

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

Session #010

May 26, 2020

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

Village Administrator John Tomasoski stated the following:

**NOTICE:** This meeting is being conducted pursuant and in compliance with Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-32,33.

The public can view this meeting on local cable access Channel 6 or view the meeting live at [www.mokena.org](http://www.mokena.org).

The public is encouraged to utilize these methods of viewing the meeting in observance of the Stay-At-Home order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board of Trustees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Clerk Martini called the roll and the following Trustees were present via telephone:

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

Also present were: Clerk Melissa Martini via telephone; Village Administrator John Tomasoski and Village Attorney Carl Buck were present in person.

**DISCOVER MOKENA**

N/A

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Village Administrator John Tomasoski informed those wishing to speak at Public Comment were encouraged to call (708) 478-2148 and calls would be taken one at a time. If the line is busy, please wait and call back.

Mr. Jim Schlegel called into the Public Comment line and thanked the Trustees for how nice Front Street currently looks and that Trustee Metanias's idea of flowerpots worked out very well and it is something to be very proud of.

Mr. Schlegel mentioned a program in Frankfort where residents that have over \$100 in receipts from businesses that have been closed due to the pandemic can receive a \$50 credit from the Village of Frankfort on their water bill. He stated that he hopes the Village can do something similar for its residents.

Village Administrator Tomasoski advised residents of the Public Comment call-in number again.

Village Administrator Tomasoski closed Public Comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- a. Motion to accept the recommendations of the Site Plan and Architectural Review Committee, thereby approving the development plans as depicted on the attached exhibits for the property located at 11900 Francis Road with the understanding that a variation for the proposed 10' "acoustifence" be approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals prior to construction of the fence.

- b. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Site Plan and Architectural Review Committee, thereby approving the proposed improvement plans for W. 10850 187<sup>th</sup> Street, as depicted on the attached exhibits.
- c. Motion to approve minutes from May 11, 2020 Board Meeting and Work Session.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve items 6 (a), (b) and (c) as depicted in the May 21, 2020 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

## PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/**PROCLAMATIONS**

### **Proclamation Honoring 2020 Graduates**

A proclamation was read by Clerk Martini honoring the 2020 graduating class including students graduating from Mokena Junior High, St. Mary School, Noonan Academy, Summit Hill Junior High, Lincoln-Way Central, Lincoln-Way East, Providence Catholic and other area high schools and numerous colleges and universities.

### **National Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation**

A proclamation was read by Clerk Martini declaring June 5, 2020 National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

N/A

## PRE-SCHEDULED PROPOSALS/PRESENTATIONS AND VISITORS

N/A

## OLD BUSINESS

N/A

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Resolution Suspending Outdoor Dining, Temporary Tents, and Temporary Promotional Signage**

Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan entered the Board Room.

Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan presented a Resolution Suspending Outdoor Dining, Temporary Tents, Temporary Promotional Signage.

Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan stated that Governor Pritzker has indicated that all of Illinois will enter Phase 3 of his Restore Illinois Plan on May 29, 2020. As part of Phase 3, Governor Pritzker has indicated that outdoor dining at restaurants will be allowed for eat-in service. Businesses will need to follow the state guidelines and are also subject to local rules and regulations.

Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan stated that based on this information, staff prepared the attached resolution suspending the provisions of the Village Code of Ordinances related to outdoor dining, temporary tent usage, and temporary promotional signage. The resolution would go into effect on May 29, 2020.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-R-006 suspending certain Village Codes in support of local businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Trustee Siwinski seconded.

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

Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan thanked the Board and stated that Village staff has created an application form and set of guidelines that will be delivered to local restaurants first thing in the morning.

Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan left the Board Room.

#### **VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

Village Administrator John Tomasoski presented a COVID-19 update.

Village Administrator Tomasoski congratulated Officer Tom Czarnecki of the Mokena Police Department for receiving Mokena School District 159's 2020 Galaxy Award.

Village Administrator Tomasoski thanked Jim Angone for his 15 plus years of service with the Village and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement.

Village Administrator Tomasoski commemorated Memorial Day on May 25, 2020 and thanked VFW Commander Hogan and Tim Franson for their work to provide a virtual Memorial Day ceremony.

#### **TRUSTEE'S COMMENTS**

Trustee Siwinski asked if the flooding downtown from the past weekend was due to the ponds being full or if the Village knows what the source of the flooding issue was.

Village Administrator John Tomasoski responded that the main source of the issue was the volume of rainfall in a short period of time and that our Village engineers have been following up with concerned residents on drainage issues.

