

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

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
AUGUST 7, 2023**

Call to Order

Mayor Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Other Officials in Attendance

Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator; Gretchen Neddenriep, Village Attorney; David Ziegler, Community Development Director; Heather Galan, Public Works Director; Christine Palmieri, Director of Human Resources; Erica Wells, Assistant Finance / HR Director; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director; Jodi Luka, Management Analyst; David Douglass, Deputy Fire Chief; Jeremy Gaughan, Deputy Police Chief.

Roll Call

PRESENT: 5- Balmes, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

ABSENT: 1- Woodside

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A. APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call,

AYE: 5- Balmes, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 1- Woodside

Motion Carried.

**B. CONSENT
AGENDA /
OMNIBUS VOTE**

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

1. Approval of minutes from the July 24, 2023 meeting.
2. Approval of Ord. 2023 – 51 amending the Village of Gurnee Personnel Policy Manual.
3. Approval of Police Department request to renew a three-year Scheduled Support Agreement with Trane, Inc. at a total cost of \$28,350.00.
4. Approval of request from Public Works Department to waive the formal bidding process and award trimming of 500 larger parkway trees to Arbor Care Solutions, Inc. at a cost of \$45,650.00 (2022 low bidder – no price increase).
5. Approval of Payroll for period ending July 28, 2023 in the amount of \$1,006,176.31.
6. Approval of Bills for the period ending August 7, 2023 in the amount of \$559,146.59.

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

Roll call,

AYE: 5- Balmes, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 1- Woodside

Motion Carried.

**C. PETITIONS AND
COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Hood stated the Village Board will be in the Gurnee Days Parade in position number 6.

D. REPORTS

None.

E. OLD BUSINESS

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Police Department recommendation to award Police Facility Attic Sprinkler System 4" Dry Pipe Replacement project to the low bidder, Decker Fire & Safety Systems, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$98,692.00.

Administrator Muetz stated the Police Department has been dealing with leaking dry sprinkler pipes for a number of years. The design of the police facility includes both a wet and dry sprinkler system. The dry system is predominantly located in the unconditioned attic of the building. Muetz stated dry systems avoid pipes freezing in unconditioned space; unfortunately, they are prone to oxidation that eventually leads to corrosion and pinholes in the pipes. The pinholes compromise the system pressure and therefore result in the compressor running constantly to keep the system pressurized. In order to help address oxidation, the Police Department installed a nitrogen generator a few years ago. This fills the pipes with nitrogen rather than oxygen and greatly reduces the oxidation process, thereby extending the life of the pipes. With the nitrogen generator installed after the fact, the Department is still dealing with regular pipe leaks. After much research and discussion, it was decided that replacing 650 feet of 4-inch horizontal dry pipe was the most sensible solution in the long run. The Police Department worked with JJ Henderson to scope the project and receive quotes. Muetz stated five capable vendors were contacted with only two responding. Of these two, Decker Fire & Safety was the low bidder at \$98,692.00. Knowing the system needed to be address, the Police Department included funding in the FY 23/24 Approved Budget for the work.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien , seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Police Department recommendation to award Police Facility Attic Sprinkler System 4" Dry Pipe Replacement project to the low bidder, Decker Fire & Safety Systems, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$98,692.00.

Trustee Balmes asked if this type of dry system is currently in houses. Administrator Muetz stated houses have a wet system. Community Development Director Ziegler stated the Police Department has a large attic space that must contain fire suppression per building code; that is only possible with a dry system. Residential code does not require attic space to contain fire suppression. Therefore, sprinkler pipes are run through interior walls without the threat of freezing.

Roll call,

AYE: 5- Balmes, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 1- Woodside

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Police Department request to purchase five additional Body Worn Camera and Taser systems from Axon Enterprise, Inc. at a 44-month total cost of \$45,404.09.

Administrator Muetz stated the FY 23/24 Approved Budget includes two new sworn positions in the Police Department. In FY 24/25, it is anticipated the Department will be requesting an additional three positions to bring overall staffing to 70 sworn officers, which has been the goal for a number of years. In addition, in conjunction with the Strategic Plan and succession planning, Departments have been up-staffing prior to known retirements. With the new positions and continued retirements/up staffing in the Police Department five additional body worn camera (BWC) and Taser systems are needed. Muetz stated funding was included in the budget. Axon is the vendor the Village uses for the BWC and Taser program in the Police Department.

It was moved by Trustee Thorstenson, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of Police Department request to purchase five additional Body Worn Camera and Taser systems from Axon Enterprise, Inc. at a 44-month total cost of \$45,404.09.

Roll call,

AYE: 5- Balmes, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 1- Woodside

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of 2023 Trick or Treating hours – Sunday, October 29th from 2:00 – 5:00 P.M.

Administrator Muetz said annually the Village sets Trick or Treat hours. In accordance with a memo from the Police Department, the recommendation is for this to take place on Sunday, October 29th from 2:00 – 5:00 pm. This time allows Trick or Treating to occur during daylight on the weekend versus weekday.

It was moved by Trustee Thorstenson, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of the 2023 Trick or Treating hours – Sunday, October 29th from 2:00 – 5:00 P.M.

Roll call,

AYE: 4- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 1- Balmes

ABSENT: 1- Woodside

Motion Carried.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee Balmes and seconded by Trustee O'Brien to adjourn.

Voice Vote:

ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Hood adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

**Jodi Luka,
Deputy Village Clerk**