

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GURNEE VILLAGE BOARD**

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
APRIL 17, 2017**

Call to Order	Mayor Kovarik called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Other Officials in Attendance	Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; David Ziegler, Assistant Village Administrator/Community Development Director; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; Scott Drabicki, Village Engineer; Brian Gosnell, Finance Director; Christine Palmieri, Director of Human Resources; Fred Friedl, Fire Chief; John Kavanagh, Deputy Fire Chief; Kevin Woodside, Police Chief; Sandra Campbell, Deputy Police Chief; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director, Jack Linehan, Assistant to the Administrator.
Roll Call	PRESENT: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson ABSENT: 0-None
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Kovarik led the Pledge of Allegiance.
<u>A. PUBLIC COMMENT</u>	
Lenny Petrovic 3712 Grove Avenue Gurnee, IL	<p>Mr. Petrovic asked for an update on the railroad construction 41 & 132.</p> <p>Mayor Kovarik said April 24th construction will start.</p> <p>Mr. Petrovic said he was here a couple months ago about cars parking to close to the road. He stated that twice he was almost hit because he can't see around cars parked close to the street. He asked if there is a law that states a car cannot be parked beyond lot line.</p> <p>Mr. Muetz said he did take a look at the situation and he could see clearly.</p> <p>Mr. Petrovic asked if anything has been done about the apparent car repair business being ran out of a house on Magnolia.</p> <p>Mr. Ziegler said the owners were cited for commercial vehicles being parked in the driveway but other than that everything we can see externally is within code.</p> <p>Mr. Petrovic asked about the Matco Tool truck that is there several times a month. He asked if surveillance cameras could be installed.</p> <p>Mayor Kovarik said he can't do that for a code enforcement issue but we will continue to monitor the situation.</p>
Jerry Shirley Gurnee Garden Ctr. 811 Waveland Ave Gurnee, IL	<p>Mr. Shirley said he has been doing business in Gurnee for 45 years and he is concerned this might be his last year. He said during the 2009 construction at 41 & 132 his business dropped by 60% and he has still not fully recovered. He understands the importance of the construction but would like to see it pushed out until the 1st week of June. He said 80% of his business is happens within 6 weeks. He asks the Village to consider putting up signs to not block</p> <p>Mayor Kovarik said we can reach out to the community through social media and post alternate routes to businesses that will be impacted. She said the Village will also look into additional signage that will help all East Grand establishments while this construction takes place.</p>
Carl Mazur 5359 Balsam Court Gurnee, IL	<p>Mr. Mazur said he has two comments to make. First, he has noticed as the weather gets warmer the number of panhandlers in the area has increased. He said he realizes that the homeless can be a problem but this isn't Chicago this is Gurnee. He said it is not a good impression and it turns people off. He would like to see the situation solved in a peaceful and positive way. Mr. Mazur's second concern is the closing of the Avalon restaurant. He said the rebuilding of the bridge on 132 killed the business and asked if there are any plans for the property.</p> <p>Mayor Kovarik said there has been some interest in the property but it</p>

Jerry Burkart
1638 Pinetree Drive
Gurnee, IL

needs updating and because it sits in a flood zone certain restrictions apply.

Mr. Burkhart said he is concerned about the new Bellewater Development on Dilleys Road. He says they will have somewhere around 40 air-conditioning units installed and a berm was promised to block the noise. He sees no evidence of a berm being constructed and wants to know if something has changed.

Mayor Kovarik said the plans have not changed and staff will make sure they follow the PUD agreement.

Mr. Burkhart said his second issue is the panhandlers in the area. He said he was driving around and saw six of them and believes this is getting out of control.

Mayor Kovarik suggest Mr. Burkhart attend the next Neighborhood Watch meeting held by the Police Department. She said this is a Police issue and they are very cognizant of the problem.

Jesus Paredes
1626 Pinetree Drive
Gurnee, IL

Mr. Paredes said he is also concerned about the Bellewater Development on Dilleys Road and wanted to know why the plans have changed.

Mayor Kovarik said nothing has changed and asked him to give his information to the Village Clerk and a copy of the PUD will be emailed to him.

