

Village of Peoria Heights
Board of Trustees
October 19, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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, Beth Khazzam, David Marfell, Matthew Wigginton, Brandon Wisenburg. Trustee Jeff Goett was absent. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Clerk Stephanie Turner, and Village Counsel Attorney Mark Walton.

Trustee Khazzam made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings held on September 21, 2021, and the motion was seconded by Trustee DeVore. The Board voted to approve the minutes 5-0.

Mayor Phelan noted that a lot of events are being planned for the holidays.

Clerk Turner read a letter from Ms. Aneta Youngblood expressing concerns about using public funds to demolish the house at 4315 N Atlantic Ave. Ms. Youngblood encouraged the Village to review its code enforcement policies to reduce neglect in the neighborhoods. Mayor Phelan noted he would ask Chief Sutton to bring the topic to the Board upon his return. Trustee Wisenburg asked if properties were tax exempt after sale. Attorney Walton stated they were not. Mayor Phelan shared he had received an email complimenting Ms. Emily Smesrud for her work in the water office.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comment. Hearing no public comment, he closed the meeting to public comments and asked for the trustees' reports.

Trustee DeVore reported that Trustee Khazzam, Superintendent Heath, Mayor Phelan, Chief Sutton, and herself had conducted interviews for the open Community Director position. She noted she'd bring additional updates back in time.

Trustee Khazzam reported the Village is beginning to write a grant for rebuilding the downtown. The grant is due in January, and she'll bring additional updates in the coming months.

Trustee Wisenburg stated Lion's Park is close to reopening. The new equipment was installed last week, and the concrete is curing. New mulch has been installed as well.

Trustee Marfell explained the water billing software has updated its online portal to require a user name and password. He encouraged residents to contact the Water office for more information. Trustee Marfell asked residents to avoid blowing leaves into the street while cleaning their properties. Mayor Phelan asked about the cost and availability of road salt. Superintendent of Streets, Mr. Mike Casey, explained the process for procuring salt and assured the Board he was working on the issue.

Trustee Wigginton noted that there were ongoing discussions regarding public safety issues. He encouraged residents to reach out to the PHPD with any concerns. Deputy Chief Ahart announced the Village would be removing street seats on Monday, November 8.

Mayor Phelan asked for old business. Hearing no old business, the Board moved on to new business.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-1664: an Ordinance Abating the General Obligation Taxes Levied for Year 2021 to Pay Debt Service on Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016. Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore noted the next two ordinances were linked, but they must be voted on separately. She explained that the Village had the option to levy additional property tax funds to pay the bond on the Trefzger's property if enough sales tax revenue wasn't generated. She noted the two ordinances were to abate the special levies. Trustee Wigginton asked the maturity date of the bond. Clerk Turner informed him it was 2036. Mayor Phelan asked about refinancing the bond. Attorney Walton will look into the options for refinancing. Ordinance 2021- 1664 was approved 5-0.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-1665: an Ordinance Abating Special Service Area No. 1 Taxes for the Year 2021 to Pay Debt Service on Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016. Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. Ordinance 2021-1665 was approved 5-0.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-1666: an Ordinance Imposing Provider Fee Pursuant to the Illinois Cable and Video Competition Law of 2007. Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained that smaller television providers, which are looking to move into the area, are subject to different rules than larger cable companies that were covered under franchise agreement laws. Attorney Walton agreed and noted it was a common ordinance for municipalities. Ordinance 2021-1666 passed 5-0.

Mayor Phelan asked for miscellaneous business. Trustee Wigginton noted the Peoria Heights School District will be hosting a truck or treat on October 23. Trustee Wisenburg shared the event is from 5:00 – 6:00 pm, and Addams Family (1991) will be playing in Tower Park at 6:30 that evening. Trustee Wisenburg shared the possible holiday events including a Kringle Mart, pictures with Santa, and a mail box for letters to Santa. Hearing no additional miscellaneous business, the Board moved on to payment of the bills.

Trustee Wigginton made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. There were no questions about the bills. The Board voted 5-0 to approve payment of the bills.

Clerk Turner read the Treasurer's Report. As of the end of September, there was \$5,154,427.80 in the Village controlled accounts and \$1,724,021.84 in the Water controlled accounts. Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Trustee DeVore seconded. The Treasurer's report was approved 5-0.

Trustee Marfell made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted 5-0 to adjourn at 6:24 pm.

Michael Phelan, Mayor

Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk