

**VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MAY 15, 2023  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 7:00 PM**

Mayor Mengoni called the meeting to order with a Roll Call. In attendance were Trustee Bianco, Trustee Czajka, Trustee Flores, Trustee Santucci, and Trustee Sarro and Trustee Tricoci.

Others in attendance were Administrator Scarpiniti, Finance Director Lawler, Police Chief Ehrenberg, Fire Chief McDermott, Recreation Director Broderick and Public Works Director Ranieri.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Czajka moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to approve the agenda for this meeting as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

**BIDS:** None

**CASH RECEIPT REPORT**

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to approve the Cash Receipt Report for the month of April, 2023 totaling \$1,689,836.79. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Czajka moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to approve the Village Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes from the May 1, 2023 meeting as presented. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

## AUDIENCE

Cheryll Plaza could not find the agenda and past minutes on the Village website. She also felt that the apartment buildings should be able to participate in the electronic recycling program. Ms. Plaza questioned why the Village administrator has car and the liability.

Caroline Teter asked if the Development Committee was going to more active and if the residents could be more involved. She also asked if the IDOT could preform a survey at the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 26<sup>th</sup> Street to due the heavy traffic and amount of accidents especially with the possible bike path continuation. Lastly, she was happy that the Village is active with the lead line removal.

Mayor Mengoni thanked Administrator Sarpiniti, Trustee's Bianco, Sarro and Tricoli for attending our drive downs to Springfield and meeting with our state elected officials in garnering their support to reinstate the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF). Currently, the Village's portion of the LGDF sits at 6.16% of gross state income tax revenues. Municipalities are pushing the agenda to get these restored back to 10%. A level it has not been at in over a few years.

The North Riverside Police Department would like to invite all members of the community to join them at their "Cop on a Rooftop" fundraiser for Special Olympics. This event will take place this Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 5am-Noon at the Dunkin Donuts on Cermak Road and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. There will be Special Olympics merchandise available for purchase while supplies last. The Officers will also be accepting monetary donations in person. All proceeds raised will go towards funding Special Olympic Athletes. Stop by and say hello to our officers and help the NRPD in this worth cause.

A reminder that this year's Mayor's Golf Outing for the Youth Scholarship Fund will be held on Monday, June 12 at the Riverside Golf Club beginning with a 9am shotgun start. Last year we were able to give out 39 scholarships totaling \$19,300.00. Since the outings inception in 1995, we have awarded 1,179 scholarships totaling \$616,547.

The Illinois Municipal League, of which North Riverside is a member, has adopted a formal Civility Pledge to be used by all local elected and appointed officials. This pledge seeks to restore civility in local governments, encourage productive dialogue and build community trust throughout Illinois. You will see this pledge at the bottom of each Village Board Meeting Agenda going forward. This pledge reads: ***In the interest of civility, I pledge to promote civility by listening, being respectful of others, acknowledging that we are all striving to support and improve our community that we each may have different ideas for achieving that objective.***

Lastly, Mayor Mengoni recognized officers Roberson and Savaglio, Fiore and Bennet for their bravery in an incident at 7848 W 26<sup>th</sup> Street. They were amongst the first to arrive at an apartment fire and all residents were evacuated safely.

## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES**

### **Trustee Bianco**

Trustee Bianco thanked all our police officers in honor of National Police Week. He also stated that there will be a Development Committee Meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

Trustee Bianco read the following update from the Community Development Department:

The following is a summary of activity from the Community Development Department for the month of April 2023:

#### **Building Reviews and Inspections:**

- Presales – The Community Development Department performed 8 single-family inspections and one commercial inspection totaling \$3,672.00 in revenue.
- Permit Totals – The Community Development Department issued 30 residential and commercial permits totaling \$8,072.25 in revenue.
- Permit Submittals – 69 residential and commercial permits were submitted for review.
- Inspections – 78 building inspections were conducted.

#### **Code Enforcement:**

Staff issued 58 Notices of Violation in the month of April, with the majority being addressed upon receipt of notice. Final notices were sent to the property owners who have not complied and compliance tickets will be issued if violations are not addressed within the designated timeframes.

While warm weather and rain are great for plants and flowers, it also increases the growth of grass and weeds. Staff has noted many properties in town with overgrown grass, weeds and bushes which overhang into the public right of ways. You may have received or noticed door hangers are being left as a reminder to residents to please maintain the exterior of your property. Properties that do not comply will receive a Notice of Violation upon re-inspection of the property. Besides being unsightly, tall grass and weeds can harbor rodents as they are more comfortable in these overgrown conditions.

Staff continues to monitor the commercial properties along Harlem Avenue, Cermak Road and 26<sup>th</sup> Street due to the amount of debris from cars, pedestrian traffic and the commercial properties adjacent to North Riverside. Staff has reached out to commercial property owners informing them that additional exterior maintenance is required to ensure the debris is removed.

## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)**

In addition, the Community Development page on the Village website has recently been updated with information to help residents abate rodents and preventative care measures for adhering to village codes. Please check out our website!

### **Rodent Abatement:**

For the month of April 2023, the Community Development Department received three calls from residents reporting rodent activity in the alley and on private property. First Illinois Systems responded to the calls and conducted inspections of the alley and surrounding properties for evidence of rodent harborage. Inspections of the areas confirmed one property did have active burrows, which First Illinois Systems is working with the homeowner to resolve.