Meg Brown
4301 New Haven
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Brown said she is also concerned about the panhandler issue in Gurnee. She said a guy was sleeping under the bridge at 41 and Grand. She understands it is a Police issue but wants to know what can be done.

Mayor Kovarik said there are ordinances and laws that are being enforced. She explained several scenarios that would require Police involvement.

Ms. Brown said she has noticed an increase and recently counted eight panhandlers and they make Gurnee look like trash and that's not right. She said this is totally wrong and a lot of people are unhappy.

Mayor Kovarik said if anyone ever feels threatened by a panhandler call 911.

**B. APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the removal of item number 5.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

**C. CONSENT
AGENDA /
OMNIBUS VOTE**

The Village Administrator read the consent agenda for an omnibus vote as follows:

1. Approval of minutes from the April 3, 2017 Public Hearing and Village Board meeting.
2. Approval of annual performance bonus of 6.2% for the Village Administrator.
3. Approval of Ord. 2017 - 18 authorizing execution of a new Employment Contract with the Village Administrator.
4. Approval Ord. 2017 - 19 amending the Third Amendment to Hotel Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement.

ITEM REMOVED 5. Approval of Ord. 2017 - authorizing an Administrative Service Agreement between ICMA-RC and the Village of Gurnee.

6. Approval of awarding the Fiscal Years 2018-2020 Sidewalk Mud

Jacking Project to the low bidder, Atlas Concrete Lifting, at a fiscal year unit cost of \$2.35 per square foot.

7. Approval of request to dispose of certain Police Department documents as authorized by the State of Illinois Local Records Commission.
8. Approval of Police Officer Derek Kay's request to participate in the Village's tuition assistance program in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Illinois - Springfield.
9. Approval of Payroll for period ending April 1, 2017 in the amount of \$749,081.72.
10. Approval of Payroll Transfer Journal for period ending April 1, 2017 in the amount of \$738,822.12.
11. Approval of Bills for the period ending April 17, 2017 in the amount of \$1,706,583.11.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve the Consent Agenda for an omnibus vote as read.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

D. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Approval of Proclamation designating April 28, 2017 as "Arbor Day" in the Village of Gurnee.

Mayor Kovarik read proclamation into record.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Proclamation designating April 28, 2017 as "Arbor Day" in the Village of Gurnee.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried

Mayor Kovarik said that there were no discussion topics on the agenda for the April 24th Committee of the Whole meeting and asked the Trustees if they would like to cancel the meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Hood to cancel the Committee of the Whole meeting for April 24, 2017.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

E. REPORTS

1. Presentation by Finance Director Brian Gosnell – Fiscal Year 16/17 Third Quarter financial performance.

Finance Director Gosnell presented 3rd quarter financial information through January 31, 2017. Director Gosnell noted:

- The Village received the Government Finance Officer's Association Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting award for the FY 2015/2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- Total cash on hand at 1/31/17 was \$31,105,860
 - General Fund 68%
 - W&S 21%
 - Capital Fund 2%
 - 39% in Money Markets - IL Funds
 - 28% Checking/Cash – First Midwest
 - 33% Short-Term Fixed Income – Schwab
- Yield vs. Benchmark
 - Village Portfolio – 0.888%
 - 91 Day T-Bill – 0.620%

Director Gosnell reviewed major revenue sources performance through January 31 and based on the most currently available data, he noted:

- Sales Tax is expected to finish the year 0.76% ahead of budget and 0.09% ahead of last year. Gosnell pointed out the flat sales tax growth over the last 2 fiscal years averaging -0.14% compared to the prior 5 fiscal years which averaged +3.53%.
- Income tax is expected to finish the year approximately 6% under budget.
- Use tax continues to outperform budget and prior fiscal year and is expected to finish the year 7.35% ahead of budget due to online retailers voluntarily collection sales tax.
- Telecom taxes are expected to finish 5% under budget.
- Amusement park tax finished the year at budget but just under the previous year.
- Food & Beverage taxes are expected to finish the year approximately 5% over budget and previous year.
- Hotel taxes are anticipated to finish the year between 6-7% under budget.
- Building permits are expected to exceed budget by approximately 40% due to the timing of development projects.

