



VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES MEETING OF JUNE 3, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, Village of Elwood, June 3, 2020, at 7:00 PM, was called to order by Village President Doug Jenco.

Executive Order 2020-07 Open Meetings Act:

Sections 6, as amended below, of Executive Order 2020-07 are re-issued and extended through June 27, 2020.

Section 6. During the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation and through June 27, 2020, the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120, requiring or relating to in-person attendance by members of a public body are suspended. Specifically, (1) the requirement in 5 ILCS 120/2.01 that “members of a public body must be physically present” is suspended, and (2) the conditions in 5 ILCS 120/7 limiting when remote participation is permitted are suspended. The provision of the Illinois Finance Authority Act that “[a]ll meetings shall be conducted at a single location within the State with a quorum of members physically present at this location,” 20 ILCS 3501/801-25, is suspended through June 27, 2020.

Physically Present: Village Board President Doug Jenco, Village Board Trustee: Ron Schmidt

Remote Participation: Village Board Trustees: Tricia Maas, Joe Berscheid, Jodie Bertucci, Michael Varman, Darryl Lab

Also, Physically Present: Village Administrator/Village Clerk Julie Friebele and Director of Public Works Larry Lohmar

Also, Remote Participation: Police Chief Fred Hayes, and Attorney Jordan Kielian

The Meeting Opened with the Pledge to the Flag

Presentations and Public Hearings

No Presentations were given, no Public Hearings were held.

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 Schmidt to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- 6.1 Presentation of Minutes – May 6, 2020
- 6.2 Presentation of Closed Session Minutes – May 6, 2020 (Not for Release)
- 6.3 Review of Closed Session Minutes Not Previously Released

6.4 Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report May 1, 2020 through May 22, 2020, in the amount of \$31,855.94.

6.5 Presentation of Bills – Unpaid Invoice Report in the amount of \$286,256.54.

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

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Administration – Village Administrator Julie Friebele

April 2020 Financial Report

The April 2020 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.

A 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 Lab to adopt a Resolution for Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics and Other Workers of Public works of the Village of Elwood. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

An Ordinance Authorizing the Ceding of Private Activity Bonding Authority

Under the Federal Tax Reform Act of 1986, the Village receives an annual allocation of private activity bonding cap that can be used to provide below market rate financing for economic development and/or housing projects. The allocation is calculated on a per capita basis with the Village's allocation equal to our population (2,260) times \$105.00 for a total of \$237,300. Pursuant to a law passed by the Illinois General Assembly some years ago, the Village may either allocate its bonding cap to a specific project or cede it to another development agency. If the Village does neither, the cap reverts to the Governor's office for reallocation to projects around the state. Typically the Village must take action by May 1st to either reserve the cap for use on a specific project or cede it to another agency but the Governor's office has allowed an extension on the time frame due to COVID-19. In past years, we have ceded our cap to the Will Kankakee Regional Development Authority (WKRDA). Ceding the cap to WKRDA allows the Village to retain access to the cap until the end of the current calendar year. A motion was made by Trustee Bertucci to forego the final reading and adopt an Ordinance Authorizing the Ceding of Private Activity Bonding Authority. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances With respect to Truck Route Designation

Public Act 101-0328 made changes to the Illinois truck route classes, posting requirements, and communication requirements. Class III and locally designated truck route classifications have been eliminated. In the past the Village of Elwood has designated some of their local roads as truck routes and also prohibited truck traffic on residential streets. Under Public Act 101-0328, the Village of Elwood must amend the code of ordinances with respect to truck route designation and is responsible to report to the

Department of Transportation (DOT) all streets and highways under our jurisdiction that are designated as Class II routes. DOT shall maintain and provide a listing and an official map of the Designated State Truck Route System which includes state and local streets and highways of all Class II routes. Local public agencies should report any ordinances or resolutions prohibiting the operation of vehicles on their non-designated highway system. The information will be posted on the department’s website to notify truck drivers which roadways are permitted and others that are prohibited. A motion was made by Trustee Maas to forego the final reading and adopt an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances With respect to Truck Route Designation. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

Police Department – Chief Fred Hayes

During the month of April 2020

The Elwood Police Department responded to 207 calls for service. The low number might be related to COVID-19 pandemic and Governor Pritzker’s stay at home order. For more details concerning the types of calls, residents can visit the Village of Elwood website.

Police officers issued a total of 14 citations:

- Local Citations (O.V.) 2
- State Citations 12
- Overweight Violations (6)
- Monthly Total 14
- Year to Date Total 614

Arrest Report Summary:

- Traffic Arrests 1
- Warrant Arrests 0
- Criminal 0

TRAINING REPORT:

OFFICER	CLASS	DATE	Hours
James Hartley	Opioid Overdose Response	4/21/20	1
Nick Vandal	Protect and Serve	4/23/20	1
Ethan Anderson	Protect and Serve	4/23/20	1
James Hartley	Effective Report Writing	4/27/20	4
Nick Vandal	Sexual Assault Cases	4/28/20	8
Nick Vandal	Effective Report Writing	4/29/20	4

Total Training Hours: 19

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the police department implemented additional procedures for the safety of personnel and the public. Officers have all PPE required and plenty in inventory right now.

- Traffic stops are limited to severe offenses not minor offenses. Citation counts were lower in April than in March.
- Trucks driving on Mississippi Avenue were not being ticketed but were made to turn back to IL Rt. 53 and enter the intermodal on designated truck routes. Beginning in June we started to do truck enforcement again and have designed a way to issue citations with limited contact.
- Officer Zimmerman's police academy training was interrupted do to the COVID-19 pandemic, but she will be able to return to the police academy this week. She will attend for 3 weeks to complete her training and receive her training certification.

