VILLAGE OF PARK RIDGE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2023

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – President Steve Menzel called the Park Ridge Village Board to order at 5:30 pm. The Village Board meeting was held in person at the Village Hall and via Zoom. After the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by members present, a roll call was taken. Trustees Dan Holloway, Gordon Renfert and Barb Friedrich and Kristin Paulson were present. Clerk Shanna Behrend was also present. Residents Jim LaMar, Christine Neidlein, Arden Lange, Tori Jennings, Jim Wnuk, Bob Gifford, and Becky Woodward were present. Brian Kozlowski and Brandi Makuski attended via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM #1 - APPROVAL OF THE MARCH AGENDA - Menzel asked the Board members if there were any questions regarding the March agenda. Friedrich made a motion to approve the agenda with minor edits. Seconded by Renfert. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - The public comment section was opened to anyone who wished to speak on any agenda item. No comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - The public comment section was opened to anyone who wished to speak on any non-agenda item. No comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – REVIEW & APPROVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2023– Friedrich moved to approve the February minutes with no changes. Holloway seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – REVIEW AND ACCEPT FEBRUARY'S TREASURER'S REPORT – Friedrich asked a clarifying question about the Stevens Point Fire Department contract payment. Paulson made a motion to approve the bills/payments. Seconded by Renfert. Roll call was taken, Friedrich – yes, Renfert – yes, Paulson – yes, Holloway – yes, Menzel – yes.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – REVIEW AND APPROVE FEBRUARY & MARCH BILLS/PAYMENTS – Renfert made the motion to approve the bills. Seconded by Holloway. Roll call was taken, Renfert – yes, Paulson – yes, Holloway – yes, Friedrich – yes, Menzel – yes.

AGENDA ITEM #7– LEVY LIMIT REFERENDUM – QUESTION & ANSWER – Menzel gave a brief overview of the reasons the Village finds it necessary to hold a referendum to raise the levy limit citing rising inflation and a capped levy limit. Menzel opened the floor for questions and comments from residents. Resident Wnuk felt that not everything that the Village has proposed for future projects is necessary and was concerned with the financial burden placed on residents. Resident Jennings thanked the Board and the volunteers who helped with the planning reports and the transparency and education about future projects. Resident LaMar also thanked the Board for all the work that has been done and continues to be done to fix long standing issues in the Village.

AGENDA ITEM #8– PROPOSED JUSTICE CENTER – IMPLICATIONS FOR PARK RIDGE – Menzel stated that he felt the Village government should not take a stand on this issue since we have relationships with both Stevens Point and Portage County. The only concern is the response time of the Sheriff's Department if it is moved further away from Park Ridge. County Supervisor Gifford stated, in his opinion, that the Justice Center should remain in the downtown area. He feels that most of the population served by the center would have easier access in the current location.

AGENDA ITEM #9– UPDATE ON RFP SEEKING CONSULTANT FOR STREET AND RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPROVEMENTS – Menzel gave an update on the progress of the request for proposal for a consulting firm. At this point, the Village has received one proposal. The Village wants to move quickly to capitalize on infrastructure funding currently available.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – MULTIJURISDICTIONAL GRANT APPLICATION – SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL – Several local municipalities are working together to apply for a federal planning grant to update the county wide bicycle and pedestrian plan. The previous plan was last updated in 2014. Menzel attended a meeting with Stevens Point, Village of Whiting, and Village of Plover. The grant is an 80/20 payout, and the 20% owed by each municipality would be prorated.

AGENDA ITEM #11 – DISCUSS ORDINANCE FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PARKING – Holloway asked about the current sign restrictions ordinance for the Village and if it needed to be updated to include sign size limits. The Board decided to discuss this at a future meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #12 – SPRING ELECTION- APRIL 4, 2023 – Clerk Behrend stated that Early In-Person Voting begins on March 21, 2023, and runs through March 30, 2023.

AGENDA ITEM #13 – ZONING BOARD COMMITTEES POSITION OPENINGS – The Village still needs to fill two positions on the Zoning Committee and The Zoning Board of Appeals beginning May 1, 2023. Please contact the clerk's office at 715 343 1590 or President Menzel at smenzel@vi.parkridge.wi.gov if interested in any position.

AGENDA ITEM #14 – APPROVE OPERATOR LICENSES – Friedrich made the motion to approve the operator licenses. Seconded by Renfert. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

AGENDA ITEM #15 – SPRING CLEAN UP/LARGE ITEM PICK-UP SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 20, 2023

AGENDA ITEM #16 – VILLAGE WIDE RUMMAGE SALE – The Village rummage sale is scheduled for May 13, 2023, from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. There will be a pick-up of any remaining items for donation, Items must be out by the road by 2:00 pm day of the rummage sale. Any questions can be directed to Charm Fournier at charm@fourniers.org.

AGENDA ITEM # 17 – SET DATE FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING – The next Board Meeting is set for April 17, 2023, at 5:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

SHANNA BEHREND
VILLAGE CLERK

STEVE MENZEL
VILLAGE PRESIDENT