Director Gosnell then reviewed revenue and expenditure data specific to the General Fund and noted:

- Total revenues are at 78.37% of budget 75% of the way through the year.
- Revenue timing differences causing variances for Road & Bridge Tax, Licenses & Permits and Charges for Service.
- Expenditure timing differences related to the insurance premium payment, payrolls, and seasonal contracts.

Expenditure data specific to the water and sewer fund and noted:

- Water usage is trending 5% higher than last fiscal year and is anticipated to finish 3% higher.
- Same expenditure timing differences in General Fund expenditure impact the Water & Sewer Fund.

Finally Director Gosnell reviewed Police and Fire Pension investment activity and noted:

- Police Pension (Ziegler & Stratford)
 - Avg. Monthly Portfolio Balance - \$40.28m
 - FY17 Gains/Income – \$1.29m
 - FY17 Annualized Return – 4.26%
 - 12 month Rolling Return – 5.35%
 - 36 month Rolling Return – 5.13%
- Fire Pension (Sawyer Falduto)
 - Avg. Monthly Portfolio Balance - \$30.28m
 - FY17 Gains/Income – \$2.08m
 - FY17 Annualized Return – 9.14%
 - 12 month Rolling Return – 11.47%
 - 36 month Rolling Return – 5.22%

Director Gosnell closed the presentation noting the new fiscal starts May 1, 2017.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Ord. 2017 - 20 granting a Special Use Permit pursuant to the Gurnee Zoning Ordinance for 1319 N. Hunt Club Road.

Mr. Muetz said the Village Church of Gurnee is requesting a Special Use Permit related to the installation of a new sign at its property on Hunt Club Road. The request includes:

- Special Use Permit to allow a new monument sign size that is 25% larger than allowed by right.

Mr. Muetz said the property is subject to an annexation agreement, which includes regulations related to the ground sign on site. Under the annexation agreement, up to 80 square feet is allowed. The proposed monument sign is 96 square feet. Incorporated into the sign will be a second panel, below the main panel, that would allow for

interchangeable messages. Currently these messages are communicated via banners. On March 15th, the Planning & Zoning Board approved a Minor Sign Exception to allow the sign to be greater than 8 feet in height. The PZB has the authority to approve Minor Exceptions and does not need Village Board consent afterwards. This approval is a show of support for the sign modification.

Trustee Balmes asked if the new logo had any symbolism behind it. The petitioner provided a brief explanation.

It was moved by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Ord. 2017 - 20 granting a Special Use Permit pursuant to the Gurnee Zoning Ordinance for 1319 N. Hunt Club Road.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Res. 2017 - 04 authorizing the Village Administrator to negotiate and approve a contract with an electricity supplier as obtained through the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative (NIMEC).

Mr. Muetz said this was discussed at the last Board meeting. He said the Village rebid the program since it was set to expire. The Village bid the program today and received five responses, with the one year options being the most favorable. The Com Ed rate will be around 7.1¢/kWh.

Mr. Muetz said two companies Constellation Energy Services and MC Squared both came back with 6.89 and Village Staff is suggesting we go with MC Squared. He said they are a Chicago-based company and currently service about 30 communities. He stated the customer service support from MC Squared is what is making staff recommend the Village contact with them. He continued to say the bid is only good for 24 hours, therefore if the Board wants to move forward with MC Squared, it must be signed by tomorrow. The resolution before the Board authorizes the Village Administrator to do that.

Trustee Thorstenson asked if the supplier will automatically match ComEd if its rate drops below the Village's.

Mr. Muetz said that is not in the contract (none of the bids included that language) but residents can opt out on their own, but there is not a community-wide opt-out clause.

Trustee Garner asked if the contract is for 1 year.

Mr. Muetz said yes, stating if the Village wants to continue with the program, staff will rebid the program again a year from now.

It was moved by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Res. 2017 - 04 authorizing the Village Administrator to negotiate and approve a contract with an electricity supplier as obtained through the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative (NIMEC).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Res. 2017 - 05 authorizing a change order to the Tyler Technologies License and Service Agreement in the amount of \$26,135.00 (Executime software).

