siwinski made a motion at 7:22 p.m. to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11). Trustee Richmond seconded.

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

RECONVENE BOARD MEETING

Trustee Siwinski made a motion to reconvene the regular session at 7:48 p.m. Trustee Engler seconded.

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Engler made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:49 p.m. Trustee Richmond seconded.

AYES: (6) Budzyn, Engler, Hersted, Metanias, Richmond, Siwinski
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Frank A. Fleischer, Village President

ATTEST:

Melissa Martini, Village Clerk