

Village of Richmond

INCORPORATED 1872

MINUTES REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING Thursday, January 7, 2021, 7:00 PM -AMENDED-

REMOTE ZOOM MEETING ID: 892 7293 9954

Village President Craig Kunz called the January 7, 2021 Board Meeting to order at 7:00 PM via Remote Web Meeting held on Zoom, in Richmond, Illinois.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT REMOTELY: Village President Craig Kunz; Trustees Robert Elliott, TJ Fulmer (left at 8:07 pm), Gina Garbis, Frank Peiler, Toni Wardanian and Linda Weiss.

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT REMOTELY: Administrator/Police Chief Ciro Cetrangolo, Attorney David McArdle and Village Clerk Karla Thomas.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE REMOTELY INCLUDED: Adrienne Adams, Scott Drabant, Amy Fulmer, Karen Grant, Kevin Kaplan, Clint Kenner, Sandra Mahoney, John Shiel, Bev & Tom Schimming, and Roy Wulffen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: President Kunz reviewed the guidelines for negotiation with Charter/Spectrum regarding the Cable Franchise Agreement. Trustee Wardanian reported that she had contacted both AT & T and Comcast and neither is interested in installing the required infrastructure to provide service to the village. All Board members present agreed to have the Village Attorney's office handle the negotiation and guidelines (terms) discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: The Board reviewed the item on the consent agenda.

- a. Approval of Regular Board Minutes for December 17, 2020

Trustee Wardanian requested a correction under New Business, 3rd sentence of parenthesis language (in the event the Village of Richmond procures a buyer, the commission will be 5%) instead read as follows (in the event the agent is dual, the commission will be 5%).

Trustee Fulmer moved, seconded by Trustee Peiler to approve the Regular Board Minutes for December 17, 2020 as amended. ROLL CALL: AYES: ELLIOTT, FULMER, GARBIS, PEILER, WARDANIAN and WEISS. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: President Kunz gave a history of how the Memorial Hall property came to be and the various ways the building was used. He explained that from Fiscal Years 2015 to current (5-yr. period) revenues collected totaled \$17,551.00, total expenditures were \$208,293.00. He also discussed bookings for the same period, noting that the highest number of bookings occurred in FY2018 with 65 days. This was mainly due to a theater group that was using the building on a regular basis. Additionally, fees for renting were dropped to encourage bookings with Richmond residents paying \$50.00/day and Non-residents paying \$100.00/day. President Kunz reported that he had spoken with the Village's Public Works Supervisor with 30+ years of experience and the cost to make improvements would be at least \$100,000.00. President Kunz announced that the Board is considering selling the property for retail use, etc. There is no intention of tearing down the building. The following individuals spoke up requesting that the building stay in the village's hands as it is an icon: Roy Wulffen commented that additionally, the building needs to be kept clean, especially during events; Scott Drabant commented that he believes the figures discussed are skewed, he questioned how the village has promoted the use of the building, that grants should be pursued, Richmond Township is interested in the building being used as a Senior Center, explore all options; Trustee Wardanian suggested the formation of a volunteer Memorial Hall Committee that would manage the building, get bookings, pursue grants, generate revenue, etc. Trustee Elliott reported that the Community Development Committee has held (5) free events for several years with average participants of 75-80 people attending each. Tracking was done and most attendees were not local residents, these individuals came from other communities. Clerk Thomas mentioned that she attempted to hold (3) senior events, in conjunction with Richmond Township's Senior Transportation Program and only one individual showed any interest. Trustee Wardanian inquired into whether anyone present would be interested in sitting on this volunteer committee if formed. The Trustee Linda Weiss, Richmond resident Scott Drabant and Richmond Township resident Clint Kenner stated that they would be willing to be on the volunteer committee. Adrienne Adams commented that, as a member of the Christmas of Yesteryear Group, we host the Christmas festivities at Memorial Hall, it is very well attended and the Memorial Hall is an ideal location for it; Clint Kenner noted that an organization he is involved with uses the building weekly and serves the community in a positive way; John Shiel noted that in the past Jim May's storytelling events held in the building were well attended. Scott Drabant suggested that members include both Richmond residents and Richmond Township residents. Board agreed that recruitment for volunteers to form a Memorial Hall Committee should be promoted in an e-blast and in the January Newsletter. Atty. McArdle pointed out the motion made by the Board at the previous meeting required action. Realtor Kevin Kaplan, who was present, indicated that he understood the situation and was willing to wait for the village to re-evaluate the matter. Of the fourteen individuals online, no one voiced supported on selling of the property.

Village of Richmond

INCORPORATED 1872

President Kunz reported that one bid was received for the Magnolia property located at 11106 US Hwy. 12. He and Administrator/Chief Cetrangolo joined Clerk Thomas in her office to officially open the bid. Clerk Thomas showed that the envelope was sealed and noted that it was received on January 5, 2021 at 2:21 PM. President Kunz directed Clerk Thomas to read the bid as submitted. President Kunz directed the Clerk to provide copies of the bid proposal to the Board to review. It was noted that a contract will be prepared with terms established if the Board accepts the bid proposal. Further discussion and possible action will take place at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FINANCE: Trustee Wardanian reported that the committee is working on scheduling budget dates.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: None.

POLICE: None.

PUBLIC WORKS: President Kunz reported that recruitment is moving forward and there are 2-3 viable candidates for the vacant Public Works Field Personnel position.

ENGINEERING: None.

VILLAGE CLERK: None.

ATTORNEY: None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: None.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Trustee Wardanian asked that recruitment for volunteers to form a Memorial Committee be included in an e-blast, the next Village newsletter and she will handle social media. She suggested that a description of goals be included.

Trustee Elliott inquired into the status of the two Police Vehicles that were to be purchased. Chief Cetrangolo reported that he has been working on it and the squads are 10-16 weeks out for delivery. It was noted that the expense needs to be in this Fiscal Year. Trustee Elliott also inquired into the status of the phone system at Village Hall. Administrator/Chief Cetrangolo reported that he is working on it. He also asked when the South Water Tower project was going to begin. President Kunz noted that the contract has been signed; however, a start date needs to be established with the contractor. President Kunz will get a date by Monday.

With no further business, Trustee Fulmer moved to adjourn the January 7, 2021, Regular Board meeting held remotely on Zoom, seconded by Trustee Garbis. ROLL CALL: AYES: ELLIOTT, GARBIS, PEILER, WARDANIAN and WEISS. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: FULMER. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Karla L. Thomas, Village Clerk