Mr. Muetz said the Village is in the process of converting to new financial software provided by Tyler Munis. Related, the Police and Fire Department have been exploring options for improved time and attendance software/procedures. The Police Department currently uses In-Time for scheduling, while the Fire Department uses a

spreadsheet managed by the Deputy Chief. During the Tyler Munis conversion, Tyler purchase Executime.

Mr. Muetz said Executime allows for more complex scheduling needed for Police and Fire and includes features to request time-off/shift trades, view shared calendars and a system for allowing employees to electronically get notified and sign-up for overtime. The integration with Tyler Munis eliminates the need to double enter into the payroll system. As such, staff is recommending a change order to the original License and Service Agreement with Tyler to include licensing and service for the Executime advanced scheduling modules for the Police and Fire. The Licensing and setup costs for Executime is \$26,135 with an annual maintenance amount of \$4,108. Currently the Police Department pays an annual maintenance fee of \$6,480 for the use of In-Time. Staff included \$35,000 in the FY18 budget in anticipation of transitioning to new software.

Mr. Gosnell said this will allow the Village to streamline processes and approval tonight will get us in the que for implementation, which is early next year at this point.

Trustee Ross asked about privacy and how the electronic sign up for overtime will work.

Police Sergeant Mike Mann said the Fire Department can see only the Fire Department information and the Police Department can only see the Police Departments information. He said in theory they could turn down overtime if they want depending on who is on shift, but overtime is voluntary and will remain voluntary, so the ability to turn it down is not changing. He said if needed, management can assigned overtime to individuals.

Trustee Balmes said that currently the Fire Department does this by hand.

Deputy Fire Chief Kavanagh explained that the current scheduling is done via the Village's email system, which has its challenges. Overtime offerings are handled via a paper system.

Trustee Balmes asked if this will be hooked in with Human Resources and payroll and if it will improve documentation.

The Director of Human Resources Christine Palmieri said it will when fully integrated.

It was moved by Trustee Thorstenson, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of Res. 2017 - 05 authorizing a change order to the Tyler Technologies License and Service Agreement in the amount of \$26,135.00 (Executime software).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

4. Approval of awarding the 2017 MFT Street Maintenance Program to the low bidder, Payne and Dolan, at \$2,604,472.60.

Mr. Muetz said the Village budgeted \$4.8 million for transportation system improvements in the FY 17/18 budget. The 2017 MFT Program consists of 3.7 miles of street resurfacing/rehabilitation and pavement patching. Resurfacing will be focused on areas such as Ravinia Woods / Bittersweet Woods, Concord Oaks / Stonebrook, Pines / Pembroke / Lee / Deer Run, Providence Oaks / Suda Estates and Kenwood / Dorchester / Ellis / Lee on the eastside. The PCI breakdown for the 2017 program includes 0.8 miles rated as "Failed" and 2.9 miles rated as "Poor." As a reminder, this work is in addition to the Magnolia reconstruction project.

Mr. Muetz said on April 6, 2017 the Village opened 3 bids related to the program. The bids ranged from \$2.60 million to \$2.78 million. The Engineer's estimate for the program was \$2.92 million. Payne

and Dolan is a solid company that we have had experience with in the past. I concur with staff's recommendation to award the contract to the low bidder, Payne and Dolan.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Hood to approve of awarding the 2017 MFT Street Maintenance Program to the low bidder, Payne and Dolan, at \$2,604,472.60.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

5. Approval of request from Fire Department to waive bidding requirements and utilize the HGACBuy Ambulance Contract No. AM10-16 to purchase a Road Rescue Ambulance including Stryker Power-LOAD patient lift system from Fire Service Inc. at a cost of \$227,033.00.

