

Village of Peoria Heights  
Departmental Meeting  
January 25, 2022

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, Jeff Goett, Beth Khazzam, David Marfell, Matthew Wigginton, and Brandon Wisenburg. Trustee Marfell was present by telephone. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, and Village Clerk Stephanie Turner. Chief Sutton was present by telephone.

Trustee Khazzam made a motion to approve the minutes from January 4, 2021. Trustee DeVore seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the minutes.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comment. Hearing no comments, Mayor Phelan closed the meeting to public comment and asked for old business to come before the Board.

Chief Sutton provided an update on the laundromat issue brought up at the last meeting. Chief Sutton spoke to ownership and sent Code Enforcement to review the property. The property is cleaned weekly, and security cameras were recently installed due to vandalism. Chief Sutton noted the business has made a lot of improvement to the equipment, and he believes the issue has been resolved.

Trustee Khazzam made a motion to approve the request to use Tower Park for Walk MS on Sunday, May 1, 2022. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. A representative came forward to explain the event and stated the wrong date had been provided. The event date is April 24, 2022. She stated Tower Park is typically used for a water stop along the walk route. She noted the event was smaller last year, but many people were excited to come back. Mayor Phelan asked for clarification if the date was available. Clerk Turner stated there had been no other events approved for that date yet. The maker of the motion and the second both agreed to the date change. The request to use Tower Park on April 24, 2022 was approved 6-0.

Trustee Khazzam made a motion to approve the request to use Tower Park and Village Hall for St. Jude Run on Saturday, February 19, 2022. Trustee DeVore seconded the motion. A representative explained the details of the event, noting the request is for use of Village Hall as well. He also stated the event was virtual last year. The event raises funds for St. Jude. The event was approved 6-0.

Trustee Khazzam made a motion to approve the request to use Tower Park for Bark in the Park on Saturday, October 1, 2022. Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Representatives from the board of the event came forward to explain the event had been held for 22 years, and it includes a fair with vendors as well as a run. Trustee DeVore asked if the sidewalks would be sufficient for 100 estimated runners. The representatives stated they had attended events of similar size in Peoria Heights which were able to use the sidewalks. Trustee DeVore questioned if a timed start would alleviate congestion. Representatives thought that was great idea and agreed to look into it. Trustee DeVore asked if there was enough room in Tower Park. The representatives explained they've already started to map out different activities and noted they were looking to spread out through the parking lot as well. Mayor

Phelan clarified they'd need to coordinate with the Peoria Heights Fire Department to make sure the PHFD had access to all vehicles, and the representatives agreed. The event was approved 6-0.

Trustee Khazzam asked Director of Community Development, Mr. Wayne Aldrich, speak about recently announced HUD funding for Peoria Heights. Mr. Aldrich stated the grant was obtained by Congresswoman Cheri Bustos for \$2,000,000 which would be spread among multiple zip codes including Peoria Heights. The grant is to provide \$10,000 total per eligible house with a 20% match from the Village. There was additional funding which was applied for on the Village's behalf which, if awarded, would qualify to use as funds for the Village's 20% match. The grant is to benefit lower income households to help with lead and radon abatement, pest treatment, as well as other improvements. Details are still being finalized. The Village would be responsible for informational meetings explaining the program, collecting applications, defining the scope of work on each house, and monitoring work through construction as well as inspecting the homes during the process. Mr. Aldrich noted that the area targeted might be in BDD as well as TIF districts to maximize funding sources. Trustee Wisenburg asked what the criteria was being used to determine the Village's portion of the total funding. Mr. Aldrich noted there was some flexibility, as the Village could elect to receive less, and Trustee Khazzam stated the Village was to receive roughly a third of the total fund. Mayor Phelan noted Chief Sutton and Mr. Aldrich are working on finalizing details for the program.

Trustee Goett made a motion to approve roof repairs for Fire Station #2 in the amount of \$49,720. Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Trustee Goett noted the Village had received 3 quality bids, and the low bid was from Western. The company will tear off the old roof and replace it with a pitched roof as well as installing gutters. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the expense.

Trustee Goett extended his sympathies to the Stimeling family on the passing of Jeanine.

Mayor Phelan asked for miscellaneous business. Trustee Wigginton noted that some nonowner occupied short-term rentals are not reporting the status to the assessor. He worked with the assessor to have that issue corrected.

Trustee Wisenburg explained St. Thomas Robotics Company had approached the Village in 2019 regarding a universal accessible playground at Tower Park. The group has raised approximately \$42,000 of their \$100,000 goal. Representatives from the Village met with the group earlier today to discuss fundraising ideas.

Trustee Wigginton asked when the budget would be presented. Chief Sutton stated the first presentation would be February 22, 2022, and it would be approved shortly after.

Trustee Goett made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 to adjourn at 6:28 pm.

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Michael Phelan, Mayor

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Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk