

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MARCH 2, 2015
COUNCIL ROOM 7:00 PM**

Mayor Hermanek called the meeting to order with a Pledge of Allegiance and a Roll Call. In attendance were Trustee Bianco, Trustee Czajka, Trustee Decosola, Trustee Demopoulos, Trustee Mengoni and Trustee Wilt.

Others in attendance were Hayes, Finance Director Scarpiniti, Public Works Director Kutt, Fire Chief Basek, Recreation Director Michalik and Police Chief Niemann.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Demopoulos moved seconded by Trustee Mengoni to approve the agenda for this meeting as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

BIDS- None

CASH RECEIPT REPORT- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Demopoulos moved, seconded by Trustee Mengoni to approve the February 16, 2015 Village Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Bianco- (Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks & Refuse)

Trustee stated that Administrator Belmonte, Director Kutt and Village Engineer John Fitzgerald have been working on a Community Development Block Grant Application for submittal to Cook County later this month. Under the Ordinances and Resolutions portion of tonight's meeting we will be passing a resolution for a project total of \$350,000 of which \$250,000 is

REPORT OF TRUSTEES(continued)

being requested from CDBG funds. The streets within the new CDBG map area include the 2200 and 2300 blocks from 3rd Avenue to 9th Avenue. The Village should know by late summer or early fall if a grant will be awarded to us.

Trustee Czajka- (Buildings, Public Grounds, Lights, Public Services & Transportation)

No report but wanted to thank the Village Board for wearing purple to meeting in honor of MSA month, a disease in which her husband is suffering from.

Trustee Decosola- (Judiciary, Ordinances, Recreation)

Trustee Decosola gave the following report from the Recreation Department:

On Friday, February 20th, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted its annual Daddy/Daughter Date Night. There were 175 people in attendance. They enjoyed a night of dinner, dancing, prizes and more. The biggest winner walked away with a \$150 Ice Cream Party at Brown Cow.

Youth Basketball will be coming to a close this week with 5th through 8th grade tournament games beginning tonight. The championship games for the 5th/6th and 7th/8th division will be played this Friday, March 6th. Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade teams will play their final games on Saturday morning. We will host our fun end-of-season event, the Coaches' Game, on Wednesday, March 11th. Be sure to come by and show your support for our teams.

Trustee Demopoulos(Water, Sewers, Drainage & Zoning)

Trustee Demopoulos reminded residents that Carson's has reopened and attendance at the North Riverside Park Mall has gone up considerably this past week.

Trustee Mengoni- (Police, Fire & License)

Trustee Mengoni submitted the Fire and EMS calls for the month of February, 2015 as follows:

	February	YTD
Fire	69	145
EMS	95	194
Inspections	52	123
Compliances	26	68

Carson Pirie Scott was granted occupancy and celebrated their Grand Re-Opening on Thursday, February 26th. Carson Pirie Scott has met and in some cases exceeded the Fire prevention requirements of the National Fire Codes and Village Ordinances.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES(continued)

Blood Pressure Screenings were provided for the seniors at the North Riverside Village Commons the first Wednesday of the month from 9-11 am. Blood Pressure Screenings were also provided Monday-Friday 1-5pm at the fire station.

Trustee Mengoni also gave the following report from the Police and Fire Committee Meeting held on February 23, 2015 as follows:

Item #1 SAFER Grant Discussion: FF Dave Rajik, President of the Foreign Fire Tax Board addressed the Committee explaining the SAFER Grant Program and how it can be used to hire additional firefighters. He explained the three categories it can be used for are to hire back laid-off firefighters, hire for positions lost through retirements and for new positions. He mentioned that it was a two year program during which time you could not lay off anyone and it covers salary and some benefits. Firefighter Rajik informed the Committee that they have used Vickers Consulting to write grants in the past and have been very successful in getting awards. Some of the surrounding communities who have been awarded SAFER grants are Broadview, Franklin Park, Park Ridge, Naperville and Hillside. There were a number of questions asked by the committee, Mayor and board member. Chairman Mengoni asked the Administrator to call Hillside and find out how they used their SAFER grant. The Committee said they would gather more information on the grant, Firefighter Rajik mentioned the deadline for this year's application is March 6th.

