

Village of Peoria Heights  
Board of Trustees  
February 7, 2023

The meeting 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, Mark Gauf, and Matthew Wigginton. Trustee Khazzam was present by telephone. The Mayor has previously found that it is not prudent to require in person attendance given the ongoing spread of the COVID virus, and his determination remains in effect due to the ongoing disaster proclamation by the Governor. Trustee Brandon Wisenburg was absent, and Mayor Phelan noted it was for work related reasons. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, Village Clerk Stephanie Turner, and Village Counsel Mark Walton.

Trustee Goett made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on January 17, 2023. Trustee Gauf 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 Ordinance 2023-1695: an Ordinance Amending Enterprise Zone. Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained the Village was a part of the Enterprise Zone, and it was to update the zone. Ms. Sally Hanley, Director of Business Assistance of the Peoria County Economic Development Council, explained that the Village participates in a multi-governmental Enterprise Zone, and several other municipalities are amending their boundaries. The Village's property and incentives will remain the same. Trustee Wigginton asked Ms. Hanley about the state's oversight and cancellation of its enterprise committee meetings in the past year. Ms. Hanley explained there is an allotment of enterprise zones within the state, and it's almost fully allotted. She noted she wasn't aware why the state committee didn't meet, but it was possibly due to that reason. Trustee Wigginton asked about the enterprise zone fee, and Ms. Hanley explained its reasoning and applications. The Board voted 5-0 to approve Ordinance 2023-1695.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Trustee Wisenburg seconded approval of the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the following: approval of use of Tower Park Peoria Drum Circle on second Fridays from April – August and October 2023, approval of use of Tower Park for River Valley Big Band on third Fridays in May, July, and August, and Friday, June 30, 2023, and approval of use of Tower for Peoria Heights Community Band on Thursdays June 22, July 27, and August 24, 2023. All three events are annual events held in Tower Park. The Board had no questions. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the consent agenda.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the renewal of the annual employment contract for Fire Chief Donovan Thompson. Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained the Board had agreed to review Fire Chief Thompson's employment contract annually. No changes have been made to the contract. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the employment contract.

Mayor Phelan announced his decision to reappoint Ms. Stephanie Turner to the Peoria Heights Police Pension Board for a term of 2023 – 2025. He asked for a motion to appoint Ms. Turner. Trustee Goett made the motion to appoint Ms. Turner, and Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Mayor Phelan thanked Ms. Turner for her work on the Police Pension Board. The Board approved the reappointment 5-0.

The Board moved on to miscellaneous business.

Trustee Goett expressed condolences to the families of Scott Cranford, Randy Weber, and Scott Merrill who had passed in the last few weeks.

Trustee Gauf made a motion to enter executive session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)1 to discuss personnel and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)21 to review executive minutes. Trustee DeVore seconded the motion. The motion to enter into executive session passed 5-0, and the Board left open session at 5:40 pm.

The Board of Trustee reconvened regular session at 6:25 pm.

Trustee Goett made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted 5-0 to adjourn at 6:26 pm.

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Michael Phelan, Mayor

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Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk