

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTERN SPRINGS
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 2, 2024

President Heidi Rudolph, Presiding
Call to Order, 7:00 pm
Edward Tymick, Village Clerk

Board Members Present:

Amy Avakian
Nicole Chen
Alan Fink
Scott Lewis
Philip Nawrocki
James Tyrrell

Michael T. Jurusik, Village Attorney
Ted Bodewes, Thomas Ford Municipal Library
Electronic Attendance: None

Staff Present:

Ellen Baer, Village Manager
Casey Biernacki, Deputy Village Manager
Daisy Chavez, Asst. to Village Manager
John Mastandona, Director of Finance
Sean Gilhooley, Director of Law Enforcement
Heather Valone, Director of Community Development
Aleks Briedis, Director of Recreation
Jeff Koza, Director of Engineering
Matt Supert, Director of Municipal Services
Brian Scott, Director of Fire & EMS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

INTRODUCTION

Chief Scott introduced Fire Lieutenant Matt Villicana and discussed his impressive history and positive impact he has had on the Fire Department. Lieutenant Villicana's mother was present to take part in the tradition of the pinning of his badge.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE 2024 VILLAGE PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Notice of Publication

Clerk Tymick confirmed that all Trustees were still present. Clerk Tymick also confirmed that the 2024 Village Property Tax Levy was published in Suburban Life on November 21, 2024.

2024 Property Tax Levy

President Rudolph introduced Director of Finance, John Mastandona to present the 2024 Village Property Tax Levy. Director Mastandona reported that the total proposed Village Property Tax Levy is \$10,871,003. This amount represents the Village of Western Springs levy request in the amount of \$8,867,538 and the Thomas Ford Memorial Library levy request in the amount of \$2,003,465. This is a total property tax increase for the Village and Thomas Ford Memorial Library of 1.49%. Director Mastandona presented additional information outlining how the funds from the proposed tax levy are divided. Director Mastandona further stated that three (3) additional ordinances are needed to be placed on the December 16, 2024 agenda along with the ordinance approving the 2024 property tax levy.

Trustee Chen made a motion to place the 2024 property tax levy items on the December 16, 2024 agenda for final action and approval. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None.

Trustee Chen made a motion to close the hearing concerning the property tax levy. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Notice of Publication

Clerk Tymick confirmed that all Trustees were still present. Clerk Tymick also confirmed that the 2025 Operating Budget was published in Suburban Life on November 21, 2024.

2025 Operating Budget

President Rudolph introduced Director of Finance, John Mastandona to present the 2025 Operating Budget. Director Mastandona reported that the Village has 17 funds that all serve a specific purpose. Director Mastandona reviewed the various revenue sources and the impact each source has on the overall budget. Director Mastandona discussed Village expenditures, both discretionary and non-discretionary. Director Mastandona also discussed the fund levels

of the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, the 2025 Motor Fuel Tax Program (MFT) along with the several water system and stormwater utility projects and the Police and Fire pension fund.

Director Mastandona introduced Ted Bodewes, Director of the Thomas Ford Memorial Library to present on behalf of the library. Director Bodewes discussed the 2025 budget for the library's operating fund, building maintenance fund, and the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF). Director Bodewes stated that library's total levy is \$2,015,155 which represents a 1.02% increase from last year's levy.

Trustee Chen made a motion to place the 2025 operating budget items on the December 16, 2024 agenda for final action and approval. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None.

Trustee Chen made a motion to close the hearing concerning the property tax levy. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None.

RETURN THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE – TRUSTEE TYRRELL

LRS Refuse and Recycling Contract

Trustee Tyrrell discussed the proposed new agreement between the Village of Western Springs and LRS Refuse and Recycling for a five (5) year contract. Trustee Tyrrell highlighted a few changes to the existing agreement including changes to the "temporary suspension of services" language outlining the reduced monthly costs when a customer pauses service for an extended period of time. Trustee Tyrrell also discussed a 10% senior services rate discount for curb side services for residents 65 years of age and older for the 35-gallon cart. Also, for the 65-gallon and 95-gallon cart, individuals 65 years of age and older with an income level less than \$65,000 will receive the 10% discount.

Davanti Enoteca Class H Liquor License and Temporary Use Permit

Trustee Tyrrell discussed the approval of Davanti's request for an amended Class H liquor license and temporary use permit. Davanti is requesting to permanently increase their outdoor liquor café to an additional 38 seats in the parking lot and a ramp to comply with the Illinois Accessibility Code. Chris Bernal from Davanti also stated they stop seating the patio after 9:00

p.m. to help control the noise level, as well as not allowing staff to hang out in the parking lot after closing.