Trustee Wilt (Finance, Health & Appropriations)

Trustee Wilt read the minutes from the Finance, Health & Appropriations Committee Meeting on February 23, 2015 as follows:

Item#1: Actuary Presentation by Todd Schroeder of Lauterbach & Amen: Director Scarpiniti introduced Todd Schroeder of Lauterbach & Amen, a licensed and certified actuary, who presented his new actuarial findings on Police and Fire Pension Funds based upon the Village's audited financial statements as of April 30, 2014. This actuarial analysis will be used as the basis for determining the Village's employer contribution to both funds for the upcoming 2015-2016 fiscal year budget. Funding levels for the Police Pension Fund dropped slightly from the prior year from 48% funded in 2013 to 46.8% funded in 2014 on an actuarial value of assets basis, but remained flat at 47.2% funded on a market value of assets basis. Funding levels for the Fire Pension Fund decreased from 45.0% funded in 2013 to 41.3% in 2014 on an actuarial value of assets basis and also reflected a corresponding drop on a market value of assets basis from 41.4% funded to 37.9% funded in 2014. The Village's contribution requirements for both funds increased a total of \$206,569 from the prior year resulting in annual employer contributions of \$1,192,086 for the Police Pension Fund and \$879,775 for the Fire Pension Fund in the upcoming budget year. Mr. Schroeder provided a detailed explanation of his actuarial calculation, focusing most of his attention on five factors which change the actuarial liability and contribution requirements for the Village from year to year. It was noted that the Police

REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)

Pension Fund has consistently exceeded the expected actuarial investment rate of return the past several years while the Fire Pension Fund has not. The Mayor inquired as to why the Fire Pension Fund has not met the rate of return assumptions on investment activity for the past several years even in a strong equity market. Director Scarpiniti addressed the Mayor's concerns by stating that the asset size of the Fund and investment philosophy can affect investment performance. The Fire Pension Fund is below \$10 million in net plan assets and as such, has more restrictions on what percentage of their portfolio can be invested in equities. In the past, they have not been able to invest as much as the Police Pension Fund in equities, investments that yield higher rates of return. In addition, the Fire Pension Fund has always had more conservative investment philosophy, valuing preservation of principal as its most important objective over rate of return. Last summer, the Fire Pension Fund changed investment managers and since then, adopted a more aggressive investment approach in an attempt to obtain better rates of return. Mr. Schroeder answered additional questions from the board and was thanked by the Mayor for his clear presentation as he believes it was beneficial in understanding the funding issues facing the Village related to its Police and Fire Pensions.

Item #2: Update of Current Financial Status: Director Scarpiniti briefly discussed the interim financial reports provided to the Committee for the 9-month period ending January 31, 2015. Revenue and expenditure projections continue to perform within normal expectations and reflect no major variances since the 6 month interim financial reports provided to the Committee several months ago. To date, a projected general fund deficit of \$815,344 is anticipated at year end and assumes a 100% funding of the Police and Fire Pension Funds this year. Director Scarpiniti will continue to update the Committee as more accurate numbers become available.

Item #3: Deed Stamp for Pre-Sale Inspections: Karyn Bryne explained her memo of February 17, 2015 recommending a change to the municipal code to require a physical "Deed Stamp" to be affixed by the Village before an exchange of title could occur on all property in North Riverside. There would be no additional cost for the deed stamp, but rather the process would be more procedural in nature to ensure better code enforcement. Although the Village does have a pre-sale inspection process currently in place, there is no current enforcement at closing to prevent property from changing hands without proper Village approval. Karyn said it doesn't happen often, but there are times when a property sells in North Riverside and we know nothing about it until the new owners come in after closing. When that happens, it may be too late to collect outstanding bills or rectify open code violations from the previous owner. By requiring a physical stamp be affixed to each deed, title companies would not be allowed to transfer title to a property without ensuring compliance with all North Riverside codes. If the deed transfers without the proper stamp affixed, the title company would be liable for any back payments or code issues. There were questions asked by the Committee that Karyn answered. There was a motion made by Trustee Mengoni and seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to amend the North Riverside code to reflect what was discussed, and for the Village Attorney to prepare the proper ordinance for passage at the March 2, 2015 Board meeting.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)

