

VILLAGE OF HAMMOND BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Village Hall, 105 East 1st Street, Hammond, IL 61929

Call to Order at 7:00 pm

Roll Call: President Marsha Burgener-here, Don Chenoweth-here, Kim Gee-here, Lauren Molby-here, John Drummond-here, Kelsey Wells-here, Billie Larkins-here.

Acknowledgement of videographer: To the Board's knowledge, no one was videoing.

A social media post had been made re: the recent audit and several other items. Marsha had contacted Kevin, the Village's auditor, and she read his response explaining the wording of the audit. She also explained Brenda's schedule changes and noted that Brenda keeps a log of her hours that anyone can access. The Caucus Agenda was reviewed and noted it was correct. A lien has been placed on the property to recover the mowing costs of the Village. The Open Meetings Act was reviewed and a letter from the Village attorney was read. Anytime three or more board members are together and discuss Village business, this constitutes a meeting and this violates the OMA. As the Village President, it is Marsha's, or any future Village President's duty, to uphold the laws of the State and of the ordinances of the Village and she will do so until the end of her term.

Adopt agenda: Don made the motion to adopt the agenda, with a 2nd by Kim. All in favor; motion carried.

Public Comment: Jason Pantier was present and thanked the Board for everything the members do and thanked Marsha for the information she stated at the beginning of the meeting. Jason also thanked the community members that were present. Melissa Miller questioned if Executive Session discussions were to be held outside of the meeting and they are not.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes made by Don, with a 2nd by Kim. All in favor; motion carried. Motion to approve December 2, 2024 Caucus Minutes by Kim, with a 2nd by Don. All in favor; motion carried.

Financials: Marsha passed out her findings in the financials beginning with April 2024 through present. She worked with the bank also. Everything is as it should be. Treasurer's Report for October: Kim made the motion to approve with a 2nd by Don. Roll call vote: Don-yes, Kim-yes, Lauren-yes, John-yes, Kelsey-yes, Billie-yes. Treasurer's Report for November: Kim made the motion to approve with a 2nd by Don. Roll call vote: Kim-yes, Lauren-yes, John-yes, Kelsey-yes, Billie-yes, Don-yes. Video Gaming for October: Kim made the motion to approve with a 2nd by Lauren. All in favor; motion carried. Pay bills for November: Kelsey made the motion to approve with a 2nd by John. Roll call vote: Lauren-yes, John-yes, Kelsey-yes, Billie-yes, Don-

yes, Kim-yes. Pay bills for December-as of 12/11/24: Kelsey motioned to approve with a 2nd by Billie. Roll call vote: John-yes, Kelsey-yes, Billie-yes, Don-yes, Kim-yes, Lauren-yes.

Water Superintendent Report: Ron will be having surgery 12/24/24. IRWA will come out to help if needed for water or sewer. EPA visited in May. Ron has sent his response. Went over the EPA's findings of what has to be done and suggestions of things to be done. He's waiting for their response. He will not be replacing the hydrant in front of the "D" Street apartments. It has been hit at least six times. The boiler froze up due to the heat being turned off. Continuing to clean pile. Has been working on the meter pits settling to clean them up. Marsha brought up all the leaves in the catch basins. He keeps these cleaned out, but the leaves continue to pile up. Need to ask the community to not put their yard waste in plastic bags.

Village Clerk Report: Shut Off Listing for November 2024 was reviewed. Review of the Ordinance Violation Listing. IRWA is conducting a water/sewer rate study. The letter was sent to the solicitor's place of employment re: the fine that was assessed to them.

New Business:

- Kim made the motion to approve Ordinance #2024-13, "Annual Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of the Taxes for the Fiscal Year for the Village of Hammond, Piatt County, Illinois", with a 2nd by Lauren. Roll call vote: Kelsey-yes, Billie-yes, Don-yes, Kim-yes, Lauren-yes, John-yes.
- Discussion held re: deactivating the Village's FB page. Don made the motion to deactivate the page, but there was not a 2nd, so the motion dropped. John made the motion to keep the FB page and try to monitor better, with a 2nd by Lauren. 5ayes, 1 nay; motion carried.
- John made the motion to approve Ordinance #2024-17, "An Ordinance Regarding ARPA Funds for the Village of Hammond", with a 2nd by Kelsey. Roll call vote: Billie-yes, Don-yes, Kim-yes, Lauren-yes, John-yes, Kelsey-yes.

Old/Unfinished Business:

- Publishing of Public Notices-The account is set up and ready to post on.

Executive Session: Kelsey made the motion to go into Executive Session at 8:42 pm, with a 2nd by Lauren, to discuss the following:

5ILCS 120/2 (c) (11): Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

5ILCS 120/2(c) (1): Discuss employee issues- the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.

Lauren made the motion to exit Executive Session at 9:14 pm, with a 2nd by Kelsey.

Action on Executive Session: Kelsey made the motion to continue litigation, with a 2nd by John. All in favor; motion carried.

President/Trustee Comments: John suggested having a “Meet the Candidates Night, so the public can meet some of the newer members of the Board. Brenda is to check with Ross re: any legalities that may arise.

Adjournment: Kelsey made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm, with a 2nd by Billie. All in favor; motion carried.

Marsha Burgener
Village President

Brenda Sebens
Village Clerk