

Village of Richmond

INCORPORATED 1872

MINUTES REGULAR REMOTE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING Thursday, March 18, 2021

REMOTE ZOOM MEETING ID: 893 3142 6774

Village President Craig Kunz called the March 18, 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, Frank Peiler, Toni Wardanian and Linda Weiss.

ABSENT: Trustee Gina Garbis.

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

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE REMOTELY INCLUDED: A.M. Adams, Earl Clark, Allison Kessel Clark, Caroline Czaplicki, Scott Drabant, Peter Gussie, Jim Keenan, Rachel Prickett, Peggy Sena, John Shiel, and Steve Weber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS: President Kunz announced that the agenda was being amended to withdraw New Business Item 6b, Motion to adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Memorial Hall, as the offer was rescinded.

President Kunz announced that Prairieland Disposal Curbside Electronics Pick up is scheduled for Thursday, April 1, 2021. He noted that there was a limit of (2) TV's or (2) computer monitors or a combination per household. He also announced that the Prairieland Disposal Curbside Yard Waste begins, Thursday, April 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Clerk Thomas read five emailed Public Comments submitted by Ron and Tammy Kay, Kurt Begalka with the McHenry County Historical Society, Allison Kessel Clark (with Petition "Save Historic Memorial Hall in Richmond"), Peter Gussie and Lenae Clark expressing that the Village maintain ownership of the Memorial Hall Building, remove it for sale, form a committee to discuss/collaborate on ways to make the building cash neutral through volunteerism, bring the matter to a vote through a referendum, without increasing property taxes.

Trustee Wardanian asked to get a consensus of the Board on dissolving the sales listing on Memorial Hall, and reimburse the realtors expenses, as it will be difficult to sell. She also stated that a referendum will be put on the ballot in two years. Trustee Fulmer stated that as a member of the Finance Committee, the Village has a substantial number of projects coming forward that are very costly, which will put the Village in a difficult financial position. Trustee Fulmer stated that he would support the dissolution of the sales listing. Trustee Elliott stressed the fact that at no time had the Board discussed increasing taxes or destruction of Memorial Hall. Trustee Elliott was not in support of dissolving the sales listing for the property. Trustee Peiler reiterated that the Board does not support the building being torn down, the Community Development Committee had attempted to host several free events where less than 100 people attended indicating a lack of interest in the building. Trustee Peiler was not in support of dissolving the sales listing for the property, but would like to see the committee move forward to discuss options. Trustee Weiss stated that the Board's intention was to keep the building viable by selling the property to someone that could financially afford the necessary maintenance/improvements while making it accessible to everyone. Demolition was never a consideration. Trustee Weiss was not in support of dissolving the sales listing for the property, but looks forward to seeing what comes out of the committee.

Rachel Prickett asked the Board to reconsider the sale of Memorial Hall, expressed her enthusiasm and willingness to help make the building a fully functioning part of the downtown Historic District by volunteerism.

Steve Weber asked if the building was sold whether the exterior/interior of the building would be maintained and whether it could be demolished. It was noted that the contract rider included language that the historic exterior/interior integrity be maintained and that the Village has first right of refusal on sale or demolition of the building. Additionally, as the building is located within the Historic District all building modifications must be reviewed by the Community Development Committee with final approval by the Board.

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

- a. Approval of Regular Board Minutes for March 4, 2021 and Special Board Minutes for March 15, 2021
- b. Authorization to Expend Funds for Warrant Fiscal Year 2020/21.11.01 in the amount not to exceed \$200,000.00
- c. Approval of an Ordinance Approving the Village of Richmond Zoning Map Dated March 18, 2021
- d. Approval and authorization to execute the 2021 Park Facilities Usage Permit Agreement between the Village of Richmond and Richmond Burton Baseball Association
- e. Approval and authorization to execute the 2021 Park Facilities Usage Permit Agreement between the Village of Richmond and Lightning Youth Athletics Inc.

Trustee Fulmer moved, seconded by Trustee Peiler to approve the Regular Board Minutes for March 4, 2021; approve the Special Board Minutes for March 15, 2021; authorize the expenditures of funds for Warrant Fiscal Year 2020/21.11.01 in the amount not to exceed \$98,584.21; approve an

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Ordinance Approving the Village of Richmond Zoning Map Dated March 18, 2021; approve and authorize the execution of the 2021 Park Facilities Usage Permit Agreement Between the Village of Richmond and Richmond Burton Baseball Association and approve and authorize the execution of the 2021 Park Facilities Usage Permit Agreement Between the Village of Richmond and Lightning Youth Athletics Inc. as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: ELLIOTT, FULMER, PEILER, WARDANIAN and WEISS. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: GARBIS. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: President Kunz presented the 9th continuation of the local disaster emergency for the Village of Richmond pursuant to Section 3.14(n), Local Disaster Emergency, of the Richmond Village Code to June 17, 2021. He explained that this matter has been ongoing since March 2020 and hopefully with vaccinations taking place, this will be the last one.

Trustee Elliott moved, seconded by Trustee Wardanian to approve the 9th continuation of the local disaster emergency for the Village of Richmond pursuant to Section 3.14(n), Local Disaster Emergency, of the Richmond Village Code to June 17, 2021 as presented. ROLL CALL: AYES: ELLIOTT, FULMER, PEILER, WARDANIAN and WEISS. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: GARBIS. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FINANCE: Trustee Wardanian reported that the committee has been meeting remotely every Tuesday for the last two months to discuss proposed budgets from the Department Heads. Beginning last Tuesday the meetings are being held in person, as well as, moving forward; however, next Tuesday's meeting is cancelled. The committee will meet again on the 30th. Everyone is invited to attend. President Kunz noted that if individuals wish to attend the meeting to please contact the Village Clerk, as the meeting would have to be moved to another location to provide proper social distancing.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: None.

POLICE: None.

PUBLIC WORKS: President Kunz reported that Watermain breaks are down so far this season, but the ground is not completely thawed. He complimented Public Works on keeping costs down.

ENGINEERING: None.

VILLAGE CLERK: None.

ATTORNEY: None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: None.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Trustee Fulmer stated that it was impressive what the Facebook group was able to accomplish.

Trustee Peiler asked those that expressed such emotion for the Memorial Hall building to please join us at the committee meeting and keep the input coming.

Trustee Elliott explained the reason for selling the Memorial Hall property and hopes it can be made productive.

Trustee Weiss stated that the Village President and Trustees want to keep the building an active part of the community whether owned by the Village or someone else. Additionally, it has never been the intent of the Board to see Memorial Hall demolished.

Trustee Fulmer recognized Trustee Wardanian's pursuit to make the Memorial Hall building a profitable property.

With no further business, Trustee Wardanian moved to adjourn the March 18, 2021, Regular Board meeting held remotely on Zoom, seconded by Trustee Fulmer. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: ELLIOTT, FULMER, PEILER, WARDANIAN and WEISS. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: GARBIS. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.

President Kunz thanked the public for their comments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Karla L. Thomas, Village Clerk