

**MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK, ILLINOIS
201 Acacia Drive
Indian Head Park, Illinois 60525**

May 13, 2021

“Pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2.06(3) minutes of the public meetings shall include, but need not be limited to a general description of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided and a record of the votes taken.”

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hinshaw

The regular meeting of the Village of Indian Head Park Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, May 13, 2021, at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive, and was convened at 7:24 P.M. immediately after a Special Meeting by Mayor Hinshaw. Due to the restrictions of the State of Illinois regarding gatherings of people during the Covid-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom.

ROLL CALL: Sharon Allison, Village Clerk (attended via Zoom)

PRESENT (and constituting a quorum):

- Mayor Tom Hinshaw (physically present)
- Trustee Eileen Donnersberger (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Charles Eck (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Rita Farrell-Mayer (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Shawn Kennedy (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Brenda O’Laughlin (attended via Zoom)

ABSENT:

- Trustee Chris Metz

ALSO PRESENT:

- John DuRocher, Village Administrator (physically present)
- Patrick Brankin, General Counsel, Schain, Banks, Kenny & Schwartz (attended via Zoom)
- Maureen Garcia, Village Treasurer (attended via Zoom)
- Linda Merrifield, Deputy Clerk and Administrative Assistant (physically present)
- Andy Ferrini, Assistant Village Administrator (physically present)
- Don Lorenzen, Public Works Superintendent (attended via Zoom)
- Matt Gazdiak, Village Engineer (attended via Zoom)
- David Karaffa, Cable Station Manager (physically present)

Several residents attended via Zoom

MAYOR'S REPORT:

I-294 Tollway Update:

Slides were presented to show the areas where a new noise wall will be constructed after the old wall is removed. Construction in 2021 will include the area from Plainfield Road to a half-way location between Plainfield Road and Joliet Road. Construction in 2022 will include the area from the half-way location south to Joliet Road.

There was a resident-organized meeting about the Tollway project on April 18 that Trustee Metz and I attended. Many residents had questions and some were disappointed at the loss of the Village land west of Flagg Creek and east of the tollway. This property is about a total of 4 acres in size, with an average width of about 100 feet and with some areas pretty decent grade changes. This effort started back in February 2018 when the Village stated our objections to the Tollways's plans for detention areas. We offered alternative options. One of the alternatives was this property, as it has no public access and is undevelopable. The issue was discussed at several Village Board meetings and in February 2020, the Board approved the sale of the land. Another item of issue centered around the noise, the smoke, the lights, and the construction effort, as well as the height, material and look of the wall.

Other slide images focused on the new wall west of the Tollway, a brochure on the Tollway and the Village websites with more information, and the concept landscaping plan for the land between Flagg Creek and the Tollway.

A new noise wall will also be added this year along the south side of the Wolf Road ramp onto the south-bound 294 close to the Chestnut on the Green Association.

Plainfield Road Update:

Cook County was taking comments on the Plainfield Road project until May 5. There was also a ground swell of residents saying "no to 5 lanes." As a reminder, the County presentation included a statement of municipal objection to the 5 lanes. We are planning to present a resolution of opposition to 5 lanes at the June Village Board meeting.

Preparation is starting for the Plainfield Road bridge reconstruction. The work is anticipated to begin mid-summer.

Sidewalks: 4 Main Areas in the Master Plan:

Acacia Drive: A new sidewalk will be added this summer alongside the east side of the newly re-built Acacia Drive. Acacia Drive will be a construction zone all summer.

Plainfield Road and Wolf Road: Both are in a Phase 1 Study. We are expecting to have Wolf Road alternatives available in the fall for resident review and comments. It was previously announced that the alternatives would be available in May; this statement was in error.

Joliet Road: The process to start the preliminary exploration of any land acquisition has started.

Tree City USA Proclamation:

The Village is a tree city; we take this very seriously. Don Lorenzen will have an update later in this meeting.

Employee Anniversaries:

Argelia Garbacz has served 5 years as Village Finance Manager. Don Lorenzen has served 2 years as Village Street Superintendent. Congratulations to both.

Coronavirus:

In Cook County, we have 38% of the population fully vaccinated for COVID as of this date. Now, anyone 12 years old and older can get vaccinated. If you cannot leave home to get a vaccine shot, you might be able to get the shot in your home. You must be over 65, have a disability, or use adaptive equipment. If interested, please call the County at 833-308-1988.

The Governor has continued the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation until May 29. The County is operating under Mitigation Order 2021-7:

- Indoor restaurant capacity is increased to 50% capacity or 100 individuals, whichever is smaller
- Outdoor social events, such as weddings, proms, and potlucks increase to lesser of 50% capacity or 100 people.
- Fully vaccinated people will be exempt from the capacity count for private social events, such as weddings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Residents questions or comments on Zoom or by email:

A resident questioned why the Village did not sell the property in the Triangle to the tollway instead of the property behind homes. She stated that care for the animal population was displaced when the tollway began its construction. She feels that this is in opposition to the claim that IHP cares for the nature in the community.

