

Village of Peoria Heights
Board of Trustees
June 6, 2023

The Public Hearing was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Everyone stood for a moment of silence and the Pledge to the Flag.

Upon calling roll, the following Trustees were present: Sarah DeVore, Jeff Goett, Elizabeth Khazzam, Matthew Wigginton, and Brandon Wisenburg. Trustee Mark Gauf was absent. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, Village Clerk Stephanie Turner, and Village Counsel Attorney Mark Walton.

Trustee Goett made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on May 16, 2023. Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. The Board approved the minutes 5-0.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comment. Hearing no public comment, Mayor Phelan closed the meeting to public comments and moved on to old business. Hearing no old business, the Board moved on to new business.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve use of Tower Park on Saturday, August 5, 2023 for Saint Baldrick's Foundation Event for Childhood Cancer. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore invited Marc and Kim Casey forward to speak about the event. The event will feature fundraising for charity. Mr. Casey is a part of the 501st Legion, and he decided it was important to raise funds to help cancer research. Trustee Wisenburg and Clerk Turner noted the 501st Legion had previously supported the Village in its events. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the event. Mr. Casey requested if there could be a secure area for the members of the 501st to change, and Chief Sutton agreed.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-07: a Resolution in Support and Approving Participation by the Village of Peoria Heights in the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission FY 24 Special Transportation Studies Project. Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained Tri-County Regional Planning has put out a call for transportation projects. The Village is putting forth a request for a bike / pedestrian plan. The program requires a 20% match up to \$50,000. Director Aldrich noted the usefulness of a bike / pedestrian plan in future projects and improvements. Trustee Wigginton asked if it was budgeted. Chief Sutton stated it wasn't but there were funds set aside. Director Aldrich noted if the award was made the agreement would come back to the Board. Trustee Wigginton asked if it would focus on Galena Road, and Director Aldrich noted it would focus on the Village as a whole. The Board voted to approve the resolution 5-0.

Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to approve payment to Cady's Cars in the amount of \$3,413 for a public works trailer. Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Superintendent of Public Works Chris Chandler explained the trailer was a standard piece of equipment to haul things like mowers and large equipment around the Village. Chief Sutton noted the expense was budgeted. Trustee Wisenburg noted the business was a local Village business, and Superintendent Chandler agreed noting the Village had done business with Cady's Cars in the past. The payment was approved 5-0.

Superintendent Chandler explained that he had received a call from the project manager of the Forest Park Drive mill and overlay. The project is going very well. They've already removed asphalt from the

hill. Trustee Wisenburg asked if the project was on schedule. Superintendent Chandler stated it was. Superintendent Chandler also updated the Board that ice pigging is currently tentatively scheduled for August or September. The vendor is still firming up the schedule.

Landlord Registration and Code Enforcement Coordinator Mr. Shane Murphy came forward to thank the Board for inviting him and update the Board. The department has issued more than 80 notices for issues such as tall grass. He also noted that the Village has completed its first cycle of inspections of rental properties and is well into the second cycle. He explained the properties are generally improved and in better shape than the first round. Mr. Murphy explained he is a licensed home inspector, and the assessment process. Once he's finished, he issues a report and works with the landlords to bring the homes up to code. Trustee Khazzam asked if the inspections were annual. Mr. Murphy stated it was a three year cycle, and Chief Sutton noted that was unless there were complaints. Trustee Wisenburg asked about apartments. Mr. Murphy explained the process of reviewing multiple apartments. Chief Sutton noted the consolidation of the two programs was more efficient. While Mr. Murphy was reviewing homes for inspection, he's able to address any code enforcement issues he sees immediately. Chief Sutton noted Mr. Murphy has a great rapport with the landlords and the community. He stated he believes the programs will begin to take off in the coming months. Trustee Wisenburg asked if residents were using the online reporting. Mr. Murphy explained he had received about 10 complaints, and he strives to reply within a hours. Trustee Khazzam asked Mr. Murphy about the types of complaints he received, and Mr. Murphy explained there was a variety. Trustee Wisenburg asked about requiring use of a specific garbage cans to help littering. Chief Sutton stated it could help, but it's largely down to residents following rules. He noted, unfortunately, some don't, and it's an ongoing issue that's being addressed. Chief Sutton noted he could discuss the issue with the waste disposal provider. Trustee Wigginton requested regular feedback from Mr. Murphy on changes to the code to improve it. Chief Sutton noted the plan was to bring Mr. Murphy back during the summer for regular updates on code enforcement with the winter being focused more on the registration process. Trustee Wisenburg expressed appreciation for the reports and updates. Trustee DeVore asked how the Village is identifying rental properties. Mr. Murphy deferred to Clerk Turner. Clerk Turner explained the process of identification and explained identification of short term rentals as well.

Mayor Phelan asked for miscellaneous business.

Trustee Wigginton stated he had noticed some events listed on the Discover Peoria's page for the Village are actually events for the City of Peoria. He stated he wanted to make sure the web traffic the Village is receiving are for Peoria Heights events. Trustee DeVore made note and will follow up.

Mayor Phelan announced he had received word from Senator Dave Koehler that the Village had received funding for \$125,000 to fund a complete rewrite of the zoning code and establish form based code for the central business district. Additionally, Representative Jehan Gordan-Booth will be sponsoring \$250,000 for the Village for events. A more detailed announcement will follow. Mayor Phelan noted he had recently met with Governor Pritzker, and, after speaking to him, Governor Pritzker was most interested in how the Village had been able to lower its property tax levy while paying down the Village's police pension debt. Mayor Phelan noted he invited Governor Pritzker to the Village, and he hoped he would come.

Superintendent Chandler noted he wanted to recognize Laura Quinn and Tanya Neilson for their very hard work planting the flowers at Village Hall and throughout the Village.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to pay the bills, and Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. The Board voted 5-0 to approve payment of the bills.

Clerk Turner read the Treasurer's Report for the end of April. There was \$7,002,792.88 in the Village controlled accounts, and \$2,155,707,71 in the Water controlled accounts. Trustee Goett made a motion to approve, and Trustee DeVore seconded the motion. The Board approved the report 5-0.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to enter executive session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)1 to discuss personnel. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The motion to enter into executive session passed 5-0, and the Board left open session at 6:06 pm.

The Board of Trustee reconvened regular session at 6:27 pm.

Trustee Goett made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted 5-0 to adjourn at 6:27 pm.

Michael Phelan, Mayor

Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk