

November 7, 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, November 7, 2023, at 7:09 p.m. in the Board Room, 6533 W. Pershing Road, Stickney, Illinois.

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

Trustee Milenkovic moved, duly seconded by Trustee Kapolnek to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:
Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa
Nays: None
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 Trustees voted:
Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa
Nays: None
Mayor Walik declared the motion carried.**

Trustee Savopoulos moved, duly seconded by Trustee White to accept the Determination of Amount of Money Estimated to be Necessary to be Raised by Taxation for the Year of 2023 (Collected in 2024) Upon the Taxable Property in the Village of Stickney

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:
Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa
Nays: None
Mayor Walik declared the motion carried.**

Prior to the vote, Finance Director David Gonzalez explained the Tentative 2023 Tax Levy. The Village is required to approve an estimate (tentative) of the 2023 tax levy at least 20 days in advance of passing the final levy. He informed us that in Attachment 1, the final extended levy for 2022 was \$3,782,427. In Attachment 2, is the EAV for 2022. There was a slight increase of 1%, but the assessment for Stickney Township is in 2023 and will see that really spike up for next year. The EAV is estimated to be up 57% for next year. That is going to decrease our tax rate. In Attachment 3, it shows the Tax levy collections history for the last 6 years. The Village has been collecting at a rate of 95.0% of the levy. Therefore, there should be no reason to increase taxes. Attachment 4, shows the last three years as well. What we are proposing for the 2023 tax levy is to keep it flat. For Corporate purposes

would be for \$2,826,142. This is the exact amount from the 2022 levy. It would be a flat at a 0% increase. If you go back to 2021 it is the same amount. If you go back to 2020 it is the same amount. This will be the fourth year that there is no increase in the tax levy. What we are proposing is that there should be sufficient money in the General Fund. We don't want to be raising the levy at a time when the EAV can spike up above 50% next year where it could shift a lot of that levy to residential.....it could go to commercial. It is really up for grabs for next year. There are a lot of issues. This is the time to keep the tax levy flat. If the EAV goes up on certain people and they pay more, it is not because the Village has raised the levy.

This is the tentative. There will be more discussion between the Mayor and the Trustees. In December we will vote on the actual one. This will be up for display for the general public.

There were no comments made by the Board.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor announced that the Halloween Hayride was very successful. The rain and cold didn't stop the fun. He thanked Trustee Hrejsa and Torres for stepping up and putting it together. Last year we had 555 rides. This year there were 770 rides. He thanked the police, fire and public works for setting it up and taking it down plus cleaning and driving the kids around. It was a great time for all without any problems. He personally didn't see people leaving, they just kept coming in. In addition, he reminded people to attend the Veterans Day ceremony this Saturday, at 11:00 a.m. It is located at 39th and Ridgeland. After the program there will be a lite lunch held at the fire house due to the weather. Joe Lopez will be cooking.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Hrejsa: He remarked that the Haunted Hayride was amazing. He extended heartfelt gratitude to all those who helped out. On Thursday, November 16, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. the Berwyn Masonic Lodge will be conducting a blood drive. It will be at the Cicero Town Hall .

Trustee Torres: She thanked everyone that helped with the Pumpkin Patch. We had over 300 pumpkins. And, we got rid of the 300 pumpkins. The kids had so much fun picking out their favorite pumpkins. Each kid got a bag of candy as well. There was cotton candy, hot dogs and popcorn. She thanked Public Works Director Joe Lopez and his crew. They did hot chocolate as well. The bonfire was the best ever it could be seen for miles. There were over 1000 people in attendance.

Trustee White: He reminded everyone that the National Veteran Day holiday is on Friday. The Village Hall and Public Works will be off on Friday. Also, we are hoping that our streets will be paved tomorrow or the next day. The leaf program has started. It is recommended that the leaves be placed on the curbs.

Trustee Milenkovic: We started our Operation Support Our Troops program. There is a bin in the front lobby. Examples of the acceptable items to donate were given. After a month or so, we take it to a warehouse where it is packaged up to be shipped around the world to the troops. The Mayor actually started this program many years ago and therefore, he asked the Trustee to continue it. The report from the 2023 Tree Board was given. The 2023 Tree Lottery planted 13 trees. There were 4 residents requesting a tree. In addition, we added in another two residents for a total of 6 residents receiving a tree. A list of the types of trees will be available upon request. The Trustee reported on the Midway Noise Compatibility Commission. The average daily

operations were 666. The average nighttime operations were 99. The most popular airplane is the Boeing 737, with 453 operations out of the 666. Southwest Airline has 452 operations out of the 666. During the 3rd quarter of 2023, our noise level was 54 decibels. There were no noise complaints from Stickney during the 3rd quarter of 2023. The scheduled meetings for 2024 were given. The location is The Mayfield, 6072 South Archer, Chicago.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief Jeff Boyajian: October was Fire Prevention Month. We visited the two schools and all the preschools including the center at the Clinic. We held a poster contest for each school.

Deputy Police Chief Jerry Chlada Jr: He reported that the Stickney Police Department issued a total of 10 citations during their Halloween Traffic Enforcement Safety Detail.

Public Works Director Joe Lopez: The leaf program started this week. We have the leaf machine out there. We also use our bobcat and garbage truck to do all our east and west streets as well. We will keep this up until all our leaves fall off or until the weather doesn't permit. He hoped that would continue into December to allow them to take care of all the leaves. In addition, he mentioned that he spoke to the Village engineer this afternoon and learned that hopefully the paving would occur later this week. A resident in the audience complained about the length of the time it has taken.

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 at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Lukas, Deputy Village Clerk

Approved by me this 21st day of November 2023

Jeff Walik, President