Regarding the tollway construction, another resident expressed regret that so many trees have been removed. But since that is behind us, in the future let's concentrate on moving forward and asking the Tollway to build a higher wall to replace the foliage that has already been destroyed.

Regarding the same issue, another resident felt that the Village has been sufficiently transparent regarding the sale of property, the removal of trees, and the construction noise. However, she encourages the Village to request at least twice the amount of foliage that they intend to plant. She also stated that she feels that the sale of the unusable property was not a bad deal.

Another resident encouraged the Village to treat residents more equally with regard to the use of sheds.

Another resident had three issues of concern. (1) Regarding a proposal for an insurance company to build on the Triangle, who would be the first-floor tenants in the building? (2) Why does the Tollway construction take place during 11:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M.? It is too loud. (3) Why hasn't the Village repaired a broken guard rail near 71st Street that she reported last year?

NEW BUSINESS:

A. RE-APPOINTMENT OF DANIELLE SVESTKA AND DIANE GORMLEY BARNES TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR RESPECTIVE TERMS EXPIRING APRIL 18, 2024:

A motion to re-appoint Danielle Svestka and Diane Barnes to the Planning and Zoning Commission for respective terms expiring April 18, 2024, was moved by Trustee Farrell-Mayer; seconded by Trustee Kennedy.

Trustee Donnersberger questioned the number of residents on the Planning and Zoning Commission. The ordinance states that 7 residents of the Village make up the Commission which is presently chaired by Noreen Costelloe. One trustee, Trustee Farrell-Mayer, is the current liaison member between the Commission and the Board. Only the commission members vote. Trustees who are either liaison members or who are attending the meeting cannot vote. Any village resident can attend any Commission meeting.

Motion carried by roll call vote (4-0). Trustees Eck, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, and O’Laughlin voted Yay. No Nay votes. Trustee Donnersberger abstained. Trustee Metz was absent.

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT—TEN SHARED PRINCIPLES :

Police Chief Steven Stelter introduced Mitch Davis, the newly elected President of the Illinois Chiefs of Police. It is with pleasure that Chief Stelter announced Indian Head Park’s adoption of the 10 Shared Principles, a document between the Illinois Chiefs of Police and the NAACP to enhance the relationship between police and people of color within their respective communities. This has been a 2-year process which began after the events in Ferguson, Missouri. Chief Davis congratulated the Mayor, the Board, and the community for its involvement in the 10 Shared Principles. Chief Stelter feels that we should all lead our lives as stated in the 10 Shared Principles—people treating each other with dignity and respect.

C. ANNUAL REPORT—POLICE CHIEF STEVEN STELTER

Police Chief Stelter introduced an annual report of the police department which he designed with the help of Deputy Kurinec and Officer Mike Meyer. It is a first-time such report and is filled with useful information about the daily happenings in the police department. The well-done document (thanks to his assistants) will be on the Village website as of May 14, 2021.

Trustee Donnersberger thanked the Chief for the report. She also mentioned that this is National Police Week.

Trustee O’Laughlin also thanked the Chief for the report.

Chief Stelter also noted that the Police Academy begins on May 19.

D. FIRST LOOK DEVELOPMENT—JOLIET ROAD—TRIANGLE PUD:

Administrator DuRocher explained to the Board that a business has presented a proposal for an office building, 2 story, to be built on this site (south of Joliet Road, west of Vine). The office building would support an insurance company on the second floor with retail establishments on the first floor. Administrator DuRocher reiterated the process of developing the PUD: Present an interest to propose a business; then, present the proposal to the Planning and Zoning Commission for discussion; then, the Planning and Zoning Commission presents its approval/disapproval to the Board. The Trustees offered opinions of the proposal with comments about improving tax base, not suited for condos as the building would be too close to the tollway, would like something more sophisticated/upscale and/or more family-friendly.

E. FIRST LOOK DEVELOPMENT—WOLF ROAD—TRIANGLE PUD

Administrator DuRocher introduced Ron Vari, the owner of Driftwood Lounge, who also presented a proposal for a business on Wolf Road immediately south of the Tollway. He proposed a “bigger and better” Driftwood, in a building that would be 50 % Driftwood and 50% surgical center on the first floor. Three additional floors would accommodate a medical building. Hours of operation between the two buildings would be total opposites of each other thus allowing for sufficient use at different times of the 107 projected parking spaces. Questions of concern by the Trustees: Do you plan to place a cannabis business in the building?; what about the indoor/outdoor music?. A resident (via Zoom) questioned the noise control issue.

F. ORDINANCE 2021-06—SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY:

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-07, an ordinance allowing for the sale of surplus property was moved by Trustee Donnersberger; seconded by Trustee Farrell-Mayer.

Administrator DuRocher explained that old equipment that has some value cannot just be thrown away; it must be sold. Quotes from three bidders are sought. The proceeds from the sale go back into the funds from which they came. This equipment about to be sold is underground piping and water main material equipment from previous road repair work.

Motion carried by roll call vote (5-0). Trustees Donnersberger, Eck, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, and O’Laughlin voted Yay. No Nay votes. Trustee Metz was absent.