Garbage, feces and feeding of animals is a large attraction to rodents. Please make sure to clean up any garbage on the ground, clean up after your pets on a daily basis and do not put food out for animals. The best way to prevent rodents is to remove sources that attract them.

Alleys with bait stations were serviced and broken bait boxes replaced. If you notice a bait station has been damaged or tampered with, please report the location to the Community Development Department.

Please contact the Community Development Department if you have any concerns or to report rodent activity.

### **Trustee Czajka**

Trustee Czajka announced the Senior Fair was held on May 11<sup>th</sup> and about 40 vendors were in attendance. Preschool graduation will be held in the gym on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Kids Indoor Flea Market will be held in the gym on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9am-1pm. The Village Flea Market will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> in the police parking lot from 9am-2pm. The Mayor's Golf Outing will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup> and there is availability for foursomes if anyone is interested. The 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration is underway and a celebration will be held on Sunday July 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Recreation Department has posted an opening for a Program Coordinator Position and will start interviewing within the next two weeks.

### **Trustee Flores**

Trustee Flores read the following Request for Board Action:

The Village requested proposals from 6 waste haulers to provide quotes for a separate electronic recycling collection for all single family residential properties included in the

## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES (continued)**

Village's curbside collection program. This collection would be performed two times a year, once in both the spring and fall, and would replace the Village's drop off center that closed in late 2022 behind the Public Works Department.

Proposals were received from only 2 vendors with Waste Management, Groot Recycling & Waste and Republic Services all choosing not to quote the project. SBC Waste Hauling did not respond.

Proposals were accepted from Flood Brothers and LRS. The lowest proposal was LRS with a bid of \$.22 per pound collected, \$65 per person (4 people per collection), and \$250 per day per truck.

LRS is qualified to perform this work. The estimated cost for this collection program is anticipated to range between \$2,500 - \$4,500 per collection depending on participation levels, generating an approximate total savings of \$4,000 per year. Sufficient funds are available to fund this program.

The first collection is scheduled for May 24, 2023. Residents will need to register to participate either online at [LRSRecycles.com/NorthRiverside](https://LRSRecycles.com/NorthRiverside) or by calling 844-633-3577 by May 22. More information is available on the Village's website.

Trustee Flores moved and Trustee Sarro seconded to concur with staff's recommendation to award the curbside electronic waste collection program to LRS. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

### **Trustee Santucci**

Trustee Santucci thanked the NRPD for their service in honor of Police Week.

### **Trustee Sarro**

Trustee Sarro reminded residents that immediately following this meeting will be the first budget meeting for fiscal year 2023-2024. She also thanked the NRPD for keeping us all safe.

### **Trustee Tricoci**

Trustee Tricoci had no report but also thanked everyone for the welcome to the Village Board and thanked the NRPD as well.

**CORRESPONDENCE**-None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to approve the List of Bills submitted for this meeting totaling of \$494,367.27 and to have them paid out of proper funds when such funds become available. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Flores seconded to Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement Between the Village of North Riverside and Susan M. Scarpiniti for the Position of Village Administrator (**23-R-06**) and to waive the reading. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

**UNFNISHED BUSINESS**- None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Mengoni welcomed UCP Seguin to present to the board information on their Annual Stroll & Roll Event to be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> with a backup date of June 25<sup>th</sup>. This event will take place in Commons Park.

Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Tricoci seconded to approve the UCP Seguin Stroll & Roll Event. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Mengoni made the following appointment:

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Santucci seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Trustee Sarro to the position of Chairwoman of the Administrative Committee with an expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

**NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Flores seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Trustee Bianco to the position of Chairman of the Development Committee with an expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Tricoci seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Trustee Santucci to the position of Chairman of the Public Safety Committee with an expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Flores seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Trustee Czajka to the position of Chairwoman of the Parks and Recreation Committee with an expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Tricoci seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Trustee Flore to the position of Chairman of the Refuse, Recycling & Green Initiatives Committee with an expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Santucci seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Trustee Tricoci to the position of Chairman of the Public Utilities Committee with an expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

**NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

Trustee Tricoci moved and Trustee Sarro seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of John Fitzgerald P.E. Novotny Engineering to the position of Village Engineer with and expiration date of April 30, 2024. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

Trustee Sarro moved and Trustee Flores seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Sue Scarpiniti to the position of Village Administrator with and expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

Trustee Santucci moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Christian Ehrenberg to the position of Police Chief with and expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

Trustee Santucci moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Bob McDermott to the position of Fire Chief with and expiration date of May 5, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried

Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Santucci seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Dave Witken, Chairman to the position of Planning & Zoning with and expiration date of April 30, 2024. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci

NAYS: None

Motion carried



**NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Tricoci seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of John Mathias and Kara Kalnitz to the position of Planning & Zoning with an expiration date of April 30, 2026. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Santucci moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Eliseo "Cheo" Anaya to the position of Civil Service with an expiration date of April 30, 2026. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Tricoci moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Dave Witken, to the position of Brookfield-North Riverside Water Commission with an expiration date of April 30, 2026. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Santucci moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Nick Tricoci to the position of Police Pension Fund with an expiration date of April 30, 2025. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

Trustee Santucci moved and Trustee Bianco seconded to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Nick Tricoci to the position of Firefighters Pension Fund with an expiration date of April 30, 2026. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Flores, Santucci, Sarro, Tricoci  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Bianco moved and Trustee Sarro seconded to adjourn this meeting at 7:48 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KATHY RANIERI  
VILLAGE CLERK**