



## **Town of Cortland**

### **Board of Trustees Town Board Meeting**

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

November 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM

#### **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. Clerk Cheryl Aldis called the roll showing as present: Mayor Mark Pietrowski, Trustees Charmaine Fioretto, Randi Olsen and Jim Walker. Shown as absent were Trustees Brad Stone, Mike Siewierski, and Doug Corson. Quorum was present with the Mayor. Also present were Public Works Director, Joel Summerhill, Engineer & Zoning Administrator Brandy Williams, Police Chief Lin Dargis, Attorney Kevin Buick and bookkeepers Julie Wons and Wes Levy of Lauterbach & Amen.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Walker moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Trustee Olson. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

#### **PUBLIC WISHING TO SPEAK**

There was no public wishing to speak.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Town Board Minutes of October 23, 2023

Clerk Aldis read the consent agenda into the record. Approval of Town Board minutes of October 23, 2023.

Trustee Fioretto moved to approve the consent agenda as read, seconded by Trustee Olson.

Voting Yea: Trustee Walker, Trustee Fioretto, Trustee Olson, Mayor Pietrowski

Absent: Trustees Corson, Stone, and Siewierski

Roll call vote carried the motion.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

2. Consideration of a motion to approve purchase of two solar light pole units from Fonroche Lighting America in the amount of \$12,361 (Capital Outlay, line item 01-6100-811)

Trustee Fioretto moved to consider a motion to approve purchase of two solar light pole units from Fonroche Lighting America in the amount of \$12,361 (Capital Outlay, line item 01-6100-811), seconded by Trustee Olson. During discussion it was noted that information regarding the alternative light presented at the last meeting has been received as of today. It has not been able to be compared at this point and the mayor asked for consideration to postpone to a date certain for further study. Trustee Fioretto moved to amend her motion to defer consideration to January 22, 2024, seconded by Trustee Olson.

Voting Yea: Trustee Walker, Trustee Fioretto, Trustee Olson, Mayor Pietrowski  
Absent: Trustees Corson, Siewierski and Stone.  
Roll call vote carried the motion.

3. Discussion of Town and Cortland Community Library Combined Tax Levy - Truth in Taxation Hearing (*35 ILCS 200/18-55*)

Ms. Wons reviewed the proposed tax levy with the Board. She stated that the document before them is the same as October with the exception of updating the SSA numbers that were not then available. The proposed town levy is 6.00% and the proposed library levy is 6.53%, overall combined increase is 6.14% which creates the need for a Truth in Taxation public hearing. The hearing is scheduled to be held on Monday, December 11, 2023. The proposed rates are established to capture the new construction growth. It is unlikely that the town would receive the full request once the extensions are completed in the spring.

**NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

4. Consideration of approval of employee Health, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance renewals for 2024

Trustee Corson arrived at 7:21 p.m.

Ms. Wons presented the health insurances recommendations for Board consideration. She stated the need to look for other health insurance at this time because Humana has stopped servicing this type of policy. Humana is now focusing on Medicaid and Medicare policies.

The health insurance proposal is for Blue Cross-Blue Shield. The overall rate is a decrease of 3% in the proposal vs. the current policy. There are two tiers of medical service that the individual may choose from. The employee tier choice sets the deductible amount. There are coinsurance amounts and a higher deductible than previously. The emergency room deductible and/or use of an ambulance are eligible expenses under the HRA.

The current carrier for vision insurance is Humana and that is proposed to be kept with a 6% premium increase.

The current carrier for dental insurance is SunLife and that is proposed to be kept with no premium increase.

The current carrier for Life and AD&D is Principle and that is proposed to be kept with no premium increase. Envision is the proposed company for administering the HRA. That is not an item for approval at this time but, will be on the agenda for the December 11 meeting.

Trustee Olson moved, seconded by Trustee Fioretto to approve the following health insurances for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2024:

Blue Cross-Blue Shield for general health, based upon current census \$171,405 annual premium; Humana for Vision, based upon current census \$1,745 annual premium; SunLife for Dental, based upon current census \$6,464 annual premium; Principal for Life and AD&D, based upon current census \$3,136 annual premium.

Voting Yea: Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, Trustee Olson  
Absent: Trustees Stone and Siewierski.

Roll call vote carried the motion.

5. Approval of 2024 Dates of Town Board, Planning Commission & Parks Advisory Committee (5 ILCS 120/2.02a)

The meeting dates for 2024 were presented. It was noted that all meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. at 59 S Somonauk Rd, Cortland, IL, unless otherwise published. The Parks Advisory meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

Trustee Walker moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion to approve the dates as presented with the inclusion of the 6:30 p.m. meeting time for Parks Advisory Committee.

Voting Yea: Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, Trustee Olson

Absent: Trustees Stone and Siewierski.

Roll call vote carried the motion.

6. Consider Mayor's appointment of Curtis Kouba to Parks Advisory Committee, term to expire April 2025

Trustee Corson moved and Trustee Fioretto seconded a motion to appoint Curtis Kouba to the Parks Advisory Committee, term to expire April 2025. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Mr. Kouba was present for the appointment.

## **PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Fioretto reported that the committee has been meeting during the summer at the individual parks. Ideas have been generated with clarifications from engineering and public works. There is no official recommendation as yet for the Board.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

There were no questions or comments for the department heads.

7. Public Works Report, October 2023

There were no questions regarding the monthly report. Mr. Summerhill reported that the holiday lights are being installed. The tree will be installed and the new archway will also be installed. These will be placed in the courtyard.

8. Engineerg/Zoning Report - November 2023

There were no questions regarding the monthly report.

9. Police Department Report - October 2023

There were no questions regarding the monthly report.

10. Building Permits - October 2023

There were no questions regarding the building permit report.

## **COMMENTS**

Trustee Corson reminded the Board of the DeKalb Community Gardens food pantry for Tuesday, November 14 from 3-5 p.m. He stated if anyone had time to help it would be appreciated.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Pietrowski stated that his Trunk or Treat event was nicely received, good comments and enjoyable. He stated that holiday decorations are beginning to be placed. Mr. Summerhill

stated the Christmas tree would arrive at some point next week. They will set the tree and let it fall out for a time before placing lights.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct a motion for adjournment was entered by Trustee Corson and seconded by Trustee Walker. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Aldis, Town Clerk