

Village of Peoria Heights
Board of Trustees
Public Hearing
March 21, 2023

The Public Hearing was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

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

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

Director of Community Development Wayne Aldrich explained it was a public hearing required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as part of the loan application process. He explained the Village has applied for funding for lead service line replacement. The hearing is a requirement for funding through the State Revolving Fund program. The IEPA has completed a preliminary environmental assessment, and the document requires public comment. The document has been published and is available for inspection at the Village. It will remain available for 10 days, and the public can make comment. Comments can be submitted to the Village Clerk or to the IEPA directly. Director Aldrich noted the IEPA didn't find significant environmental impact so without significant comment from the public it was likely the IEPA would approve that segment. Trustee Wisenburg asked if the General Assembly had voted on lead service line replacement. Director Aldrich noted it was a federal mandate, but the Village was getting a head start. Trustee Wisenburg asked if it would fall on the homeowner to replace the lead service line. Director Aldrich noted that the federal mandate requires the Village to replace lead service lines, but otherwise most municipalities stated service lines were the responsibility of the homeowner. Trustee Wisenburg asked about the cost, and Director Aldrich explained the project will be done in phases if the Village has the full number of lead service lines currently estimated. Mayor Phelan noted it was the first step for the Waterworks Company.

Mayor Phelan asked for any public comment. There was no public comment.

Trustee Goett made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted 4-0 to adjourn at 5:10 pm.

Michael Phelan, Mayor

Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk

Village of Peoria Heights
Board of Trustees
March 21, 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, Mark Gauf, Matthew Wigginton, and Brandon Wisenburg. Trustee DeVore 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 Elizabeth Khazzam was absent. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, Village Clerk Stephanie Turner, and Village Counsel Mark Walton.

Trustee Gauf made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on March 7, 2023. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The Board approved the minutes 5-0.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comment. Clerk Turner read a thank you note from the Favorite family thanking the Mayor and Board for their kindness to the late Bob Favorite. Hearing no additional public comment, Mayor Phelan closed the meeting to public comments and moved on to old business.

Trustee Goett reported that there had been repairs to the wall at Centennial Building and cameras installed. Superintendent of Public Works, Mr. Chris Chandler, explained that Illinois American Water was going to be installing a cross connection between their system and the Peoria Heights Waterworks system. This will be another connection to a newer main. Mayor Phelan asked for an update on the noise ordinance from Trustee Wigginton and Trustee Wisenburg. Trustee Wigginton explained they'd heard comments from the community, and he asked that the current ordinance be brought to a meeting so amendments could be made. Mayor Phelan suggested it would be simpler to bring a draft of a new ordinance, but he could accommodate the request. Hearing no additional old business, the Board moved on to new business.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Goett seconded the motion. The consent agenda included the following: approval of use of Tower Park on Saturday, September 23, 2023 for Strides for Justice 5K Race and approval of use of Tower Park on Saturday September 30, 2023 for Bark in the Park. Both events are annual events held in Tower Park. The consent agenda passed 5-0.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-04: a Resolution in the Village of Peoria Heights Approving Grant Agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore deferred to Community Development Director Wayne Aldrich. Director Aldrich explained it was a grant for lead service line inventory. The Village has been approved for \$40,000, with no matching requirement, for the first round of funding. He noted Village Counsel had reviewed the agreement, and it was a standard agreement. Trustee Gauf noted the grant would help the Village determine which lines are lead, and it would be very handy. Trustee Wisenburg asked if there was a rough determination of lead service lines. Superintendent Chandler, stated there were 2,600 service lines with 1,600 undetermined lines. Of the 1,000 service lines that have been identified

