

Village President D. Besson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

1.0 ROLL CALL –Trustees: M. Bennett, J. Chesney, T. Brinkmeier, M. Eternicka, K. Meleski and I. Thomson. Staff: Administrator S. Kulik and Village Attorney J. Wesolowski. Audience (3).

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT – none.

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Minutes: February 24, 2025 – Motion (Brinkmeier, Chesney) to approve as presented; motion passes unanimously.

3.2 Approval of claims paid with the February 2025 Check Register: \$201,579.36; Motion (Brinkmeier, Chesney) to approve; motion passes unanimously.

3.3 Approval of payrolls for the periods ending 01/31/2025 (\$144,890.90) and 02/14/2025 (\$149,862.30). Motion (Brinkmeier, Chesney) to approve; motion passes unanimously.

4.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 Committee of the Whole – T. Brinkmeier

4.1.1 Update on Deer Management Program – D. Besson introduced representatives from the Milwaukee County Parks Department.

Andrea Wallace, Assistant Director of Recreation and Business, Milwaukee County Parks, 9480 W. Watertown Plank Rd, Wauwatosa, WI 53226 and Bev Bryant, Naturalist Wehr Nature Center, 9701 W. College Ave., Franklin, WI 53132 addressed the Board regarding the deer management program. The goal is to control the growth of the herd in the Whitnall Gardens area as well as mitigate Lyme disease spread and traffic accidents if the deer population is not controlled as the deer in urban environments will move into streets as they migrate. B. Bryant reported on the Potters Woods section of the Milwaukee County Park system and that they are not on the Milwaukee Public School section known as Potters Forest which abuts the county lands.

M. Eternicka asked if they would identify the stations where the marksmen are located and how do you control the area for public safety. B. Bryant stated that they do not identify where the tree stands are as there has been vandalism in the past to the tree stands rendering them unusable. She commented that the safety record for the program is 100%. She commented that the marksmen verbally warn pedestrians in the area and the areas are posted. She commented that the shots are only fired downward from 25 yards above the ground and not at ground level. A. Wallace commented that the County and the Village have made an agreement to notify the neighbors via mail for future years and that the Village will be notified fourteen days ahead of time in order for the website and other public places of the Village for people to see.

M. Eternicka asked about the option and cost for live trapping. B. Bryant commented that it is not possible to get a permit from the DNR to live trap and relocate deer in any county with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) status as Milwaukee County and most surrounding counties are CWD areas. The option to live trap and then euthanize any trapped deer is not viewed as humane as the animals are terrified in the trap and the clean shot is the preferred humane way to address culling herds.

I. Thomson asked how many events they have. A. Wallace commented that it varies but the last two years they have done two days a week from late January the first week of March and roughly eight days on average on Tuesday and Thursdays. She commented that there are two sharpshooters moving between three stations.

T. Brinkmeier inquired what liability the Village incurs by allowing the discharge of a weapon under this program. J. Wesolowski commented on the coverage under the Village carrier but as a secondary coverage and commented on the notice required to the Village for the program. S. Kulik commented that Milwaukee County has us listed as a secondary insured so our carrier would not be a direct line for any claim.

D. Besson commented that he was concerned for public safety and that they have come to a reasonable agreement that the Parks would notify the residents 14 days before the program begins, the Village 7 days prior, the foot print in the Potters Forest will be reduced to enhance the safety along the MPS section and that the Village will post a notice on our website and in the Village Hall. Library and Fire Station. He commented that he had concerns about the caliber of bullet and the distance the shots were fired from but upon hearing that they shoot down and not out and that the shooters are sharpshooter experts he believes the agreement to be reasonable. He commented that there is a proposal to place a fence around Boerner Botanical Gardens to keep the deer out as well as capture admittance fees from visitors that have been able to access the garden without paying the fee as it is not enclosed. He stated he understood that the fence placement would lead to the deer cull program to be stopped once the gardens are protected.

M. Eternicka asked if they knew how River Hills was managing their population since live trapping is no longer used. B. Bryant responded she did not know.

I. Thomson inquired if there was a static website that had information on the program. A. Wallace responded that they would develop one and put a link on the Boerner and County websites. S. Kulik commented that they could link that website onto the Village's and provide additional access to the information.

M. Eternicka asked if Franklin and Greendale residents who abut the park are notified. A. Wallace commented that the map used for notice is only around the Boerner site as the program is not in the entire park but that she could add the 92nd Street homes to her notice list.