FINANCE COMMITTEE– TRUSTEE CHEN

Referendum to Issue General Obligations Bonds to Fund Infrastructure

Trustee Chen explained that the Village has historically used General Obligation (GO) bonds to fund infrastructure projects and it is necessary to continue infrastructure improvements if revenue sources remain consistent. Trustee Chen advised that the Finance Committee is recommending a \$45,000,000 General Obligation Bond be considered on the April 1, 2025 ballot. President Rudolph discussed some of what is included in infrastructure improvements both above ground, such as sidewalks and streetscapes and underground storm water and sanitary sewers. Director Supert shared information regarding the scope of projects that may be funded by the GO bonds. Manager Baer elaborated on how the Village Board will use information from Capital Plan to determine priority projects each year as part of the annual budget process.

Budget Amendments/Transfers

Trustee Chen discussed the Finance Committee recommendation for the transfer of excess reserve funds from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund and the budget amendment needed for approval. Trustee Chen also discussed the Finance Committee recommendation for various budget transfers for the Municipal Service Department's various purchases, capital improvements and department operations for the fiscal year 2024.

South TIF Expenditure – Hawthorn 45, LLC

Trustee Chen stated that the Finance Committee is recommending approval of the second disbursement to Hawthorn 45, LLC for the increment received from the 2023 Levy in the amount of \$145,295.23.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE – TRUSTEE NAWROCKI

No report.

PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER COMMITTEE – TRUSTEE FINK

Phase I and II - Lead Service Line Replacements

Trustee Fink indicated that the Public Works and Water Committee discussed and recommends two amendments to the Professional Services Agreement with HR Green for design engineering services to account for an increase in costs of the project in the amount of \$10,656.00 and to amend the language of the contract to comply with IEPA regulations.

Trustee Fink indicated that the Public Works and Water Committee also discussed and recommends HR Green for Phase II design and bidding services not to exceed \$69,083.00.

Trustee Fink also stated that Public Works and Water Committee also discussed and recommends HR Green for the Phase III construction engineering services not to exceed \$77,220.00.

Water Treatment Plant Televising

Trustee Fink stated the Public Works and Water Committee is recommending a professional services agreement with HR Green not to exceed \$18,489.50 for the televising of 100 feet of piping in Well #5 with the goal of relining it next year and getting Well #5 on the reverse osmosis system.

Robinson Engineering Proposal

Trustee Fink reported the Robinson Engineering proposal for professional engineering services not to exceed \$63,950 to continue to complete the televising and cleaning of the sewer lines in Springdale and Ridgewood, train staff how to analyze the data that comes in, to assist in mandatory reporting to MWRD, and complete 10 point repairs of the sewer lines.

Morton Salt Purchasing Program

Trustee Fink indicated that the Public Works and Water Committee is recommending to ratify the unit price of \$64.53 for 90 tons of Morton Salt as part of the participation of the Village in the State of Illinois joint purchasing program for road salt.

PROPERTIES AND RECREATION COMMITTEE – TRUSTEE AVAKIAN

Trustee Avakian indicated the Properties and Recreation Committee recommends a motion to reject proposals received in response to a request for bids regarding the upgrade and replacement of the HVAC controls within the Village Hall. This project will be reviewed and rebid if needed.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – TRUSTEE LEWIS

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Attorney Jurusik indicated that there is an ordinance on tonight's omnibus amending the legal description for the right-of-way sale to Ray Swapa as requested by Ray Swapa's title company.

EXPLANATION OF OMNIBUS VOTING PROCEDURE

President Rudolph stated the Illinois State Statutes allow a municipality to collectively on a group of ordinances, resolutions, and other motions, such as awards of contracts, appointments, etc. This is known as an omnibus vote. All the items in the omnibus vote list have been previously discussed by the President and Board of Trustees on at least once occasion, and often on several occasions. By placing them on the omnibus vote list, a single vote may be taken to approve them. A Trustee may remove any item from the list and have it discussed and voted on separately, prior to the omnibus vote.

There were no changes to the omnibus vote list.
CONSIDERATION OF AN OMNIBUS VOTE:

Trustee Tyrrell moved that the ordinances, resolutions and motions as contained on the meeting agenda for December 2, 2024, be adopted and/or approved under an omnibus vote. Trustee Tyrrell read the omnibus in its entirety and motioned it be approved.

Trustee Nawrocki seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote.
Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, Tyrrell and President Rudolph
Voting Nay: None

REPORTS

PRESIDENT RUDOLPH

President Rudolph expressed her appreciation to the Public Works staff for all of the terrific work they have done on the holiday decorations.

MANAGER BAER

Manager Baer reported that this is the final week of leaf collection and daily updates are posted on the Village website. She also reported that LRS will come out for a street sweeping once the leaf collection is completed.

Manager Baer also mentioned that the downtown market assessment community survey is now available on the Village website and residents are invited to provide their thoughts on the downtown in Western Springs. The survey will be available until December 20, 2024.

VILLAGE STAFF ATTORNEY JURUSIK

No report.

Trustee Tyrrell made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Trustee Nawrocki seconded this motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, and Tyrrell.

Voting Nay: None

ADJOURN

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Izzo
Deputy Village Clerk