



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Regular Village Board Meeting
Monday, January 22, 2024
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Galligan Board Room

A. Call to Order – 7:01 P.M.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Prior to roll call, an invocation for this evening was given by Reverend Carey.

Upon roll call by Deputy Clerk Cannova, President Senak and Trustees Fasules, Kalinich, Gould, Simon, and Thompson answered "Present." Trustee Christiansen was absent.

Also in attendance: Village Manager Franz, Assistant Village Manager/Community Development Director Rodman, Village Attorney Mathews, Public Works Director Buckley, Finance Director Brankin, Economic Development Coordinator Hannah, and Deputy Police Chief Vavra.

After roll call, President Senak asked for a moment of silence to honor the passing of Brian Baltudis, Village Facilities Manager. After the moment of silence, he added that Brian was a spectacular person and his loss would be felt not only in Facilities, but in the spirit of the staff, and in the spirit of the Village.

Village Manager Franz added that Brian was our Facilities Manager for the last eight years and asked everyone keep his family in their thoughts and prayers.

D. Audience Participation

President Senak stated that he received a letter from a concerned citizen, Sean Towne, requesting to 'please bring back the cardboard regatta because I want to do it with my friends and I was too young to do it before COVID'. It was decided that the request would be sent to the Park District.

Jane Stroh, long-time resident on the South side of Roosevelt Road, then spoke. She, representing several others in attendance to support the nonprofit developer Full Circle Communities' Proposal for an affordable, accessible and supportive apartment development at the former hotel site, urged the Board to approve the proposal and finalize it before the funding deadline of March 29, 2024. She added the group's appreciation of President Senak, Trustees, and Village staff, for their dedication and attention to addressing the needs of the community.

Ben Petrocelli, Principal of Glenbard West High School, representing Dr. David F. Larson, Superintendent, and Board President Margaret DeLaRosa as well as the school and its students. He spoke about a letter sent to the Village of Glen Ellyn Community Relations

Commission regarding an incident that occurred in downtown Glen Ellyn during lunch time on October 16, 2023 in which Muslim students were approached by a female community member and harassed. He encourages the current trustees to stand by previous statements regarding a community free of racism, hatred and bigotry, and condemn the remarks and their underlying sentiment.

President Senak thanked him for bringing the incident to the attention of the Village Board and the staff. He also reiterated the shared contempt for this type of behavior, and reaffirmed the Board's commitment to a Village that is free of bigotry, racism and hatred, adding that the Community Relations Commission was specifically formed for the purpose of allowing a forum for these matters to be addressed by the community. He then introduced Sonia Irwin, chair of the Community Relations Commission, to give a statement.

Ms. Irwin thanked Mr. Petrocelli and read an excerpt from the letter sent by the District 87 Superintendent and Board President, reference above, stating that this behavior from an adult directed at a group of students is totally unacceptable and must be addressed. She added comments about Village Resolution 19-04, passed on February 26, 2019. She then spoke of other incidents of hate and encouraged the Board to stand by Resolution 19-04.

Ms. Irwin went on to reaffirm that the Community Relations Commission unequivocally restates that the Village stands against hateful sentiments, including anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic acts, speech, and targeting of individuals because of their faith. In conclusion she urged the Board reissue the Community Relations Commission statement, on behalf of the Village.

President Senak replied that this illustrates why the Village needs a Community Relations Commission, applauded Ms. Irwin and the Commission on their work, and moved that the Board approve and affirm the statement made by the Community Relations Commission. The motion was seconded by Trustee Simon and unanimously reaffirmed.

Trustee Fasules felt that the resolution should be republished in the next Village newsletter as confirmation that the Village will not accept intolerance to diversity in the community. President Senak agreed.

Barbara Kwiatkowski, co-president and representing the League of Women Voters, addressed the migrant drop off by buses that have happened recently. She referenced a letter from President Senak and stated that the League of Women Voters fully supports the Village's treating of these migrants as any other visitors to the Village. She then continued with reasons for their support that are founded at the core of the group and what it stands for. She then concluded by saying that this is a humanitarian crisis and should be addressed as such.

President replied by saying that while letter was under his signature it was endorsed by every person on the dais. He added that the letter properly reflects the Village's approach to the migrant situation. He then gave an update on what has gone on with the migrant arrivals into the Village to-date.

E. Presentation

- 1) Recognition of homeowners whose homes have received the Conservation @Home designation from the Conservation Foundation (Environmental Commission Chair Christy Truitt and Conservation Foundation representative Amy Phillips)

President Senak introduced Commission Chair Christy Truitt and Conservation Foundation representative Amy Phillips. Ms. Truitt spoke about Glen Ellyn's adoption of the Greenest Region Compact, joining over 150 local municipalities in a commitment to developing vibrant, sustainable communities across the Chicago region, and the Village's sponsorship of the Earth Friendly Yards Initiative, which encouraged homeowners to adopt intentional, sustainable landscaping practices on private lands. She also thanked Jim Kline for his help with the initiative.

Ms. Phillips spoke about the Conservation Foundation's work, and the Conservation at Home Certification Program. She thanked the Village and its partners for truly being leaders when it comes to this initiative as well as the residents for participating in the program. She added that the program is free and the Conservation Foundation is happy to come to anyone's yard and talk about native plants and their benefits.

Ms. Truitt asked members of the Environmental Commission to stand and be recognized, as well as the certified homeowners. She then continued with the sustainable landscaping recognition, giving formal recognition to each of the homeowners for their efforts in achieving sustainable yard certification.

President Senak thanked the Environmental Commission for the good work they do on an ongoing basis. He also recognized the Village staff for doing an outstanding job of maintaining the environmental integrity of the Village and in particular Public Works, and specifically, Dave Buckley, Director of Public Works.

2) Update from Alliance of Downtown Glen Ellyn (Alliance Director Dawn Smith)

New Alliance Director Dawn Smith introduced herself and said she is looking forward to working with everyone. She views the purpose of the Alliance as an economic driver for local businesses, bringing tourism into the Village. She then covered Alliance activity since her start three months prior, which include the launching of a new website, creating a database, and forming collaborative partnerships.

Ms. Smith then went through new welcome packet components and gave highlights of the new website, as well as the social media marketing plan.

Ms. Smith highlighted recent and upcoming events for 2024.

Trustee Kalinich asked questions about the Alliance's social media page and requested clarification on two charts presented. Ms. Smith replied that one represented Instagram and the other Facebook and added further insight.

President Senak gave his thanks for the recent effort made by the Alliance. He added that the events outlined by Ms. Smith are very important. They not only provide enjoyment but also help downtown businesses maintain a strong financial position. Ms. Smith replied.

Trustee Gould thanked the Alliance as well, saying that she had read the 24-page report after one of the events, and appreciated the outstanding data in it. Ms. Smith replied that the goal is to have a dedicated Google file to make information available.

3) Update from Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce (Chamber Director Claudia

Thornton)

New Chamber Executive Director Claudia Thornton read their Mission Statement and talked about the recent Board meeting as well as staff and member activities. She then reviewed activities at the Chamber, starting with a recap of 2023 events and anticipated activities in 2024.

President Senak stated he sincerely appreciates the Chamber's efforts and much like the Alliance, the Chamber's activities help the Village enjoy an economic base that a lot of communities do not have which benefits all its residents.

- 4) Community Relations Commission Statement Denouncing Religious Intolerance (CRC Chair Sania Irwin)

This was covered during Audience Participation.

F. Employee Recognition

- 1) Letter of appreciation from Oakbrook Terrace Police Department to Glen Ellyn Police Department

President Senak read a letter of appreciation from Oakbrook Terrace Police Department, expressing their deepest gratitude and appreciation for the outstanding response and assistance provided by Village officers during the recent active shooter incident at the Hilton Hotel and Drury Lane. President Senak sked for a round of applause and thanked the department as well.

G. Consent Agenda - The following items are considered routine business by the Village Board and will be approved in a single vote in the form listed below:

RESULTS:	APPROVED [5 to 0]
MOVER:	Trustee Kalinich [Items 1 (as amended) – 4; Item 6]
SECONDER:	Trustee Thompson
AYES:	Kalinich, Thompson, Fasules, Gould, Simon
NAYS:	

- 1) Village Board November 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Kalinich requested a minor revision to the minutes to include Trustee Fasules in a comment regarding the Central Business District construction impact grants.

- 2) Motion to Approve a Central Business District (CBD) Construction Impact Grant

to Marcel's Culinary Experience for \$6,000 and Marche for \$4,500 to be expensed to the Economic Development/ Marketing Account (Economic Development Coordinator Hannah)

- 3) Motion to Approve Ordinance 7083, an Ordinance Directing the Abatement of Ad

President Senak thanked the Board for their efforts on behalf of Village residents, pointing out that Agenda Item Three reduces the tax rate for the upcoming year from 5.5% to 2.1%. He added that the Board has worked on this project with staff, collectively coming to this solution which he could not endorse more wholeheartedly.

President Senak wanted to be sure to recognize the hard work put in to make this happen. He added that he also wanted to let residents know that the Board really does care about their taxes and is determined to continue to provide services residents want with the least costly effort.

- 4) Motion to Approve Resolution 24-04, a Resolution to Endorse the Legislative Action Program of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference for the 2024 Legislative Session (Village Manager Franz)
- 5) Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-03, a Resolution to Determine the Status of Certain Executive Sessions Held in 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023 and to Authorize the Destruction of Minutes, Audio or Video Recordings of Certain Executive Sessions Held in 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2021 (Attorney Mathews)

RESULTS:	APPROVED [5 to 0] AS AMENDED
MOVER:	Trustee Fasules
SECONDER:	Trustee Kalinich
AYES:	Fasules, Kalinich, Gould, Simon, Thompson
NAYS:	

Attorney Mathews clarified that the minutes of the closed executive sessions will not be destroyed, only the tapes or recordings that were made of those meetings if conducted over 18 months ago. President Senak added that anyone interested in reviewing the minutes contact Attorney Matthews who will guide them in that effort.

The motion was amended to reflect the clarification from Attorney Matthews.

- 6) Motion to Authorize the Village Manager to Execute the Agreement between the Village of Glen Ellyn and the Alliance of Downtown Glen Ellyn for Calendar Year 2024 (Manager Franz)

H. Other Business

I. Reminders

- 1) Village Board Meeting, Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7 pm
- 2) Village Board Workshop, Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7 pm
- 3) Village Board Meeting, Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7 pm

Trustee Gould asked to include a reminder about The League of Women Voters meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, at 7 p.m. at the Police Department's Community room.

J. Adjourn – 8:10 P.M.

Mover: Trustee Thompson; Second: Trustee Gould. Unanimous vote to adjourn to Closed Executive Session.

- 1) Motion to adjourn to closed executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, and also pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(6) for the purpose of discussing the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body without returning to open session thereafter.