T. Brinkmeier asked if the installation of fencing will stop the culling or is the program going to continue after the fence is up. B. Bryant stated that they have not had a conversation about what happens after any fence would be installed as deer can jump an 8 foot fence from a standing still position. The decision would need to be made as to what happens if the deer get inside the fence area or reestablishes the herd in larger numbers which then affects traffic safety concerns if they migrate outside the park. D. Besson commented that the Village standpoint is that the Board would be looking forward to the culling ending. A. Wallace commented that the program will need to be reevaluated after any fence installation as if the deer start to take over other parts of the park and cause damage as shown by the slide on the browse line, that they would need to explore when, if and how often any culling program would be beneficial, perhaps every other year or every five years would be an option but it is too early for that discussion as no fence is in place at this time.

D. Besson commented that in 1995, over 30 years ago, when the program was presented to Franklin and Greendale they voted no. The Village of Hales Corners

agreed to it as the deer were damaging the experimental gardens and roses in the park. However, after 30 years and once a fence is installed, he would not be in favor of an annual culling program.

A. Wallace commented that the parks have the right to manage their lands and doesn't claim to be an attorney, but they have been trying to manage the herd throughout the park over the years. D. Besson commented that the Village acknowledges the right of the County to manage their lands but the Village retains the right to grant or not grant the discharge of any firearms as part of local ordinances. He does not want to see either side drawing a line in the sand and they need to work cooperatively.

J. Wesolowski commented that the parks have been applying for the permits with the DNR as required every year of the program. D. Besson responded he understood that but the granting of any firearms discharge was under the Village Ordinances.

M. Eternicka asked that they discuss a sunset to the deer management program as 12 to 15 deer a year and a herd over 100 something even worth the program costs of \$5,000 a year regardless of it being grant funded.

D. Besson responded that it is reasonable to discuss a sunset of the program and he will work with the Park Department and bring something back to the Village Board. A. Wallace asked if the cessation of the culling program resulted in increased population that then increase Lyme's disease, park / garden damages and increased traffic accidents from the population, would a future discussion on reinstituting the culling program be considered. D. Besson commented that the Board would certainly open up discussions if the situation warranted.

M. Eternicka asked if they could reopen the concept of live trapping and euthanizing versus the sharpshooting. B. Bryant commented that it was less humane to trap and then euthanize as the animals are in terror when in the traps for however long it takes to discover that the trap is full. They have had a perfect safety record with the sharpshooting and instant kill process and they were the first to do this in the state and it is now used nearly everywhere where urban deer management is in place.

K. Meleski commented he would not recommend that the program sunset as it has been successful in managing the population.

No further discussion.

5.1 Library Board Meeting – February 27, 2025 – M. Bennett reported.

6.0 VILLAGE OFFICIALS REPORT

6.1 Village Administrator

6.1.1 Purchase Orders Issued – S. Kulik reported.

6.1.2 Recommendation for a Temporary Class “B”/”Class B” Retailers License: Journey’s Lutheran School – Annual Gala – April 5, 2025 - S. Kulik reported on request. **Motion** (Chesney, Eternicka) to approve; motion passes unanimously.

6.1.3 Massage License Establishments: Pure Zen Massage at Spa 21, Lorena Garcia – S. Kulik reported on request. Motion (Eternicka, Chesney) to approve; motion passes unanimously.

6.1.4 2025 General Obligation Borrowing update – S. Kulik updated the Board on the proposed issuance.

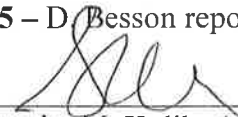
6.1.5 Resolution authorizing certain officials to amend the contract agreement for the 2024 Sewer Rehabilitation of the Lory Lane, Garden Court and Whitnall Way Lift Stations awarded by Resolution

24-23 TO Sabel Mechanical – S. Kulik reported on resolution. **Motion** (Chesney, Eternicka) to approve Resolution 25-12 authorizing certain officials to amend the contract agreement for the 2024 Sewer Rehabilitation of the Lory Lane, Garden Court and Whitnall Way Lift Stations awarded by Resolution 24-23 to Sabel Mechanical; motion passes unanimously.

7.0 VILLAGE PRESIDENTS REPORT

7.1 MMSD/ICC Meeting March 10, 2025 – D. Besson reported.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT



Sandra M. Kulik, Administrator/Clerk