



Town of Cortland

Board of Trustees Town Board Meeting

Town Hall, 59 S. Somonauk Road Cortland, IL 60112

June 09, 2025

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / ROLL CALL

Mayor Pietrowski called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called showing as present Trustees Stone, Fioretto, Haier, Olson, Siewierski and Olson. Shown as absent was Trustee Corson. Quorum was present. Also present were Police Chief Lin Dargis, and Attorney Kevin Buick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Haier moved and Trustee Siewierski seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

PUBLIC WISHING TO SPEAK

David Pehlke addressed the board with his opinion of how chickens would make Cortland a better place. He stated they are a reliable source of food, coops become rodent traps, deter predators with spikes in the ground. They produce fertilizer; 80% of food waste can be consumed; each hen lays one to two eggs per day which could be shared with neighbors. They create health benefits by keeping people active. Health concerns were addressed, histoplasmosis, a lung disease, is not transmitted directly, the spores are airborne. It is unlikely that would happen with chickens. Do people want chickens? He has on-line signatures as well as paper signatures of approximately 100 people. He stated that the Board's job is not to insert their opinion on the subject but determine what is best for the town as a whole.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes of May 12, 2025

Trustee Stone moved to approve the minutes of May 12, 2025, as presented, seconded by Trustee Fioretto.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

2. Annual Appointment of Town of Cortland Police Chief

Consider a Motion to Confirm Mayor's Appointment of Linus Dargis as Police Chief in accordance with Title 1 of the Town Code and Town of Cortland Personnel Policy Handbook. This is an annual appointment.

Trustee Siewierski moved to accept the appointment of Linus Dargis as Police Chief in accordance with Title 1 of the Town Code and Town of Cortland Personnel Policy Handbook, seconded by Trustee Olson.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

3. Annual Appointment of Town of Cortland Zoning Administrator

Motion to Confirm Mayor's Appointment of Brandy Williams as Zoning Administrator in accordance with Title 1 of the Town Code and Personnel Handbook. This is an annual appointment.

Trustee Fioretto moved to accept the appointment of Brandy Williams as Zoning Administrator in accordance with Title 1 of the Town Code and Personnel Handbook, seconded by Trustee Siewierski.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried

4. Appointment of Town Attorney and as Open Meeting Act (OMA) Officer

Motion to Confirm Mayor's Appointment of Kevin Buick of Foster & Buick Law Firm as Town Attorney and as OMA Officer of the Town of Cortland. This appointment follows the term of the Mayor.

Trustee Siewierki moved to accept the appointment of Kevin Buick of Foster & Buick Law Firm as Town Attorney and as OMA Officer of the Town of Cortland, seconded by Trustee Haier.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

5. Contract CivicPlus-(Municode) Annual Rate for Supplements Consider a motion to ratify the Mayor's signature. *(This contract, effective June 1, 2025, changes the Town rate from \$18 per page to \$1,000 per year. There remains additional charges for special graphs and tables.)* The first year of the contract is a 50% discount.

Trustee Olson moved to ratify the Mayor's signature for Contract - CivicPlus-(Municode) Annual Rate for Supplements, seconded by Trustee Fioretto.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion Carried

C2025-07

6. Spruce Street Sidewalk Contract

Consider a motion to authorize Mayor to execute contract with Wm. Olsen & Sons for approximately 595 feet of sidewalk along Spruce Street in the amount of \$24,900, funded by Capital Outlay account 01-6300-811. *(This sidewalk would connect at the ramp at Carol Avenue to the stub north of Pine Avenue. The work will coincide with the repaving of North Spruce Street and West Amber Avenue.)*

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Haier seconded a motion to authorize Mayor to execute contract with Wm. Olsen & Sons for approximately 595 feet of sidewalk along Spruce Street in the amount of \$24,900, funded by Capital Outlay account 01-6300-

811.

Roll call vote:

Voting Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

C2025-08

- 7. Xerox Business Solutions Lease and Service Agreement** *(This lease and service agreement would cost \$168.32 per month, excluding tax and overage on maximum copy amounts. This is a 5-year term, replacing expiring lease of July 2025. Anticipated installation would be mid to late July, if approved.) The expiring lease and service agreement was \$222.71 per month and was also a 5-year term.)* Consider a motion to approve the Xerox Lease and Service Agreement for a term of 5-years

Trustee Siewierski moved to approve the Xerox Lease and Service Agreement for a term of 5-years, seconded by Trustee Fioretto.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

C2025-09

- 8. Trail Maintenance and Jurisdiction Agreement** *(The joint funding agreement requires the Town to acknowledge jurisdiction of the applicable trail segments and to confirm the Town will be responsible for the maintenance of same trails.)* Consider a motion for Town Board approval and authorization of Mayor's signature on schedule 6 Maintenance and Jurisdiction of the County Resolution of Joint Funding Agreement

Trustee Siewierski moved to approve and authorize the Mayor's signature on schedule 6 Maintenance and Jurisdiction of the County Resolution of Joint Funding Agreement R2025-057, seconded by Trustee Olson.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

R2025-02

- 9. DCEO Stormwater Management Grant Agreement 25-203549 - Hetchler Park Detention in the amount of \$56,250** *(This grant will cover costs associated with Equipment/Material/Labor and Excavation/Site Prep/Demo (Exhibit A, page 24)* Consider a motion to ratify the Mayor's signature of May 28, 2025.

Trustee Siewierski moved to ratify the Mayor's signature of May 28, 2025, for DCEO Stormwater Management Grant Agreement 25-203549 - Hetchler Park Detention in the amount of \$56,250, seconded by Trustee Olson.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

G2025-01

- 10. DCEO Reconstruction Grant Agreement 25-203550 - Hetchler Park Detention in the amount of \$18,750** *(This grant will cover costs associated with Equipment/Material/Labor and Excavation/Site Prep/Demo (Exhibit A, page 24)* Consider a motion to ratify the Mayor's signature of May 28, 2025.

Trustee Haier moved to ratify the Mayor's signature of May 28, 2025, for DCEO Reconstruction Grant Agreement 25-203550 - Hetchler Park Detention in the amount of \$18,750, seconded by Trustee Olson.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

G2025-02

11. Cortland Lions Club Special Event Liquor License Fee Waiver

Consider a motion to waive the \$100 Class E Liquor License Fee: Title 3, Chapter 9, Section 14-5-c for the Cortland Lions Club SummerFest. *This is a consideration for a local service club. (The Class E License is a temporary license.)*

Trustee Stone moved to waive the \$100 Class E Liquor License Fee: Title 3, Chapter 9, Section 14-5-c for the Cortland Lions Club SummerFest, seconded by Trustee Siewierski.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

12. Cortland Lions Club Application for Variance of Town Code; Noise

Consider a motion to approve the Cortland Lions Club Application for Variance of Town Code Title 5, Chapter 4, Section 5-4-4 Exemptions D Community Events to add night hours until 12 a.m. Sections 5-4-2 A & B for August 9 & 10, 2025

Trustee Stone moved to approve the Cortland Lions Club Application for Variance of Town Code Title 5, Chapter 4, Section 5-4-4 Exemptions D Community Events to add night hours until 12 a.m. Sections 5-4-2 A & B for August 9 & 10, 2025, seconded by Trustee Haier.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion Carried

M2025-03

13. Welcome to Cortland Sign Slogan Contest

Consider a motion to approve one of the submitted slogans to be added to the new Welcome to Cortland Signs

Slogan finalists:

"An Apple of a Town with a Friendly Core"

"Embracing the Past, Building the Future"

"Discover the Joy of Small Town Living"

"A Place to call Home"

"On the right track since 1865"

After discussion among the trustees a motion by Trustee Haier was made for "Embracing the Past, Building the Future", seconded by Trustee Olson.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson, Haier

Nay: None

Absent: Trustee Corson Motion carried.

14. Discussion only - Proposed Ordinance to Amend Town Code to Allow Chickens

Mayor Pietrowski stated that this example is heavily based on the Yorkville model. There was discussion regarding regulation that states, in addition to the 30' from a dwelling, 10' from a property line. How the structures are to be built, where are pigs going to live, what type of pig, why religious reasons, enforcement, when and how. Fines and fees. Double fencing requirement was discussed as proposed.

15. Robinson Farm TIF Development Agreement Review

Consideration to authorize Mayor to engage TIF Counsel to review possible removal or alteration of Affordable Housing requirements on Robinson Farm lots

Trustee Stone moved to authorize the Mayor to engage the TIF attorney (Jacob & Klein LTD) regarding the process to change a Worthington Properties Robinson Farm Development Agreement which may remove 'Affordable Housing' language. The motion was seconded by Trustee Olson.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Fioretto, Olson

Nay: Trustee Haier

Absent: Trustee Corson. 4-yea, 1-nay; 1-absent, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

16. US Solar Floating Commercial Subscription Agreement *(This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions of a subscription to the community solar garden described in Exhibit B ("Project") and installed project site as described Exhibit B ("Project Site") in the document. This is a 20-year term Agreement.)*

Consider a motion to approve US Solar Floating Commercial Subscription Agreement

Shawn Ajazi, Progressive Business Solutions - Community Solar Subscription Program addressed the Board. He presented to the table a memorandum summarizing the agreement before the Board. November 25, 2024, the Board motioned to approve a Resolution for Community Solar Participation; Resolution 2024-13. The document before the Board this evening is the Subscription Agreement. This Agreement covers the Town facilities and charges/credits will appear on the ComEd bill. Currently Oregon and Prophetstown are the US Solar fields coming on-line. The Agreement does not negate the Town creating its own solar field.

Trustee Stone moved to approve the US Solar Floating Commercial Subscription Agreement, a 20-year term, seconded by Trustee Siewierski.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustees Stone, Siewierski, Olson, Haier

Nay: Trustee Fioretto

Absent: Trustee Corson 4-yea; 1-nay; 1-absent, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

17. Annual Police Report 2024

Chief Dargis reviewed the Annual Police Report with those present.

Mayor Pietrowski stated that the layout for the new police station is being worked on with an anticipated completion of spring 2026. He also stated that Trustee Siewierski has been named the Board liaison for this project.

18. April Public Works Report

There were no questions regarding the April Public Works report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pietrowski noted that Touch-a-Truck would be held on Saturday the 14th at Cortland Community Park.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Siewierski seconded a motion for adjournment. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Aldis
Town Clerk