There has been civil unrest that is occurring across the country. Chief Hayes has been in regular contact with Mayor Jenco and Village Administrator Friebele to keep them updated on the situation. At this point there has not been volatility in Elwood. Elwood has some police officers that are on the mutual aid teams and have been called upon to aid in other local communities. Civil unrest has included rioting, looting, and even throwing dynamite at police officers. Officer Nick Vandal was on the line when the dynamite was thrown and fortunately, he was unharmed. Our officers get value experience and training when participating in the mutual aid teams which is a real benefit for the Village of Elwood.

Public Works – Director of Public Works Larry Lohmar

Well Improvements:

Well 8 pump has been installed and the startup has been completed. It will be brought on line in the next week or so. With the addition of this well and generator we will now have water supply when the power is out, this is a great milestone for the Village.

Saint Louis Street Project:

Construction has started on St Louis Street. We have had some small delays with the weather so as soon as it dries up, they will be working at full force and are working on the storm sewers now.

WWTP Vessels:

I have directed our general contractor to start the renovations on the two existing vessels to be ahead of schedule when the new vessel arrives in September.

WWTP Repairs:

We had a Brine pump fail and need replacement. When we received the pump Matt and Scott replaced it. At the same time, there was a failure in one of our three (3) blowers. The 30 hp motor bearings went bad and needed rebuilding.

Storm Clean-up:

Public works crews spent 2 1/2 days doing storm clean-up of corn cobs on roads and in ditches, they also spent time cleaning retention pond catch basins and restrictors, along with repairing road & culvert wash outs.

Fire Hydrant:

We had a fire hydrant that was leaking on Brandon and Pin Oak, crews dug it up and replaced a gasket and bolts with stainless steel bolts which completed the repair.

Light Pole:

One of the light poles at the scale house were knocked down. The bid to replace the pole was \$8,000.

Village Clerk – Julie Friebele

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) was authorized and implemented a \$1.5 billion dollar grant program using proceeds from general obligation (transportation, series A) bonds authorized in the REBUILD Illinois capital programs to provide Local Public Agencies with the funds for capital projects. IDOT awarded and will disburse REBUILD Illinois grants twice each year over a period of 3 years. The Local REBUILD Illinois Bond Funds Municipality Allotment for the Village of Elwood is \$25,032.51 twice per year which equals a three (3) year total of \$150,195.06. To qualify a project, it will need to be a bondable capital improvement. In general, transportation improvement projects with an average useful life of greater than or equal to 13 years are considered bondable capital improvements. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of an overhead height restrictive barrier or the possibility of a round about to be located on Mississippi Avenue near the intersection of IL Route 53. Chief Hayes noted that a physical barrier is really the best solution and to have a last chance turnaround located before the trucks got to the physical deterrent.

Village President – Doug Jenco

We are in Phase 3 of the COVID-19 pandemic and I know everyone is itching to get outside and back to normal life. Please remember baseball games, basketball games/courts are not allowed in Phase 3.

Please remember to:

- Wash your hands often.
- Take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself and others (stay 6 feet away, which is about two arm lengths).
- Keep away from people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched services.

Thank you to the Elwood Police Department and Public Works, you guys are doing a great job!

Appointment of the Members of the Board of Directors of the Elwood International Port Authority

Ordinance 1016 Creating the International Port Authority of the Village of Elwood provides that the Board of Directors shall consist of the following: The President of the Village of Elwood, three (3) Village Trustees, one (1) representative of the BNSF Rail Road and two (2) representatives from businesses located within the jurisdiction of the International Port Authority, and that the members be appointed for a term of three (3) years. With the approval and consent of the Village Board of Trustees Mayor Jenco making the appointment of the members of the Board of Directors of the Elwood International Port Authority as follows:

Village Trustees: Ron Schmidt, Tricia Maas, and Michael Varman

BNSF Rail Road Representative: Eric Pitcher

WalMart Representative: Leonard Witt

A motion was made by Trustee Lab to approve and consent to the appointment of Ron Schmidt as a member of the Board of Directors of the Elwood International Port Authority for a term of three (3) years. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – abstain, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Lab to approve and consent to the appointment of Tricia Maas as a member of the Board of Directors of the Elwood International Port Authority for a term of three (3) years. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Schmidt to approve and consent to the appointment of Michael Varman as a member of the Board of Directors of the Elwood International Port Authority for a term of three (3) years. Trustee Maas seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – abstain, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Lab to approve and consent to the appointments of Eric Pitcher and Leonard Witt as members of the Board of Directors of the Elwood International Port Authority each for a term of three (3) years. Trustee Varman seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, Trustee Berscheid – yes, Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Bertucci – yes, Trustee Lab – yes. The motion carried.

Other Business

The parades throughout the Village have made a positive impact on all. Thank you to the Elwood Fire Department, Elwood Police, Public Works and everyone else that has participated in the parades.

Public Comments

Elwood Church is coordinating a parade for the whole town on Friday, June 5, 2020. We will begin lining up at O'Connor Park at 12:30 pm and the parade will begin at 1:00 pm.

Closed Session

No Closed Session meeting was held.

Actions To Be Taken Following The Closed Session Meeting

No Closed Session meeting was held, therefore there were no actions to be considered.

Adjournment

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

Julie Friebele, Village Clerk