Trustee Wilt moved, seconded by Trustee Mengoni to amend Title 17, Section 12.04.B.1 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of North Riverside relating to Certificate of Compliance and to have the Village Attorney prepare the proper ordinance for passage. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

MAYORAL REPORT

Mayor Hermanek gave the following Community Development Update:

- **Presales-** The Community Development Department performed three (3) single-family presale inspections totaling \$1,215.00 in fees.
- **Permit Totals-** For the month of February, the Community Development Department issued 20 residential and commercial permits totaling \$6,993.70.
- **Carson's-** Celebrated their Grand Re-Opening on February 26th with a Private Invite on February 25th for employees of Carson's, municipal personnel and other invited guests.
- **Victoria Secret-** Incurred extensive water damage on February 28th due to a heat exchanger and coil in the ceiling that burst, sending water into the store area. It is unknown how long the store will be closed for necessary repairs, which will require a permit and inspections by the Village.
- **Famous Dave's-** V3 Engineers submitted an application for permit and drawings to perform site work only on Lot #3.
- **Miller's Ale House-** Submitted drawings for a full interior demolition and remodel of 7515 W. Cermak Road. Cost of construction is valued at 1.4 million dollars.
- **2525 Keystone Avenue-** A permit was issued for a second story addition and remodeling of the first floor. Cost of construction is valued at \$180,000.
- **Hot Topics-** A clothing store for both young men and women submitted an application for permit and drawings for a tenant space at North Riverside Park Mall. Cost of construction is not known at this time.
- **Kid's Footlockers-** Submitted an application for permit and drawings for relocation of their store to a smaller tenant space at North Riverside Park Mall. Cost of construction is valued at \$200,000.
- **Wendy's-** Hosted a Grand Re-Opening on February 11th, after extensive interior and exterior remodeling.

Mayor Hermanek spoke briefly about an ordinance for passage later in this meeting relating to a liquor license for Pancho's Tacos in North Riverside. He also stated that the board room,

MAYORAL REPORT (continued)

which is currently under construction, will be unavailable for use for the next Village Board Meeting on March 16th. That meeting will be held in rooms B & C in the Commons Building.

CORRESPONDENCE

Gus and Aisha Noble sent a thank you card to the Village Board. They want to thank them for the floral arrangement welcoming their new baby boy.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Trustee Wilt moved, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to approve the list of bills submitted for this meeting totaling \$211,310.60 and to have them paid out of proper funds when such funds become available. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Trustee Mengoni moved and seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to approve an Ordinance Amending Section 5.02.030 E. of the North Riverside Municipal Code to the Number of Liquor Licenses and to waive the reading. **(15-O-03)** Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

Trustee Wilt moved, seconded by Trustee Demopoulos to pass an Ordinance Amending Section 12.04.B.1 of the North Riverside Municipal Code Relating to Certificate of Compliance and to waive the reading. **(15-O-04)** Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

Trustee Bianco moved, seconded by Trustee Decosola to pass a Resolution to Approve the submittal of the 2015 CDBG Application and to waive the reading. **(15-R-02)** Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Decosola, Demopoulos, Mengoni, Wilt

NAYS: None. Motion carried

UNFNISHED BUSINESS-None

NEW BUSINESS- None

AUDIENCE

Frank Spale expressed his concerns about literature that was being mailed from the Save Our Firefighters Party. He encouraged residents to obtain any information they need from the Village Administrator and or Director Scarpiniti.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Mengoni moved, seconded by Trustee Decosola for adjournment at 7:30 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,

KATHY RANIERI
VILLAGE CLERK