



# Village of Fox River Grove

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Village President McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Center. Present at roll call were Trustees Curtiss, Knar, Migdal, Schladt, Sepeczi, and Wall. Also, present were Administrator Soderholm, Assistant to the Village Administrator Bechler, Chief Waitrovich, and Village Clerk Caesar.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Village President – None.

Village President McLaughlin stated that the Tree lighting festival turned out to be a very fun afternoon. The weather was not too cold and about 100 people attended the event.

President McLaughlin mentioned that a review would be done at the next meeting, on how the 2022 Trustee reports will be handled.

Trustee Schladt presented a quick review to the Village Board on the second ARPA meeting, stating that the amount of public input was not what they were hoping. Of the 13 total suggestions received, the majority was for water/sewer infrastructure.

### **1. APPROVAL: CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL VIA ONE VOTE FOR ALL**

- A. Village Board Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2021
- B. Accounts Payable – December 7, 2021
- C. Park Permit / Sound Permit / Temporary Liquor License Fee Waivers for FRG PTO Parents Night Out May 14, 2022

**Trustee Migdal made a motion to approve consent agenda items A through C. Trustee Curtiss seconded.**  
Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss, Knar, Migdal, Schladt, Sepeczi, and Wall —all “yes.” MOTION PASSED.

**Village President** Marc McLaughlin

**Trustees** Jennifer Curtiss / Steve Knar / Andrew Migdal / Melissa Schladt / Sheri Sepeczi / Patrick Wall

**2. APPROVAL: ORDINANCE 2021-22, CORPORATE TAX LEVY**

President McLaughlin asked if there were any new questions or discussion needed before voting on the 2022 corporate tax levy. **Trustee Curtiss made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-22 for the corporate tax levy in the amount of \$990,059. Trustee Wall seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss, Knar, Migdal, Schladt, Sepeczi, and Wall – “yes”. MOTION PASSED.

**3. DISCUSSION: SPECIAL SERVICE AREAS**

Trustees held a discussion regarding the funding of SSA’s within the Village. Administrator Soderholm stated the purpose of the SSA’s was to fund expenses specifically attributable to subdivisions for which each SSA covers. Mayor McLaughlin stated that in many cases subdivision homeowner associations would be responsible for these expenses, but at the time of development, the Village elected to structure differently and took on the responsibility with SSA taxing authority. The general consensus of the Board was to move forward with reduced levy amounts for all SSA’s this year and establish a funding policy for SSA’s at a later date. The Board direct staff to explore funding policy options for future Board consideration.

**4. APPROVAL: ORDINANCE 2021-23, GARDNER TERRACE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LEVY - \$3,250**

**Trustee Curtiss made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-23, authorizing the Gardner Terrace Special Service Area Levy in the amount of \$3,250. Trustee Schladt seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss – “yes”, Knar – “no”, Migdal – “yes”, Schladt – “yes”, Sepeczi – “no”, Wall – “no”, President McLaughlin – “yes” – MOTION PASSED 4 to 3.

**5. APPROVAL: ORDINANCE 2021-24, PICNIC GROVE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LEVY - \$3,500**

**Trustee Migdal made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-24, authorizing the Picnic Grove Special Service Area Levy in the amount of \$3,500. Trustee Schladt seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss – “yes”, Knar – “no”, Migdal – “yes”, Schladt – “yes”, Sepeczi – “no”, Wall – “no”, President McLaughlin – “yes” – MOTION PASSED 4 to 3.

**6. APPROVAL: ORDINANCE 2021-25, HUNTERS FARM SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LEVY - \$7,000**

**Trustee Wall made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-25, authorizing the Hunters Farm Special Service Area Levy in the amount of \$7,000. Trustee Migdal seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss – “yes”, Knar – “no”, Migdal – “yes”, Schladt – “yes”, Sepeczi – “no”, Wall – “no”, President McLaughlin – “yes” – MOTION PASSED 4 to 3.

**7. APPROVAL: ORDINANCE 2021-26, TALON SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LEVY - \$0**

**Trustee Schladt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-26, authorizing the Talon Special Service Area Levy in the amount of \$0. Trustee Curtiss seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss, Knar, Migdal, Schladt, Sepeczi, and Wall – “yes”. MOTION PASSED.

**8. APPROVAL: FIREWORKS CONTRACT**

Administrator Soderholm explained that the increase in the contract fee was due to the shipping cost of the containers. Trustee Knar inquired if we have ever gone to bid. Staff stated that prices were checked for competitiveness in recent years. **Trustee Curtiss made a motion to approve the fireworks contract. Trustee Migdal seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Curtiss, Knar, Migdal, Schladt, Sepeczi, and Wall – “yes”. MOTION PASSED.



## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

Administrator Soderholm asked for the Boards input regarding the potential pursuit of an 80/20 grant to install a bike path in the ROW down Route 22 from Gardner to Bridle Path, connecting Victoria Woods and Hunters Farm subdivisions. He noted if the State should eventually widen Route 22, the replacement of the path would be incorporated into the States widening project. Trustee Wall stated it would be great to get the whole Village bike-able. Trustee Sepeczi was not in favor of the idea as she stated there were other projects the residents would prefer money to be spent. The general consensus of the Board was for Staff not to pursue the grants at this time.

At 7:23 p.m., President McLaughlin excused himself from the Village Board meeting and the Board unanimously appointed Trustee Migdal as acting Village President for the remainder of the meeting.

Administrator Soderholm noted the Village and Grove Residences were working toward an alternative financing approach in lieu of bonds for Phase IA.

Administrator Soderholm inquired if the Board would like to recognize the Cary Grove High School Trojans on their Class 6A State Championship with a proclamation dedicating a special week as C.G.H.S. Trojan football week. The general consensus of the Board was to move forward with the proclamation. Staff stated they would reach out to Coach Seaburg to determine a date to award the proclamation at a future Village Board meeting.


Administrator Soderholm addressed the Board stating that one proposal was received in response to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process for Block B. He noted a second developer showed serious interest in the site but determined the size of the site was too small for their needs. Administrator Soderholm said a meeting is scheduled with the second developer to discuss other potential development locations in Fox River Grove. Trustee Wall expressed concerns with RFQ process and stated more should have been done to broaden the search for a developer. Trustee Knar stated he was against any proposed drive through businesses at the southwest corner location. Discussion was held regarding the Board's vision for the property. The general sentiment of the Board was that they feel the residents want more than fast food or drive through type establishments. The Board directed staff to work with the developer regarding the need and location of a drive through on the site plan.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Trustee Migdal made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 8:24 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Wall.** A voice vote was taken. Trustees Curtiss, Knar, Migdal, Schladt, Sepeczi, and Wall – "yes." MOTION PASSED.

  
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Marc McLaughlin, Village President

1-4-2022  
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Date

  
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Shelley J. Caesar, Village Clerk