

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

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
OCTOBER 7, 2019**

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; Joe Menges, Acting Village Attorney; Brian Gosnell, Finance Director; John Kavanagh, Fire Chief; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Jesse Gonzalez, Deputy Police Chief; Willie Meyer, Police Commander; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director, Jack Linehan, Assistant to the Administrator

Roll Call

PRESENT: 6-Balmes, Hood, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien
ABSENT: 0- None

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kovarik led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A. APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Hood, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
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 September 23, 2019 Village Board meeting.
2. Approval of request from Fire Department to set a bid date of November 20, 2019 for Battery Operated Extrication Equipment (Department of Homeland Security 90/10 Grant).
3. Approval of Payroll for period ending September 27, 2019 in the amount of \$930,843.93.
4. Approval of Bills for the period ending October 7, 2019 in the amount of \$2,521,344.87.

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

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Hood, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

**C. PETITIONS AND
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Introduction and recognition of 2019 Gurnee Queens:
 - Miss Gurnee Lauren Allen (not in attendance)
 - Junior Miss Gurnee Audrey Hetman
 - Little Miss Gurnee Ivy Lindstrom

Mayor Kovarik introduced each queen and presented each with a photo album. Each queen then briefly spoke about what she has enjoyed the most since becoming a Gurnee Queen.

2. Approval of a Proclamation designating October 6 - 12, 2019 as "Fire Prevention Week" in the Village of Gurnee.

Mayor Kovarik read into record.

It was moved by Trustee Thorstenson, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of a Proclamation designating October 6 - 12, 2019 as "Fire Prevention Week" in the Village of Gurnee.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

3. Approval of a Proclamation designating October 23 - 31, 2019 as "Red Ribbon Week" in the Village of Gurnee.

Mayor Kovarik read into record.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of a Proclamation designating October 23 - 31, 2019 as "Red Ribbon Week" in the Village of Gurnee.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

D. REPORTS

1. Presentation by Trustee O'Brien – United Way of Lake County 2-1-1 update.

Mayor Kovarik stated 2-1-1 is up and running and that Trustee O'Brien is going to provide the Village Board an update. She then recognized County Board Member Steve Carlson and Trustee O'Brien for their work on the 2-1-1 project.

Trustee O'Brien echoed the Mayor's comments thanking Mr. Carlson, as well as the previous Village Board. He then provided a summary of the 2-1-1 program stating it's a social services helpline designed to reduce time and frustration by acting as a central access point to the health and human services in Lake County. He stated the one number connects the caller to a plethora of service needs 24/7/365. Trustee O'Brien said operators are bilingual in English and Spanish and have access to translation services.

Trustee O'Brien then reviewed a PowerPoint and video which provided further information on the service including its purpose, how it works and how to connect to it.

Following the presentation, Trustee O'Brien reviewed statistics related to calls to the 2-1-1 program since its inception. He stated the service providers had already existed and 2-1-1 now provides a one-stop shop to access them. Trustee O'Brien concluded the presentation by reviewing the 2-1-1 dashboard, which shows in real-time the number of calls to the service, the areas calls are generated from and the services needed.

Mayor Kovarik thanked Trustee O'Brien and Trustee Thorstenson for all their hard work. She continued to state in the past some of these calls would come to her office and required staff to coordinate assistance which is outside their area of expertise.

County Board Member Carlson thanked the Village for being a leader on the project and for the support from Mayor Kovarik and Trustee O'Brien and Trustee Thorstenson.

E. OLD BUSINESS

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Ord. 2019 – 64 providing for the redemption and payment prior to maturity of \$3,335,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011, of the Village of Gurnee, Lake County, Illinois.

Administrator Muetz said the Village is in a position where it can pay off the Macy's Bonds early and save approximately \$260,000 in interest costs. This is possible by using budgeted funds, Debt Service Fund balance, and savings from the Pool Debt and FY 18/19 General Fund surplus. Paying off the Macy's Bonds will make the Village debt free from a general obligation bond perspective. He continued to state Finance Director Gosnell worked with bond counsel to prepare the necessary ordinance and notices. Attorney Winter has also reviewed the material and signed-off on it.

Mayor Kovarik said only half of the current Board members were serving in 2011 when the bonds were issued and briefly explained the background to the current Trustees.

Trustee Balmes asked how the Macy's store is doing.

Mayor Kovarik said sales are up.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Ord. 2019 – 64 providing for the redemption and payment prior to maturity of \$3,335,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011, of the Village of Gurnee, Lake County, Illinois.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Hood, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Ord. 2019 – 65 amending the annual budget of the Village of Gurnee, County of Lake, State of Illinois, for the Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2020.

Administrator Muetz said to enable paying off the Macy's Bonds the budget needs to be amended to move funding around. This includes reducing the Pool Payment line item to reflect the actual payment, transferring fund balance out of the General Fund to the Debt Service Fund and increasing the Macy's Debt Service payment line item to include the remaining principal due on the debt.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Balmes to approve of Ord. 2019 – 65 amending the annual budget of the Village of Gurnee, County of Lake, State of Illinois, for the Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2020.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Hood, Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Wayne Allison
Grounds
Superintendent
Warren Cemetery
1495 Cemetery Rd
Gurnee, IL**

Mr. Allison invited the Village Board to attend a memorial event on October 19th at the Warren Cemetery. The event will recognize the serviceman that lost their lives when the USS Frank E. Evans sank during the Vietnam War. Mr. Allison stated the cemetery has created a replica of the Vietnam Memorial and included the names of the 74 lives lost since they are not included on the memorial in Washington DC.

**Chris Smith
34710 Cemetery Rd
Gurnee, IL**

Ms. Smith stated she was disappointed that the most recent edition of the Keeping Posted newsletter did not contain information about ethylene oxide. She continued to state it is an important issue and the community needs to stay informed.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

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

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Kovarik adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

**Andrew Harris,
Village Clerk**