Mr. Muetz said included in the FY 17/18 Approved Budget is the purchase of a new ambulance. The Department has proposed to retain all other ambulances and add this one to the fleet, bringing the total number of ambulances to 5. The addition of this ambulance will allow four ambulances to remain in service during preventative maintenance and unscheduled repairs. The Department is recommending the Village take advantage of HGACBuy Fire Service Ambulance Contract No. AM10-16 to purchase an ambulance from Fire Service Inc. HGACBuy is a government cooperative purchasing pool that the Village is a member of. Fire Service, Inc. is the current preferred manufacturer of the Village's fire equipment, including the new ladder truck which was recently awarded to the company. The contract allows for 15% change to the approved base specification. To meet the specific needs of the Fire Department, the Stryker Power-LOAD patient lifting system must added to base unit:

With this add-on, the Department is requesting authorization to purchase the ambulance at a cost of \$227,033.00. He stated the next item on the agenda is the actually stretcher and stair chair, which has greatly reduced lifting injuries in the Fire Department.

Trustee Wilson said every ambulance should have one of these lifting systems. He has seen the units in action and absolutely supports the addition of the system.

It was moved by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of request from Fire Department to waive bidding requirements and utilize the HGACBuy Ambulance Contract No. AM10-16 to purchase a Road Rescue Ambulance including Stryker Power-LOAD patient lift system from Fire Service Inc. at a cost of \$227,033.00.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

6. Approval of request from Fire Department to waive bidding requirements and purchase Power-PRO XT Stretcher and Stair-PRO Stair Chair from Stryker at a cost of \$26,325.46.

It was moved by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of request from Fire Department to waive bidding requirements and purchase Power-PRO XT Stretcher and Stair-PRO Stair Chair from Stryker at a cost of \$26,325.46.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

7. Approval of request from Fire Department to purchase 2017 Chevrolet Tahoe from the low bidder, Raymond Chevrolet, at a cost of \$36,583.74 (Fire Unit #1394).

Mr. Muetz said included in the FY 17/18 Approved Budget is the replacing on one Fire Department Command vehicles. The vehicle to be replaced will be stepped down in the fleet and the Department's station vehicle will be disposed of via auction. The Department obtained HGAC-Buy, as well as State of Illinois pricing on the Tahoe. Local dealers were then contacted. Raymond Chevrolet was able to beat both prices. As a result, the Department is recommending the vehicle be purchased from Ray Chevy at a price of \$36,583.74.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of request from Fire Department to purchase 2017 Chevrolet Tahoe from the low bidder, Raymond Chevrolet, at a cost of \$36,583.74 (Fire Unit #1394).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

8. Approval of request from Police Department to purchase five 2017 Ford Interceptor Utility vehicles through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative at a cost of \$139,610.00.

Mr. Muetz said the FY 17/18 Approved Budget includes the replacement of five police squads. The Police Department decided to take a look at the Ford Police SUV this year as two of the five vehicles are assigned to our K-9 Officers. Following a thorough review, in conjunction with the Fleet Management Administrator, the Department is requesting to purchase five Ford Interceptor Utility vehicle. The Fords are a little smaller than the Chevy Tahoe, but still offer the benefits of a sport utility vehicles. To date, our experience with the move rugged SUVs vs. sedans has been very good as it relates to cost effectiveness and operational performance. As such, the Department is requesting to continue with SUVs. When fully outfitted, the Fords are about \$7,000 less than the Tahoes. The FY 17/18 Approved Budget includes \$235,000 for Police squads.

Trustee Garner asked if we are stepping down five units.

Mr. Muetz stated the overall size of the fleet will not increase. He stated if replacement units in the Community Development Department are needed, Tahoes will be transferred to that Department and the vehicles they are replacing will be disposed of. He continued to say two of the five units K9 units and sedans, while the other three units are some of the first Tahoes we have purchased.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of request from Police Department to purchase five 2017 Ford Interceptor Utility vehicles through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative at a cost of \$139,610.00.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

9. Approval of request from Police Department to award Communication Center Electrical Upgrade project to the low bidder, Kelso-Burnett Company, at a cost of \$40,990.00.

