

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

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
DECEMBER 2, 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; Heather Galan, Village Engineer; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; Christine Palmieri, Director of Human Resources; John Kavanagh, Fire Chief; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Jesse Gonzalez, Deputy Police Chief; Jeremy Gaughan, Police Commander; Willie Meyer, Police Commander; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director, Jack Linehan, Assistant to the Administrator

Roll Call

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Scout Troop #627 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A. APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Roll call,

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

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 November 18, 2019 Village Board meeting.
2. Approval of Fire Department recommendation to purchase two Battery Operated Extrication Tools from the low bidder, Air One Equipment, Inc., at a cost of \$50,092 (90/10 Department of Homeland Security Grant).
3. Approval of reduction in letter of credit for Bellewater Place Tree Planting to \$77,690.00.
4. Approval of Payroll for period ending November 22, 2019 in the amount of \$862,342.17.
5. Approval of Bills for the period ending December 4, 2019 in the amount of \$1,318,976.83.

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

Roll call,

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

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

**C. PETITIONS AND
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Approval of a Proclamation recognizing and congratulating the Warren Township High School Blue Devils Football Team.

Mayor Kovarik read the Proclamation into record and then Warren High School Superintendent John Ahlgrim briefly spoke about the Warren Football team and then introduced Coach Bryan McNulty. Coach McNulty introduced two of his players and then spoke about the accomplishments of the 2019 Warren Football team.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of a Proclamation recognizing and congratulating the Warren Township High School Blue Devils Football Team.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

2. Approval of a Proclamation designating December 2019 as National Impaired Driving Prevention Month in the Village of Gurnee.

Mayor Kovarik read into record.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of a Proclamation designating December 2019 as National Impaired Driving Prevention Month in the Village of Gurnee.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

D. REPORTS

1. Report from the Gurnee Police Department – Gurnee Police Explorer Post #266 Update.

Officer Dan Ruth and Officer Shawn Gaylor presented the following PowerPoint presentation to the Board.

Gurnee Police Explorers 2014 -2019

Program Overview

Youth Training Program

- Open to teenagers ages 14 –20
- Interest in law enforcement
- Provides awareness of criminal justice system
 - Training scenarios
 - Practical experiences
 - Competitions
 - Team building activities
- Promotes personal growth
 - Character development
 - Respect for community
 - Good citizenship

Program Achievements

State Champions Since 2015	2017 Explorer Post of the Year
2019 Distinguished Unit Award	2019 Explorer of the Year
National Best Uniform Award	79 Awards Since 2014
34,209 Hours of Community Service	

Career Development

Leadership Academies	Letters of Recommendation
FBI and Secret Service Tours	Leadership Skills
Communication Skills	Problem Solving

Community Involvement

Gurnee Days	Didier Farms
AKA Dog Show	Lake County Fair
Law Enforcement Expo	Parade and traffic control
Special Olympics – Cop on Top	Police Department Open House
Outrun the Cops 5K Walk & Run	

Finance Report

Since 2015, Explores working events have raised \$83,696 for the Gurnee Police Explorer Program.

Current amount in the Gurnee Explorer fundraising account = \$18,075

Funds collected are used for the following:

- Equipment
- Competition Conferences Fees
- Insurance (Learning For Life)
- Team Building Outings

Mayor Kovarik said on behalf of the Board and the Community we are very proud of the Gurnee Police Explorers. She said this is a valuable program and thanked the Post for being present at tonight's meeting.

E. OLD BUSINESS

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Ord. 2019 - 80 granting a Major Amendment to an existing Special Use Permit, pursuant to the Gurnee Zoning Ordinance, for 5631 Manchester Drive.

Administrator Muetz said Shepherd Manor, a senior assisted living facility located at 5631 Manchester Road in Heather Ridge, is requesting a Major Modification to its SUP with the intent of transitioning the facility from a commercial feel to more residential atmosphere. To accomplish this they are requesting the following:

- Convert the existing nurse’s station/lounge and office area to an additional bedroom with 2 beds;
- Convert the covered drop-off area to a screened porch with landscaping around the exterior;
- Add a sunroom and connected exterior patio to the west side of the building;
- Add windows, change roof lines, and change landscaping to provide the facility with a greater residential character;
- Crave an area from the multi-purpose room for medical records and medications storage.