G. WAIVING OF BIDS GSB88—ROAD TREATMENT \$35,116.80 (NOT TO EXCEED):

A motion to waive the public bidding requirement and accept the proposal from American Asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$35,166.80 for road treatment was made by Trustee Kennedy; seconded by Trustee Farrell-Mayer. (American Asphalt is a sole source supplier.)

Administrator DuRocher explained that whenever we purchase higher ticket items, we normally need 3 bids. However, since the company that developed the GSB88 material is the patent holder and the only company that provides the material, there is no need to get bids. The material is spread over newly-laid asphalt; it extends the life of the road with a heavy-duty seal coat. He recommends that we get this work done.

Motion carried by roll call vote (5-0). Trustees Donnersberger, Eck, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, and O'Laughlin voted Yay. No Nay votes. Trustee Metz was absent.

H. FIRST READING—RESOLUTION OPPOSING REDUCTION IN THE STATE'S DISTRIBUTION FUNDS TO MUNICIPALITIES:

Administrator DuRocher explained that the state promises a certain amount of money to each municipality to accommodate the local government's fiscal budget. This year the state promised the money, but is now in the process of withdrawing the offer. A vote will be taken next month to determine if our Village will send an objection to the reduction of this money.

I. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Motion to approve the Committee Assignments as submitted by Mayor Hinshaw was moved by Trustee O'Laughlin; seconded by Trustee Kennedy.

Trustee O'Laughlin—Police Chairperson, Finance, Parks
Trustee Metz—Finance Chairperson, Public Works
Trustee Farrell-Mayer—Planning and Zoning Lead Liaison
Trustee Kennedy—Public Works Chairperson, Economic Development
Trustee Donnersberger—Economic Development Chairperson
Trustee Eck—Planning and Zoning Liaison

Mayor Hinshaw announced that new members of the commissions are appointed each year to serve on the committees. Any resident of the Village can apply. Please talk to the Mayor, the Administrator, or any Trustee if you are interested. We encourage your participation.

Motion carried by roll call vote (4-0-1). Trustees Donnersberger, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, and O'Laughlin voted Yay. No Nay votes. Trustee Eck abstained. Trustee Metz was absent.

REPORTS:

TRUSTEES:

Trustee O'Laughlin announced that there will be two dates for Movie in the Park this summer: August 14 and September 25. There will also be a Car Show on September 12.

VILLAGE CLERK: None

VILLAGE TREASURER: None

VILLAGE ATTORNEY: None

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR: John DuRocher

- A notice has been received from Countryside that there will be a water increase of 7 cents per thousand gallons beginning on June 1. An Ordinance will be voted upon at the June meeting.
- The Village will not be proceeding with the donation of the Lyonsville Church property. Renovation costs were higher than expected, making the move economically unviable.

- A history of the property sale of land to the Tollway: Several years ago, when the Tollway was proceeding with expansion, the Village was approached about selling a small parcel of property. This was needed for storm water management. The Tollway attempted to buy all of the Mazur property (which amounted to about 15% of the Village's available retail space). Instead, the Village proposed the sale of a parcel of land that was unusable for any purpose, a space that would only be used as a dry basin that only receives water from Flagg Creek when the Creek overflows. This move would not affect the value of resident property, yet it would still allow the Village to offer retail or other services to the Village. The Board discussed this issue at meetings for over a year with the end result that the Village sold the unusable land for the amount of \$510,000. The money is in a secure bank fund to be used some day as the Board legally sees fit. In all, the Village has been as transparent as possible regarding this issue.
- The shed ordinance is still being discussed with/by the Planning and Zoning Commission as to what kind of shed (size, location, etc.) would be acceptable.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT:

Don Lorenzen announced that IHP has continued its tradition of being named a Tree City USA, of which we are very proud. In order to maintain that status, new trees are being planted, old trees are being treated or pruned as need be, a tree inventory started this year. We are also working on a water and sewer inventory and replacing old water fountains in the parks.

ASSISTANT VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR: Andy Ferrini

Vehicle stickers are now on sale.

Garbage Report: delinquent payments have decreased from 70 last month to 17 this month.

Electronics, paint, and paper shredding will take place for residents on June 12 at the Public Works Building.

Trustee Donnersberger questioned the delay of mail. Post office or otherwise? And how many residents are registered on the website to receive numerous messages? About 150.

Trustee Eck questioned whether a resident will be able to watch his paper being shredded? Yes.

VILLAGE ENGINEER:

Matt Gazdiak announced that road construction on Acacia Drive is now in process. Be patient as the road is being re-built over the next few months.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A resident questioned why the PUD issues regarding Driftwood were not on tonight's agenda. She also asked if IHP was negotiating the water rate increase with Countryside which happens to be the second highest rate in the state of Illinois.

Another resident stated that she did not feel that the Village was transparent with the residents in its sale of land to the tollway, particularly the neighbors on Pontiac Road who are being most impacted.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:35 P.M. Trustee Kennedy moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Trustee Farrell-Mayer.

Motion carried by roll call vote (5-0). Trustees Donnersberger, Eck, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, and O'Laughlin voted Yay. No Nay votes. Trustee Metz was absent.

Sharon Allison
Village Clerk