

November 21, 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 15, 2023, at 7:05 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**

Trustee Savopoulos moved, duly seconded by Trustee White to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on Tuesday, November 5, 2023.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustee voted:
Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres Kapolnek 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 grant the request to hire two (2) Probationary Police Officers.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustee voted:
Ayes: Trustees White, Savopoulos, Milenkovic, Torres, Kapolnek and Hrejsa
Mayor Walik declared the motion carried.**

Trustee Kapolnek moved, duly seconded by Trustee Milenkovic to Approve Resolution 17-2023, "A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Maintenance Engineering Services Agreement by and Between Frank Novotny & Associates, Inc. and 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 Milenkovic moved, duly seconded by Trustee Kapolnek to Approve Resolution 18-2023, "A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Appropriated Sum of \$44,750.00 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the Purpose of Maintaining Streets and Highways Under the Applicable Provisions of Illinois Highway Code from 05/01/23 to 04/30/24."

Upon the roll call, the following Trustee voted:

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

Prior to the vote, Village Attorney Jessica Fese explained that this resolution approves the purchase of salt for the roadways for the winter. The cost has been increasing.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor thanked everyone for being here. He wished the people a Happy Thanksgiving. A thank you was extended to all the volunteers. We will have dinner for them in February. He proceeded with a special recognition to our crossing guard Sandy Lavato. She was pictured in our latest newsletter. She does an amazing job. He received a call from Kathy who actually dives through Stickney from Chicago where she lives. She teaches in public schools. Because Central Avenue is under construction, she now has to travel through Stickney to get to Harlem. When she is at 41st and Oak Park there is Sandy waving at all the cars. It makes your day. Kathy decided to make the call to recognize this crossing guard and how wonderful she is. Sandy is waving at everybody. The Mayor asked the driver, Kathy, to come to a board meeting and tell her story when he was going to recognize the Crossing Guard Sandy.

The Mayor told us about a circumstance where he saw Sandy give an elderly gentleman a hug after a brief conversation.

Sandy Lavato was asked to stand while the Mayor read the following honorable mention to her: "In recognition to your unwavering dedication going above and beyond as our crossing guard weathering the elements.....cold, rain snow, heat....whatever it takes. Your pleasant demeanor of waving and smiling at those that pass by on their way to work or school. Thank you again, Sandy. You are such a great motivation to the Village of Stickney. We are proud to have you as one of our employees. Signed, Jeff Walik, Mayor, Village of Stickney."

Deputy Police Chief Figueroa informed us that of all the crossing guards that he has hired over the years, Sandy is by far one of the best.

Sandy addressed the audience and told us that she tries to be there every day. She told us that her husband surprised her with a trip. She told him to change it because she had to take care of the kids. But we are going to Florida for the Bears game and the reservations were made. She tried to negotiate meeting him out there. None the less, she had to take off. I do this from the bottom of my heart, she said. That it makes her so happy when people tell her it makes them smile. A smile or a wave could make someone feel better. That is what the world is all about. She extended her thanks.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk said that Sandy is a Stickney ambassador and thanked her. The clerk then explained that last Friday she attended the Koppers Inc. Community Advisory Panel Meeting. There were a few of us in attendance. These meetings will be held quarterly at the YMCA. What they are trying to do is let people know in the community as much as possible about Koppers as there is to know. They invited us along with 20 other community leaders. There will be homework in order to learn about chemicals. I actually attended one of these meetings in November 2009 when I was a brand-new clerk. It is now being facilitated by a woman who has a business of organizing groups to bring information. I will continue to report on this.

TRUSTEE REPORTS: All the trustees congratulated Sandy and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Trustee Hrejsa: He thanked all our volunteers.

Trustee Kapolnek: He thanked Chief Boyajian, Sam Alanzo, Public Works for helping pick up the frozen turkeys for Saint Pius Church. They received 14 turkeys from Jewel.

Trustee Torres: We will be having the Senior Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 9 along with the Children's Christmas party at the Stickney North Clinic. There are flyers in the lobby. It is for Stickney residents only. There will be Pet Photos With Santa on December 16 at 1:00. She thanked Ed Dabrowski for taking pictures at all our events.

Trustee Milenkovic: He thanked Sandy and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Trustee Savopoulos: He wanted to say that he is thankful for all his friends and family and Sandy.

Trustee White: He appreciates Sandy's greetings on the corner. He wanted people to have a safe Thanksgiving. The garbage pick up is delayed one day this week.

The Mayor thanked all the first responders for attending the meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works Sam Alanzo: The leaves will continue to be picked up until the beginning of December. The crosswalk striping was done this week.

Fire Chief Jeff Boyajian: The Chief acknowledged Sandy for her warm greetings. He warned people to not cook their turkeys in a deep fryer indoors.

Police Chief James Sasseti: The Chief told us he also gets calls from people concerning Sandy. He warned people that street sweeping is still in effect. He asked that people respect the signs. He wished all a Happy Thanksgiving and to have an enjoyable holiday with friends and loved ones.

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 to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey McAdams, Village Clerk

Approved by me this 5th of December, 2023

Jeff Walik, President