

Village of Peoria Heights  
Departmental Meeting  
April 26, 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, Beth Khazzam, Jeff Goett, Matthew Wigginton, and Brandon Wisenburg. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, and Village Clerk Stephanie Turner.

Clerk Turner read correspondence from the family of Mr. Roger Bergia thanking the Village for sending flowers in memory of Mr. Bergia. Ms. Valerie Bergia shared her husband's love and pride of the community.

Mayor Phelan announced the swearing in of Mr. Mark Gauf to the vacant trustee seat. Clerk Turner swore in Trustee Gauf, and he took his seat.

Mayor Phelan read a proclamation in honor of Mr. Roger Bergia. He spoke of Mr. Bergia's dedication to the community and the children of the Peoria Heights School District having spent many years employed there. He also spoke of Mr. Bergia's efforts to build new school buildings for the district. Mayor Phelan presented plaques and street signs to the Bergia family. Ms. Bergia thanked the Village Board and shared stories of her husband's love for the community.

Trustee Goett made a motion to approve the departmental minutes from April 5, 2022. Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the minutes.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comment.

Dr. Eric Heath, Superintendent of Peoria Heights Community Unit School District #325, came forward to say the Village Board had just seated a rockstar in Trustee Gauf. He shared he had been hired by Mr. Bergia 16 years ago, and he had gotten to know Trustee Gauf while Trustee Gauf served on the school district's board.

Hearing no additional public comment, Mayor Phelan closed the meeting to public comment and moved on to old business.

Superintendent of Streets, Mr. Chris Chandler, shared that Well 7 had a retrofitted soft start installed and was scheduled to start up again shortly.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the use of Tower Park for the Strides for Justice event on Saturday, September 24, 2022. Trustee Goett seconded the motion. The event is an annual event for the Peoria County Bar Association. Tower Park will serve as the start point, and the route is along Grandview Drive. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the event.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the use of Tower Park for the Peoria Heights Community Band events on Thursdays, June 23, July 28, and August 25, 2022. Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. A representative from the band came forward to explain the history of the band which has played for over 30 years. She stated it was a pleasure and honor to play in the beautiful park for families and residents. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the event.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve a donation to the Peoria Heights Community Band in the amount of \$1,000. Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore shared the Village had donated to the band approximately every other year, and the Village had last donated in 2019. The expense is budgeted. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the donation.

Trustee DeVore made a motion to approve the street closure for the Taste of Peoria Heights on Thursday, September 22, 2022, and Trustee Wigginton seconded the motion. Trustee DeVore explained the Peoria Heights Chamber of Commerce is planning to host the Taste of the Heights again, and they need to close the road for safety reasons. Ms. Barb Milaccio came forward to explain the closure would be from Duryea to Marietta from 8:00 am – 9:00 pm to allow for set up and tear down. The event is also requesting a police presence. Trustee Wisenburg asked if Public Works would reopen the street, and Chief Sutton agreed. Trustee Wigginton asked if stopping at Duryea gave the event enough space. He noted that the event had requested additional space in the previous year. Ms. Milaccio explained the request is to close both sides and with both sides closed the space should be sufficient. She noted there are plans to expand in coming years. Trustee Wigginton asked Chief Sutton if the detour would remain the same, and Chief Sutton agreed. He noted he would work with Ms. Milaccio regarding the details. Trustee Goett asked the time of the event. The event will begin at 5:00 pm with the health department arriving around 3:00 pm to begin its approvals. Ms. Milaccio also thanked the Peoria Heights Public Works Department for assisting the Peoria Heights Fine Art by hanging banners. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the street closure for the Taste of the Heights.

Mayor Phelan asked for miscellaneous business.

Trustee Wisenburg asked Mr. Chandler if there was a timeline for when Illinois American Water's work on Marietta would be completed, cleaned, and finished. Mr. Chandler stated IAW had put road back in, but there was additional work to be completed. He stated he knew IAW would stop at the trail. Trustee Wisenburg explained residents had expressed concerns and he requested an update from IAW with a completion date. Trustee DeVore agreed. Mr. Chandler will look into an answer.

Trustee Wigginton reminded residents that the Peoria Heights Police Department will be accepting limited drop offs of large items, no appliances or wet paint, at the PHPW garage the coming weekend. The event is only for residents. A list of the accepted items is available on the Village's website.

Mayor Phelan asked trustees to notify the Village Clerk and Village Administrator as soon as possible when they are attending remotely. He also requested phone calls be made from a stable line and trustees be aware and attempt to minimize background noise.

Trustee Goett made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 to adjourn at 6:25 pm.

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Michael Phelan, Mayor

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Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk