

September 19, 2023

**State of Illinois
County of Cook
Village of Stickney**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Stickney met in regular session on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 7:08 p.m. in the boardroom located at 6533 W. Pershing Road, Stickney, Illinois.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustees were present:
Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa**

At this point, Trustee Torres asked the Mayor if she could take the floor before he started the meeting. She then proceeded to proclaim that this is Mayor Jeff Walik Day in the Village of Stickney and read the following:

**PROCLAMATION
IN APPRECIATION TO
Mayor Jeff Walik**

WHEREAS Jeff Walik is honored today by his family, friends, employees, and community; and

WHEREAS Jeff Walik has been a lifelong resident of the Village of Stickney; and

WHEREAS Jeff Walik served on the Stickney Police Department as an Auxiliary Police Officer, on May 2, 1987 and became a sworn Full Time Police Officer on November 1, 1993, and retired in January, 2008; and

WHEREAS Jeff Walik served as a Village Trustee from September 1, 2009 to October 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS Jeff Walik was elected Mayor of the Village of Stickney in 2017 and is now in his second term; and

WHEREAS Jeff Walik, we thank you for everything you have done and continue to do for the Village of Stickney, its residents, employees, friends, and family. You go above and beyond to help our seniors with all the senior programs that you offer. You are devoted to the families of this town, the schools and school children, churches, and other organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Officials of the Village of Stickney do hereby proclaim September 19th, 2023, as Mayor Jeff Walik Day in the Village of Stickney for your dedicated service and a staple in our community.

Dated this 19th day of September, 2023

Trustee Torres then continued to read the following:

VILLAGE OF STICKNEY

The Members of the Board of the Village of Stickney hereby wish to recognize

Jeff Walik, Mayor of the Village of Stickney

We honor and very much appreciate you and all that you have done.

You represent the people of this Village with integrity and honor and promote our town as a great place to live and work. You are a true leader. You have accomplished so much and your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. We know your journey isn't over yet and we look forward to working by your side to support you.

We therefore wish to present you with this certificate of recognition for your loyalty and commitment to this Village and its residents.

At this point the Mayor progressed through the crowd and shook each hand and thanked each person. He addressed the crowd and said that he was truly surprised. He said that he is going to continue to do what he does. I don't know if I have any more room in my office for these plaques. I couldn't do this without you.....all the department heads. I do this because I treat all the seniors the way I would like my Mom and Dad to be treated if they were here. I want our kids to grow up in a great

community like I did. Someday, if God makes me leave, there will be someone younger moving into this position. I do it for the kids. I do it for people our age. Family Day had the best band we ever had, the biggest crowd, a beautiful day, and the best fireworks we ever had. Sometimes we can't beat the things we do for the next year. He thanked everyone who put this together. I am going to laugh and joke some more but the job is going to get done. I cannot do this without this great Board and Department Heads. Look around the room. Everybody that is here has helped us. All these faces have volunteered and helped us. I don't know what else to say. Come back in two weeks and I'll have more to say. He then pointed out the Board members by name for doing this. Several people in attendance were singled out. A strong message was given for support of law enforcement. He thanked everyone again.

The Board meeting continued.

Trustee Milenkovic moved, duly seconded by Trustee Kapolnek to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Upon the roll call, the following Trustee voted:

Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres and Hrejsa
Mayor Walik declared the motion carried.

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos that the bills, approved by the various committees of the Board, be approved for payment, and to approve warrants which authorize the Village Treasurer to draw checks to pay the bills, to be signed by the authorized signers, as provided for by the Ordinances of the Village of Stickney.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustee voted:

Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa
Mayor Walik declared the motion carried.

Trustee Torres moved, duly seconded by Trustee Hrejsa to Pass and Approve Ordinance 2023-18, "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Section 14-154 and 14-157 of the Municipal Code, Village of Stickney, Illinois Regarding Parking on 41st Street."

Upon the roll call, the following Trustee voted:

Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa
Mayor Walik declared the motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor thanked everyone for coming out for himself.

CLERK'S REPORT: The clerk said that she does enjoy working with the Mayor. When she was sitting in the back row attending the board meetings, that's when we became acquainted. I was part of his life in one way shape or form. I appreciate everything he has done for me especially when I was sick. You were really there for me, and my family and I appreciate it. And I put out a request for the Wiernmobile to come back next year. It was so much fun.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Hrejsa: The Haunted Hayride is coming up on October 21, 2023, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at 43rd and Ridgeland. We are still looking for volunteers. You can contact him or Linda in the front office. Congratulations were extended to the Mayor.

Trustee Kapolnek: He told the Mayor, "You're the best". You help people out throughout this Village. I have never seen anyone do as much as you do. When Forest View flooded, you were out there in a rowboat rescuing people. "You're the best".

Trustee Torres: I couldn't have done this without all the help from Beth, Chief Sassetti and Chief Boyajian. We have cake and cookies available after the meeting. She personally told him that he had made her life wonderful. When her husband died he was so good to me. He trained her 30 years ago when she started in the police department. The Mayor explained that we didn't have too many female police officers at that time. Occasionally they would have to call her out at 3:00 a.m. when they would arrest a woman.

Trustee Milenkovic: He thanked and congratulated the Mayor on this recognition.

Trustee Savopoulos: He thanked Mayor Jeff Walik for his friendship and leadership, and said he is honored and proud to serve on this Board under his leadership.

Trustee White: He thanked Jeff Walik for everything he has done for all of us. And I would like to thank Jeff Walik my friend.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief Jeff Boyajian: He thanked the Mayor for all he has done for the residents and for the men and women of the fire department.

Police Chief James Sassetti: Our gratitude from the police department to you is overwhelming as you can see by this strong showing of the majority of off-duty police officers that came here tonight when they heard that you were getting this award. On behalf of all the men and women of the Stickney Police Department we congratulate you on your award and thank your unwavering loyalty, support for the police department and we are grateful for everything you do for the Village and the police department. Also, he gave a FEMA report pursuant to the flood. There were 92 households who submitted applications for a total of \$208,119.00 that FEMA has given Stickney residents pursuant to the July 2nd flood. Again, that is reflective upon you when that flood occurred we jump through many a hoop that IEMA, FEMA and Cook County created for us. Due to your leadership and hard work 92 households were able to get financial relief for the flooding damage they suffered back then. On behalf of these residents, I thank you. I am sure they would thank you also.

Public Works Supervisor Joe Lopez: He congratulated the Mayor.

Finance Director David Gonzalez: He congratulated the Mayor and felt it is warranted.

The Mayor again spoke about how he is here for the police and fire. Our attorney, Jessica Fese, knows, and we talk about it all the time of the support I give these guys every day. We give them awards. I support all of them. He pointed out four of our police officers that he personally worked with. He thanked them all. He said he supports the police, fire, seniors, for our kids and I love this Board for all their support. There is never an argument amongst this Board. There is no one here with their own agenda. When Trustee Kapolnek suggested a flashing stop sign because it was in a park zone. He got it. That is public safety. Even our newcomer Jim. Our great department heads were pointed out.

There being no further business, Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos that the meeting be adjourned. Upon which the Board adopted the motion. The motion carried on this honorary Mayor Jeff Walik Day adopted the motion at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey McAdams, Village Clerk

Approved by me this 3rd of October, 2023

Jeff Walik, President