approximately 180 were lead lines. Trustee Wigginton asked about the inventory process, and Superintendent Chandler explained the process and timeline in detail. The final list is due in April 2024 with an update due in April 2023. Trustee Wigginton asked if there would be encroachment on private property. Superintendent Chandler explained the Village wasn't required to dig up lines, and the Village can determine based off meter connections. Trustee Gauf asked if any of the determinations were made based off the stored meter cards and the geographical distribution. Superintendent Chandler explained the determination was made from pictures taken during meter changes, and they were scattered. The Board voted 5-0 to approve Resolution 2023-04.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-1702: an Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Peoria Heights to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program Operated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for the Purpose of Financing the Replacement of Lead Service Lines. Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore deferred to Director Aldrich who explained it was an IEPA loan program to replace lead service lines. He noted this was most likely to be the major source of funding for major water projects coming in the future. He explained the Village would seek funding for each phase of the lead service line replacement through the loan program, but this ordinance was for funding Phase I. The loan program offers both interest rate discounts and principal forgiveness based on community size and demographics. The Village qualifies for both reduced interest rate and principal forgiveness. Director Aldrich noted this item was the subject of the public hearing the Village held earlier in the evening. Trustee Gauf noted the importance of moving quickly on the federal mandate. Trustee Wisenburg asked the chance of principal forgiveness. Director Aldrich stated he thought it was likely. Trustee Wigginton expressed concerns for approving another loan which is tied to the revenues of the water system. He thought the Board might be limiting its options if there was a sale. Director Aldrich noted the ordinance authorizes borrowing funds, but there will be time prior to a loan agreement. He noted, in his experience, the state agencies are generally willing to listen and amend agreements. Attorney Walton explained that the IEPA doesn't want to set up a loan agreement without the Board support and approval. The Board voted 5-0 to approve Ordinance 2023-1702.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-1703: a Special Ordinance Authorizing the Ceding of the Private Activity Bonding Authority. Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained the Village has a volume cap which is a federal tax-free financing option. Home municipalities have until May 1 to use or allocate their volume cap. Tri-County River Valley Development Authority will take the funds and hold onto it making available for the Village or other local communities if they have a project. Trustee DeVore noted the Village had done it in the past. Trustee Wisenburg noted he was inclined to keep the money, and Mayor Phelan explained the Village doesn't have applicable programs. Attorney Walton explained it was borrowing authority. Ordinance 2023-1703 was passed 5-0.

Mayor Phelan noted that he and Director Aldrich had been asked to stop by a contractors' conference. He asked Trustee Goett as senior trustee to step in to run the meeting as the mayor pro-temp was remote. Mayor Phelan exited at 6:00 pm.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the code enforcement position. Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained the Peoria Heights Police Department had increased call volume making it more practical to have one person running Code Enforcement. She explained some of the ideas for improving code enforcement in the Village. Trustee Wigginton noted it was a very efficient and cost effective way of handling the issue. Chief Sutton explained the position will be under the umbrella of the PHPD. He noted that he was recommending one individual to focus on code enforcement since it's an ongoing issue to make sure issues are addressed. He noted with an online

reporting feature it'll be very efficient. Trustee DeVore noted the position would be in the next fiscal year budget, and Chief Sutton agreed. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the position.

Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-05: a Resolution in Support of Participation by the Village of Peoria Heights in the National Fitness Campaign Grant Program. Trustee DeVore seconded the motion. Trustee Wisenburg explained he, Mayor Phelan, and staff had been working on the idea of exploring adding a fitness court to Lion's Park. The resolution is in support of exploring the grant program further. The Board approved Resolution 2023-05 by a vote of 5-0.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve non-union non-contractual employee raises. Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained the Board had discussed cost of living raises for collective bargaining units, and this item was to give a one time cost adjustment for the non-union employees. Trustee DeVore explained with the adjustment the Board will not be doing annual evaluation merit bonuses. Chief Sutton noted the cost is just over \$27,000 after adjusting for merit bonuses. Trustee Wigginton asked if the adjustment applied to part-time positions, and Chief Sutton noted it didn't. Trustee Wigginton asked if the new position was included. Chief Sutton stated it wasn't describing how he'd determined the salary for the new position.

Trustee Gauf made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. There were no questions on 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 February, there was \$7,490,926.27 in the Village controlled accounts and \$2,081,340.02 in the Water controlled accounts. Trustee Gauf made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded. The Treasurer's report was approved 5-0.

Trustee Wigginton made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted to adjourn at 6:13 pm.

Michael Phelan, Mayor

Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk