



## **VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES MEETING OF JUNE 2, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, Village of Elwood, June 2, 2021, at 7:00 PM, was called to order by Village President Doug Jenco.

### **Role Call**

Present: Village Board President Doug Jenco, Village Board Trustees: Ron Schmidt, Jodie Bertucci, Tricia Maas, Michael Varman, and Kendy Elberson

Also, Present: Village Administrator/Village Clerk Julie Friebele, Director of Public Works Larry Lohmar, Police Chief Fred Hayes, and Attorney Jordan Kielian

Not Present: Village Board Trustee: Darryl Lab

### **The Meeting Opened with the Pledge to the Flag**

### **Presentations and Public Hearings**

No presentations or public hearings were conducted.

### **Public Comments – Pertaining to Agenda Items**

Members of the audience did not have public comments pertaining to agenda items.

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Trustee Bertucci to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Presentation of Minutes – May 5, 2021

Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report April 24, 2021 through May 4, 2021 in the amount of \$48,792.86.

Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report May 5, 2021 through May 21, 2021 in the amount of \$50,568.83.

Presentation of Bills – Unpaid Invoice Report in the amount of \$162,976.34.

Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

## **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

### **Administration – Village Administrator Julie Friebele**

#### **April 2021 Financial Report**

The April 2021 Financial Report prepared by Finance Director Robbie Day was presented to the Village Board for review. The report represents the Village of Elwood's year to date revenues, expenses, and end of the month fund cash balances.

2021-2022 Alliant Mesirow Insurance Renewal Plans

The Village must renew its medical, dental, and life insurance plans annually. The insurance committee made up of Village employee representatives from administration, public works, and police departments met with Paul Mizera from Alliant Mesirow to review the proposed options. The proposed plans are essentially the same as those that are currently being offered with the addition of the following: Medical Plan (BlueOptions PPO), a Voluntary Vision plan, and a Voluntary Life Insurance plan for all full-time employees. A motion was made by Trustee Varman to approve 2021-2022 Alliant Mesirow Ins Renewal Plans, and also that the employees continue to pay 25% of the medical and dental insurance plan premiums. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

An Ordinance Granting Variances To The Elwood Fire Protection District Regarding 309 W. Mississippi Street

On May 26, 2021, the Planning & Zoning Commission held a public hearing on the application of the Elwood Fire Protection District (EFPD) for two variances on the property located at 309 W Mississippi. The requested variances are for an “Accessory Structure” that will exceed the size and height restrictions in the R1 – Single Family Residential District. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the evidence and heard testimony given by Jason Estes of FGM Architects on behalf of the EFPD. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the requested variances.

Adequate evidence was presented to establish an undue hardship so that a variance should be permitted because of evidence of the following conditions:

- a) Strict enforcement of the code would involve practical difficulties or impose exceptional hardship; and
- b) The property in question cannot yield a reasonable return if permitted to be used only under the conditions allowed by the regulations in the particular zoning district; and
- c) The plight of the owner is due to unique circumstances; and
- d) Materials used to create accessory structure should match primary structure and should blend in with the neighboring aesthetics; and
- e) The variation, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality.

On May 26, 2021 the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the requested variances.

A motion was made by Trustee Varman to adopt an Ordinance Granting Variances to the Elwood Fire Protection District Regarding 309 W. Mississippi Street. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

An Ordinance Approving A Special Use For A Full-Service Restaurant 108 E. Mississippi Avenue

On May 26, 2021, the Planning & Zoning Commission held a public hearing on the application of the La Pasadita Mexican Restaurant Corp for a “Special Use Permit” on the property located at 108 E Mississippi. The requested Special Use Permit is for a full-Service “Restaurant” in the C-1 Local Shopping District. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed evidence and heard testimony given by Fernando Lopez, Attorney for the applicant.

1. The Special Use (“Special Use”) for a Full-Service Restaurant will be compatible with the existing development and will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of surrounding property. The Commission notes that a restaurant previously existed on the Property for a period of time already as further proof to sustain the findings.
2. The Full-Service Restaurant building will be sized adequately to support the proposed use.
3. The location of the Special Use is such that traffic impacts will be minimal.

4. The Special Use lot is of adequate size for the particular use.
5. In all respects the Special Use will not be significantly or materially detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the public or injurious to other property or improvements in the neighborhood, nor will it diminish or impair property values in the surrounding area.
6. That adequate facilities exist to support the Special Use.

On May 26, 2021 the Plan Commission recommended approval of the Special Use with no additional conditions.

A motion was made by Trustee Elberson to adopt an Ordinance Approving a Special Use for a Full-Service Restaurant 108 E. Mississippi Avenue. Trustee Maas seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

*Understanding of Cooperation Agreement With Surf Air Wireless, LLC*

The Village intends to bring about further development and operation of a Village-wide Fiber Optic Network to provide Broadband Internet Access Service. Surf intends to develop and operate a Village-wide Fiber Optic Network to provide Broadband Internet Access Service. A motion was made by Trustee Maas to approve the Understanding of Cooperation Agreement By and Between the Village of Elwood and Surf Air Wireless, LLC. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

*Right of Way Use Agreement for Broadband Internet With Surf Air Wireless, LLC*

The Right of Way Agreement would grant Surf Wireless, LLC a non-exclusive Franchise to construct and operate a Fiber Optic Network in the Public Ways within the the Village of Elwood to erect, install, construct, micro-trench, repair, replace, reconstruct, maintain, or retain in any Public Way such wires, lines, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, pedestals, amplifiers, appliances, attachments, and other related property or equipment as may be necessary or appurtenant to, or useful in the operation of, the Fiber Optic Network, and to provide such services over the Fiber Optic Network as may be lawfully allowed. A motion was made by Trustee Elberson to approve the Right of Way Use Agreement for Broadband Internet By and Between the Village of Elwood and Surf Air Wireless, LLC. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried

*Resolution for Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics and Other Workers of Public Works of the Village of Elwood*

The Prevailing Wage Act regulates wages of laborers, workers and mechanics employed in any public works by the State, County, City or any public body or any political subdivision or by anyone under contract for public works. If the Village does not adopt a Resolution Adopting the Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics, and Other Workers on Public Works during the month of June, then the prevailing rate of wages for the Village shall be the rate as determined by the Illinois Department of Labor. A motion was made by Trustee Schmidt to adopt the Resolution for Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics and Other Workers of Public Works of the Village of Elwood. Trustee Varman seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

**Police Department – Chief Fred Hayes**

**During the Month of April 2021**

The Elwood Police Department responded to 476 calls for service. For more details concerning the types of calls, residents can visit the Village of Elwood website.

Police officers issued a total of 330 citations:

- Local Citations (O.V.) 4
- State Citations 204
- Overweight Violations (22)
- Monthly Total 208
- 2021 Year to Date Total 682

Arrest Report Summary:

- Traffic Arrests 19
- Warrant Arrests 0
- Criminal 0
- Monthly Total 19
- Year to Date Total 19

**TRAINING REPORT: ALL ONLINE CLASSES**

<b>OFFICER</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Anthony Lohmar	Advanced Interviewing and Interrogation	4-1-2021	8
James Hartley	Preparation for Terrorist Attacks	4-6-2021	8
Anthony Lohmar	Preparation for Terrorist Attacks	4-6-2021	8
Anthony Lohmar	Lead Homicide Investigator	4/26-30/2021	40

**Total Training Hours: 64**

**Request Authorization to Purchase a Public Safety Vehicle**

Chief Hayes requested the purchase of one (1) police vehicle with the Safety Accessory Package was budgeted for in the FY 2021-22 Capital Budget. There currently exists a joint purchasing bid for Public Safety Vehicles through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative (SPC) Program sponsored by the Northwest Municipal Conference, DuPage Mayors & Managers Conference, South Suburban Mayors & Managers Conference and Will County Governmental League. The SPC Program satisfies the purchasing requirements for the Village of Elwood. A motion was made by Trustee Elbersen to approve the purchase and payment of one (1) 2021 Ford F-150 Police Responder Patrol Package vehicle from Sutton Auto Group in Matteson, IL for \$40,425, (1) Panasonic Toughbooks from CDS Office Technologies in Addison, IL for \$6,977, and (1) In-car Video Cameras and Evidence Storage System from WatchGuard in Allen, TX for \$5,445, for a total cost of \$52,847.00. Trustee Varman seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Elbersen – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes. The motion carried.

**Public Works – Director of Public Works Larry Lohmar**

**Street Lights for St. Louis Street**

The meter sockets and conduits are installed on the poles for St. Louis Street lights. The street light are ordered and will be installed upon receipt.

#### Emergency Generators

The generator for the Village Hall is scheduled to arrive by the end of this month. In preparation for the generator, the concrete pad was installed by Public Works department.

#### Village Hall Heating System

The new boilers are installed and are approximately 98% ready to be put into operation. The low voltage controls were installed and are being tested. The blower motor on the Administration side of the building is being replaced.

#### Water Main Break

Public Works repaired an 8" water main break on North Lincoln Street.

#### Waste Water Treatment Plant Repairs

Repairs were made to two (2) motor mounts for the ditch as the sewer plant.

#### Sweeper

Removed and replaced the hydraulic cylinder on the sweeper bed.

#### Beautification Committee – Public Works Office Building

Thank you to the Beautification Committee for painting the front of the Public Works office building. It looks great!

#### Village Administrator – Julie Friebele

#### Series 2021 Bond

The Village received the 2010B Bond for cancellation. The payoff of the Series 2010B bond was in the amount of \$6,530,000.00. As previously agreed to with CenterPoint they reduced the Village's bond debt by \$2.4 million and lowered the interest rate from 2.9% to 2.5%. The Series 2021 Replacement Bond is in the amount of \$4,130,000 and bears the interest rate of 2.50%. The Series 2021 Bonds closing is complete, the bond order was filed with the Will County Clerk, and payments of principal and interest begin in 2022.

#### Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

The GFOA notified the Village that our comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2020, met the requirement to be awarded GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. Thank you Finance Director Robbie Day and staff!

#### Code Enforcement

On May 18<sup>th</sup> the Village began sending out the Lawn Maintenance Code Notices

The Village sends out one notification letter annually to property owners that are not in compliance with the Lawn Maintenance Code and advise the property owner that it serves as their first and only notification that your property in the Village of Elwood must comply with the Lawn Maintenance Code. If they refuse or neglect to prevent the growth of nuisance greenery in excess of seven (7) inches in height on their property, the Village may

cause it to be cut by any other person or may itself cut the nuisance greenery. Upon the village cutting nuisance greenery, the Village will provide the owner of the affected real estate a notice of the costs incurred by the Village. If the Village does not receive payment of said costs, the Village will place a lien on their property. If after the first notification their property again falls out of compliance with the code the Village of Elwood reserves the right to enter the property and cut the nuisance greenery immediately. There will be no future warning or notification provided to the property owner beforehand.

**Cathie Pezanoski – Superintendent of Elwood Elementary School District #203**

As many of you may know, Ms. Cathie Pezanoski retired at the end of the school year after 35 years in education and the last nine serving the Elwood School community as the grade school superintendent. In recognition of Ms. Pezanoski’s retirement, the Village presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a certificate of appreciation for her service to our community.

**Elwood All Town Sales**

June 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to participate. In addition, a listing of sales are posted on the Village website and on the Village facebook site.

**Upcoming Village Meetings**

Planning and Zoning	June 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Cancelled
Finance Committee	June 29 <sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm

**Village President – Doug Jenco**

- I want to thank all Village departments. You cannot beat the staff we have, and I am so proud of everyone!
- Public Works is keeping up with the grass cutting, and the Village looks great!
- Welcome to La Pasadita Mexican Restaurant; the Village wishes you great success.
- Thank you to the Beautification Committee for all they do.
- Elwood Community Days Event is scheduled on August 20, 21, and 22.

**Bicyclist Bike Month Proclamation**

Agenda item removed.

**Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**Public Comments**

Members of the audience discussed the following:

- Thank you to the Village Board regarding approval of the Fire Department’s request for variances for the accessory structure.

**Closed Session**

Closed session was not conducted.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Trustee Maas to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. The Village Board all voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

*Julie Friebele, Village Clerk*