

Village of Peoria Heights
Board of Trustees
June 21, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 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, Mark Gauf, Matthew Wigginton, Brandon Wisenburg. Trustee Jeff Goett was absent. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, Village Clerk Stephanie Turner, and Village Counsel Attorney Mark Walton.

Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to approve minutes from June 7, 2022. Trustee DeVore seconded. The Board voted to approve the minutes 5-0.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comment. Hearing no public comment, Mayor Phelan closed the meeting to public comments.

Mayor Phelan called for the Board to discuss old business.

Chief Sutton noted that the roof replacement for Fire Station No. 2 was complete, and the Village would move forward with interior repairs.

Mayor Phelan noted that the Village Clerk had correspondence. Clerk Turner read a thank you letter from Ms. Val Bergia thanking the Village and the Board for the ceremony revealing signs naming Glen Avenue as Honorary Roger Bergia Way. Clerk Turner also noted there was a letter from the Peoria County Board of Review of Assessments notifying the Village of an appeal to a denied tax objection that had been filed by LSH Investments protesting the 2021 taxes. Clerk Turner noted the letter would be on file if any of the Board wished to review the details. Mayor Phelan explained had asked for the letter to be put on record since the Village has a development agreement with LSH Investments at the property.

Hearing no old business, the Board moved on to new business.

Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-03: A Resolution Approving Agreement for Design-Build Services for Tower Park Playground. Trustee Khazzam seconded the motion. Trustee Wisenburg noted the resolution was for the Together We Play project which was proposed and pushed by students at St. Thomas. Director of Community Development, Mr. Wayne Aldrich, explained the Village had issued a request for proposals, or RFP, for design build services. Mr. Aldrich noted it was done that way since the Village didn't have a concept for the project. The Village received two responses which were well done. The selection committee, which included Trustee Khazzam, Trustee Wisenburg, Mr. Aldrich, and a representative from St. Thomas, chose Image Nation. The current lead time for supplies is at least 3 months. Mr. Aldrich noted that the Village had an arrangement with Advocates for Access which had been receiving donations for the project. Trustee Khazzam explained the cost of the project had increased over time, but multiple donors had donated significant funds toward the project totaling almost the full cost. She didn't have an exact total because fundraising is still ongoing. Trustee Khazzam expressed support for the project. Trustee DeVore asked if the remaining fundraising would reach the original project goal of \$125,000. Chief Sutton noted the

Village's cost would be much lower than originally expected regardless of the total donation. Trustee DeVore asked which budget line would fund the costs. Chief Sutton replied it would be funded by capital improvement funds. Trustee Wisenburg noted the increase in cost is partially related to surface for the playground which was originally going to be mulch. Since mulch isn't very accessible for wheelchair users, the Village requested a revision. Trustee Wigginton asked for clarification that the donations were close to \$125,000, and Trustee Khazzam agreed. Trustee Wigginton asked for the process of funding. Attorney Walton explained Advocates for Access may want to pay the vendor directly. Trustee Wigginton noted that the contract made the Village liable for the cost. Attorney Walton agreed noting the question was what commitment Advocate for Access had to the Village and the project. Trustee Wigginton stated the project was a great project, and he is sure Advocates for Access will follow through, but approval of the contract does mean the Village will be responsible for the costs. Attorney Walton stated the Village could approve the contract contingent on written commitment from Advocates for Access. Mayor Phelan expressed concerns that conditions could delay the project further. Trustee Khazzam stated support for Attorney Walton's suggestion. Trustee Khazzam made an amendment to the motion of a written commitment from Advocates for Access to reimburse the Village or the contractor based on their fundraising efforts. Trustee Wigginton seconded the amendment. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the amendment. The Board voted 5-0 to approve Resolution 2022-03 as amended.

Trustee Wigginton began discussion of possible ordinance regulating RVs and pods by noting the issue had been discussed at Neighborhood Watch meetings. He asked if the Board had any comment on the issues. Chief Sutton stated RVs must be operational, valid, cannot be in the front yard, must be moved every 48 hours if on the street, and cannot be used as a residence. He noted that the complaints for storage pods are increasing. There aren't any regulations currently about long-term storage. He noted that he's more concerned about long-term storage issues rather than short-term visitors. Trustee Wigginton asked if there had been many requests for longer parking of RVs on streets. Chief Sutton stated there hadn't. Chief Sutton asked Attorney Walton to draft an ordinance regulating long-term storage and include an option for requesting an extension. Attorney Walton noted he had dealt with the issue in other communities and shared various options. Chief Sutton suggested a longer limit up to a month or two. The Board expressed support for drafting an ordinance for pods. Trustee Wisenburg noted the Village had previously had regulations requiring RVs to be stored behind the front of the house, and those were no longer in place. He stated that should be reinstated. Trustee Wigginton agreed. Mayor Phelan questioned if boats and trailers would also be regulated as well as RVs. Trustee DeVore expressed support for including travel trailers and boats. The Board revisited their previous conversations regarding regulating RVs, trailers, and boats. Trustee Wigginton noted that the Zoning Board of Appeal frequently had issues defining front yard because some houses don't have the typical front yard. He noted an ordinance may need additional definitions. Trustee DeVore asked if the Board was in favor of allowing the vehicles to be parked on grass in the back yard. She expressed that the problem was going to be solved by creating another in back yards. Trustee Wisenburg replied residents could put up a privacy fence. Trustee Gauf noted that several of the houses on Highland Place don't have back yards and several lack a side yard as well. Mayor Phelan asked the Board to speak to Chief Sutton about specifics concerns they had so Attorney Walton could draft an ordinance.

Trustee Khazzam stated she had attended the most recent meeting of Redco. The initiative was to market the region to the state and country to promote tourism. In the first two years, the group had dues funded by the KDB Group. Going forward, the Village would need to fund its own dues. She noted she'll speak to the Board members regarding the issue.

Trustee Gauf announced Public Works took delivery of the new street sweeper. Work is being completed on the water system, and spray patching has been completed including some extra locations. Additionally, Maurer Stutz had delivered paperwork for the Lake Ave main replacement, and the project's moving forward.

Trustee Wigginton noted the Peoria Heights Fire Department and American Legion had coordinated to accept flags for proper disposal the past weekend.

The Board moved on to miscellaneous business.

Chief Sutton asked about repairs to sidewalk on Marietta. Mr. Chandler explained the work was supposed to occur today, but the contractor was behind schedule and it had been moved to Thursday.

Mr. Aldrich reported the Village had received news it didn't receive the community development grant the Village applied for last year. He's hoping to hear word about an application for Prospect Rd soon.

Hearing no additional miscellaneous business, the Board moved on to the finance reports.

Trustee Gauf made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Trustee DeVore 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 May, there was \$5,706,066.49 in the Village controlled accounts and \$1,881,181.20 in the Water controlled accounts. Trustee Khazzam made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded. The Treasurer's report was approved 5-0.

Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Gauf seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted 5-0 to adjourn at 6:12 pm.

Michael Phelan, Mayor

Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk