

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WHEELING
2 COMMUNITY BOULEVARD
COOK AND LAKE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS 60090
MONDAY, JULY 25, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER Village President Dean Argiris called the Workshop meeting of the President and Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE Village Clerk Elaine Simpson called the roll and the following Board members were present:

Dean Argiris
Joe Vito

Ken Brady
Mary Papantos

Mary Krueger
Ray Lang

Dave Vogel

Also present:

Jon Sfondilis, Village Manager; Jim Ferolo, Village Attorney; Michael Mondschain, Finance Director; Andrew Jennings, Community Development Director; Mark Janeck, Public Works Director; John Melaniphy, Economic Development Director; Shari Huizar, Human Services Director; Christine Bajor, Assistant Public Works Director; Chuck Spratt, Superintendent of Fleet Services; Jamie Dunne, Police Chief; Mike Crotty, Assistant Village Manager/HR Director; and a Representative of Journal & Topics newspaper.

PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS AND AWARDS

Rock 'n' Run the Runway sponsorship recognition awards

Manager Sfondilis presented a sponsorship recognition award to Tom Lipon of Richelieu Foods for their partner sponsorship of this year's Rock 'n' Run the Runway event. He also thanked Wheel-Inn Body & Motor Works, Reva Development Partners, Terrazzo & Marble Companies, Skokie Valley Beverage, and WTC, LLC who sponsored the event as well.

Tom Lipon thanked Village staff who helped Richelieu Foods with its move into Wheeling.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Works Director Janeck gave an update on construction projects. The Community Boulevard intersection improvements are currently underway. There will be "sidewalk blocked" signs posted. The McHenry/Dundee Road intersection has been approved and will likely begin in 30 days. Most of the work at Schoenbeck and Elmhurst intersections has been completed.

Police Chief Dunne gave a reminder that Sunday, July 31 is Rockin' with the Cops at the Wheeling Aquatic Center. August 2 is National Night Out.

PRESENTATION RE: Ground-Mounted Holiday Displays

Manager Sfondilis stated that for the past 15 years the Village has been making improvements at the intersection of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. Staff annually puts together holiday displays for each corner of the intersection, but a cohesive planned design has never been created. Public Works Director Janeck and Assistant Public Works Director Bajor have been working with Artistic Holiday Designs to create a theme that ties together each of the corners to represent the Village during the holiday time.

There are three different options for the Board to consider. There is a financial consideration as well since this project is unbudgeted.

Assistant Public Works Director Bajor stated that currently the Public Works staff sets up and takes down 61 holiday displays which are now aging. Contractor Artistic Holiday Designs and Village staff has chosen three concepts for the Board to choose from. She gave a presentation on the three themes available for the Board to choose from which are Green and Pure White, Traditional Pure White and Red, and Red and Warm. Staff recommends the Green and Pure White theme.

Manager Sfondilis explained that if the Board chooses to move forward with this, future replacement purchases would be funded for through the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.

Assistant Bajor listed the prices for each which are \$120,128.82 for the Green and Pure, \$214,653 for Red and Pure, and \$112,945.07 for Red and Warm.

Trustee Krueger inquired about denominational versus non-denominational decorations. Derek Norwood of Artistic Holiday Designs stated that the Green and Pure design is the most non-denominational, which is why staff is recommending that design.

Trustee Brady liked the idea of having white lights on the trees behind the fountain to highlight the colored displays.

Trustee Lang liked the Green and Pure design for its price and that it would go well with the colors in the fountain.

Trustee Vito did not have a preference.

Trustee Papantos inquired as to why there was a significant price difference with some themes. Mr. Norwood answered that the unlit ornaments have a large cost as do the large lit trees. Trustee Papantos liked the Green and Pure design.

Trustee Vogel inquired if any of the designs are interchangeable. Mr. Norwood indicated that each individual item has a price, so they are.

President Argiris inquired about taking the double cone tree from the Red and Pure design and incorporating it into the Green and Pure design. Mr. Norwood indicated that this was possible. President Argiris wanted to see the tree displayed at Friendship Park in the Red and Pure design in white for the Green and Pure design as well as the double cone tree from the Red and Pure design incorporated into the Green and Pure design at Lehmann Fountain.

The Board was in agreement.

DISCUSSION RE: Series 2016 General Obligation Refunding Bonds

Finance Director Mondschain gave a presentation on an opportunity that the Village has to save a significant amount of money by refunding existing debt. He explained that the Series 2005 TIF Revenue bonds which were used to build the Westin Hotel pay 6% interest and mature in 2025. The current remaining balance is \$14,840,000. Revenue bonds were used rather than General Obligation bonds due to uncertainty associated with a project of this size.

These bonds are now callable and interest rates have dropped to 2.93% which equals a present value savings of between \$1.7 and \$2.5 million. The Village could refund the revenue bonds it currently has with either general obligation or revenue bonds. The debt service payments on a general obligation bond would be significantly less than revenue bonds.

Trustee Vogel was in favor of refunding these bonds for general obligation bonds.

Trustees Papantos, Vito, Lang, Krueger, and Brady were all in agreement with general obligation bonds.

President Argiris stated that this is a wonderful example of being proactive and thinking outside of the box.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Vogel reminded residents that Rockin' with the Cops is Sunday, July 31 at the Wheeling Aquatic Center.

Trustee Lang followed up on a plane crash that occurred at Chicago Executive Airport in January stating that Airport Executive Director Jamie Abbott has done so well with rebuilding the EMAS system at the airport since this crash, that he is going to Japan as a spokesman to talk with their equivalent of the FAA about how to put an airport back together after such an incident.

Trustee Papantos stated that on July 28 State Representatives Sente and Nekritz will be at the Community Resource Center to talk about how to appeal property tax assessments.

President Argiris announced that Spears in Wheeling will have an event to honor veterans on July 28. President Argiris commended Spears owner Joe Romeo for his continued participation in community and philanthropic events.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Lang and seconded by Trustee Papantos that the meeting adjourn.

On the roll call, the vote was:

AYES: 7 – Trustees Vito, Krueger, Lang, Vogel, Papantos, Brady and President Argiris
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

There being seven affirmative votes, the motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT 7:30 p.m.

Elaine E. Simpson, Village Clerk

Approved this 15th day of August 2016 by the President and Board of Trustees