Mayor Fleischer commented that he drove around the Village on Sunday for approximately three and a half hours and noticed two spots that were hit with flooding: Union Avenue and Revere Road and near Townline Road and Francis Road. The drain was plugged up from new development near Townline Road and Francis Road and once an officer was able to clear out the grill, the water started draining better. He commented that too much rain came in a short amount of time, but overall, the Village handled the water really well.

Trustee Siwinski congratulated Mr. Jim Angone on his retirement. He congratulated the Class of 2020 graduates and stated that it is a difficult time to graduate, but the Village is proud of the graduating class and stands behind them. Trustee Siwinski referenced Mr. Jim Schlegel's public comment and said he had a valid point about helping our local businesses and hopes the Village can think of something creative to assist them. He thought it was important to continue to monitor the current situation and work with our legislators to make sure the Village can assist our businesses in any way possible. He thanked the Board for doing so throughout this process.

Trustee Metanias referenced the lights that ComEd recently added to the former Therafin site and that as soon as things get back to normal, hopefully soon, people will feel safer. He asked residents to take notice of the lights if they are in the area and said that it looks really good. He commented on completion of the Front Street pavers and the addition of flowerpots and said it looks really sharp and taken care of. Trustee Metanias hopes it will encourage new businesses to come downtown and asked new businesses to reach out.

Trustee Engler thanked Jim Agone for his service with the Village and congratulated him on his retirement. Trustee Engler thanked Officer Czarnecki, stating that he does a great job with D.A.R.E. and she appreciates all that he does. She congratulated the class of 2020 and highlighted graduates Brooke Richmond and her neighbor, Sarah Peters. She wished Madison Siwinski a Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Trustee Engler highlighted that the small business community in Mokena, Frankfort and New Lenox is hosting a Small Business Raffle and tickets can be purchased at [www.smallbusinessraffle.com](http://www.smallbusinessraffle.com) with proceeds distributed to small businesses and the LincolnWay High School District 210

Foundation. Forty-two businesses each donated three \$100 gift cards, tickets can be purchased through June 4 and there will be three winners announced on June 8. Winnings can be used starting on January 1, 2021.

Trustee Richmond thanked Trustee Engler for extending congratulations to his daughter, Brooke. He highlighted that his daughter, Brooke Richmond, graduated from the University of St. Francis a couple weeks ago and that she was recognized as an All-American Athlete for dance and congratulated her on the accomplishment. Trustee Richmond commented that although there was no public Memorial Day procession this year, it was great that Jim Hogan and Tim Franson were able to pull off a virtual ceremony and thanked them for recognizing the veterans. He mentioned driving to all the cemeteries yesterday and noticed many people paying their respects to veterans and also thanked past, present and future veterans. Trustee Richmond commented that the Village needs to do everything they can to help businesses and bring back the economy.

#### **CLERK'S COMMENTS**

Village Clerk Melissa Martini passed on Clerk's Comments.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Fleischer thanked all the men and women who have served in the armed forces over the years and said that without them, we would not have what we have today. He further commented that we are the greatest country in the world and that is because of the veterans.

Mayor Fleischer thanked Jim Angone for his service with the Village and thanked Trustee Engler for mentioning Officer Czarnecki and the Small Business Raffle. Mayor Fleischer advised residents that Director of Economic and Community Development Alan Zordan, Assistant Village Administrator Kirk Zoellner and Police Chief Steven Vaccaro, have been assisting businesses and delivering information to businesses as it becomes available. He thanked them and all Village staff involved. Mayor Fleischer congratulated the 2020 graduating class and wished them the best in their futures.

Mayor Fleischer advised residents that the Village can only do so much for businesses during this time and that the person who could really help our businesses and community is the Governor. He stated that there is no reason a restaurant the size of Mr. Benny's cannot open to have indoor seating while using proper social distancing practices. He stated that the Governor should not call the shots on the local level and that the Governor should set up a criteria for local communities and to let Mokena figure it out. He stated that a business such as Accelerate should be allowed to open their facility. Mayor Fleischer further stated that the Village needs help from the Governor and that the Village has not received help.

#### **RECESS REGULAR MEETING**

Trustee Engler made a motion to recess the Regular Meeting at 7:31 p.m. subject to recall of the Mayor and enter into the scheduled Work Session. Trustee Siwinski seconded.

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

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

#### **RECONVENE BOARD MEETING**

Trustee Engler made a motion to recall the regular meeting back to order at 8:05 p.m. Trustee Siwinski seconded.

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

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Engler made a motion to enter Executive Session at 8:06 p.m. to discuss:

- Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8) and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Trustee Metanias seconded.

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

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

Trustee Siwinski made a motion to close Executive Session at 8:56 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 8:57 p.m. Trustee Metanias seconded.

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

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

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Frank A. Fleischer, Village President

ATTEST:

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Melissa Martini, Village Clerk