Mr. Muetz said in conjunction with the reconfiguration project in the Communications Center, there are electrical modifications/improvements that must be made. This includes moving the electrical floor boxes to accommodate the new work stations, installing a breaker and circuit to accommodate a reheat in the communications room, make changes to and install new track

lighting, install new circuits and receptacles to install monitors on the west side of the room, provide additional circuits to divide UPS from non UPS outlets and provide the power to the doors to allow security pads for each door into dispatch. The Village received 3 quotes for this work. The low bidder was Kelso-Burnett at \$40,990.00. The Village has worked with firm in the past and has been very pleased with the quality and service. Appropriate funding has been included in the Approved Budget.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Hood to approve of request from Police Department to award Communication Center Electrical Upgrade project to the low bidder, Kelso-Burnett Company, at a cost of \$40,990.00.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Ross, Garner, Thorstenson, Balmes, Hood, Wilson

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Jim Keith
17113 W.
Prairieview Lane
Unincorporated
Lake County**

Mr. Keith stated he is concerned about panhandlers. He believes these people are scammers. He said the answer that it's an enforcement issue is an ineffective response. He wanted to know what actions citizens can take to curb this behavior.

Mayor Kovarik responded that if they are on public property, what they are doing is protected by the Constitution. She continued to say the County has done surveys and the root of the issue is that funding that provided assistance in the past has dried-up. The Mayor continued to say churches in the area have stepped as they can to fill the gap in assistance. She stated if they are breaking the law or they are on private property and the property owner has requested assistance, the Police will respond accordingly.

Mr. Keith stated that most of the scammers are acting unsafely or unethically and he feels this is a safety concern. He again asked what citizens can do.

The Mayor said if they in the street, call the Police and it will be handled by the officer and Village Prosecutor.

Trustee Garner stated some of these people are scammers and misrepresent themselves. He said residents need to be protected and he is against those that represent themselves as homeless veterans when they are not.

The Mayor said when people freely give them money, it is not a scam or fraud. She continued to say this is covered in the Neighborhood Watch meetings, which will be taped and shared online for those that cannot attend.

Attorney Winter said tickets are being issued and it will continue to be an on-going enforcement issue. He reiterated what the Mayor said, if they are in the street, call the Police.

Mr. Keith closed with saying it unfortunate the Village is becoming a sanctuary city for scammers and this behavior is allowed.

Trustee Garner asked how can the Village educate the public.

Trustee Wilson stated some communities have installed signage telling people to donate to local charities, not panhandlers. Fort Wayne, Indiana has such a program.

**Gregory Hurlbutt
588 N. Greenleaf
Gurnee, IL**

Mr. Hurlbutt stated he is concerned about panhandlers and asked about them being in the way of the sidewalk.

Mayor Kovarik said if there is a concern that they are blocking the sidewalk and not letting someone pass, the Police should be called.

Mr. Hurlbutt stated Berkley, CA has requirements in place regarding panhandler separation requirements and safety vests. He continued to say there is a panhandler that sits close to Route 132 at 41, which he feels is a safety concern. He continued to say his understanding is the Stolen Valor Act could be used to address those posing as veterans.

Chief Woodside stated he is familiar with the Act and it addresses federal assistance and is not applicable in this situation.

Mr. Hurlbutt stated he disagrees with Chief Woodside's interpretation of the Act and would like to meet with him to discuss the situation in further detail.

Chief Woodside invited Mr. Hurlbutt to a Neighborhood Watch meeting to hear how the Department approaches the issue and why.

Mr. Hurlbutt stated he is also concerned with the appearance of Gurnee east of O'Plaine Road, including down trees in natural areas, brush and litter. He feels the concerns brought up over the past 6 months and tonight are important and need to be addressed. He asked what can be done to spruce up the east side.

The Mayor stated there is funds in the budget to make improvements to the appearance, as well as sidewalk, curb and gutter. She stated the road construction will be tough to work around, but staff is reaching out to property owners.

Mr. Hurlbutt concluded with stating he sent the Mayor a message about what he perceived was aggressive behavior from a panhandler and never heard back. The Mayor stated she doesn't remember seeing it, but would have sent it to the Police Chief for follow-up. She stated she is happy to meet with residents, but in instances like this, an immediate call to the Police is more appropriate than sending her a message on Facebook.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Ross to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Kovarik adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

**Andrew Harris,
Village Clerk**