The request was before the Planning & Zoning Board on November 6, 2019 and received a unanimous favorable recommendation.

Trustee Thorstenson said she attended Coffee with the Mayor hosted by Shepherd Manor and was impressed with the facility. She said the sunroom is needed and will be a nice amenity.

Mayor Kovarik thanked Shepherd Manor for hosting Coffee with the Mayor.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of Ord. 2019 - 80 granting a Major Amendment to an existing Special Use Permit, pursuant to the Gurnee Zoning Ordinance, for 5631 Manchester Drive.

Roll call,

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

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Ord. 2019 - 81 amending Chapter 32, Section 32-36, entitled “Planning and Zoning Fees” of the Gurnee Municipal Code.

Administrator Muetz said on December 17, 2012 the Village Board adopted this approach for Planning and Zoning fees. Per the ordinance, on January 1st or on the date adopted, whichever comes later, the fees will adjust by the percent change in the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha CPI for the October over October time period. At the December 2012 meeting the Village Board also requested that this adjustment be placed on the Consent Agenda for approval, rather than have an automatic rate adjustment, as a way to raise public awareness and allow the Board to express any concerns. Since the Village Board is also considering an adjustment to Building Fees Mr. Muetz stated he included it the item under New Business tonight. The October to October inflation rate was 1.8%. This year, 30 fees increased, while 10 remained the same. Of the 30 that increased, 23 increased by \$25 or less. The largest fee increase was for Preliminary Planned Unit Developments greater than 100 acres, which increased by \$105 (from \$6,035 to \$6140). The next largest increase was \$55.

Trustee O’Brien asked if there was any current business in process and if so, what fee schedule would be used.

Administrator Muetz said anything in process would fall under the current fee schedule.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve of Ord. 2019 - 81 amending Chapter 32, Section 32-33, entitled "Building and Development Fees" of the Gurnee Municipal Code.

Roll call,

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

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Ord. 2019 - 82 amending Chapter 32, Section 32-33, entitled "Building and Development Fees" of the Gurnee Municipal Code.

Administrator Muetz said certain Building Permit fees were last updated in 2004 and that Community Development Director David Ziegler has been working over the past year to update, simplify and rebalance these fees, which includes Multi-Family and Non-Residential Permits. He then asked Mr. Ziegler to review the request.

Mr. Ziegler stated it has been some time since these fees were updated. During the process to recommend adjustments, he reviewed fees from other communities to ensure the Village stays competitive. While each community assesses fees a little differently, the proposed fees are in line with communities providing the same type of service. Given the length of time since the last update, staff targeted a 7% overall increase. Over the same time period, the CPI has increased by 22%.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of Ord. 2019 - 82 amending Chapter 32, Section 32-33, entitled "Building and Development Fees" of the Gurnee Municipal Code.

Roll call,

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

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Denise Rolando
3725 Clearview Ave.
Gurnee, IL**

Ms. Rolando urged the Village Board to use Home Rule authority to address ethylene oxide concerns. She stated she lives south of Spaulding School and her daughter needs regular monitoring for her lymph nodes. She closed by urging the Board to act.

**Susan Henning
2116 Westfield Dr.
Gurnee, IL**

Ms. Henning stated she is disappointed in the Village Board. She urged the Village Board to use Home Rule authority to address ethylene oxide concerns. Ms. Henning then referenced the AB Silicone explosion and stated it's within the Village's power to eliminate ethylene oxide emissions.

**Sarah Crawford
5886 Hancock Lane
Gurnee, IL**

Ms. Crawford requested action at the local level to address ethylene oxide since State legislation did not pass. She stated the October/November air sampling results cannot be ignored. She concluded by urging the Board to act.

**Elizabeth O'Neill
1375 Anderson Dr.
Green Oaks, IL**

Ms. O'Neill stated she supports the Stop Eto movement and that the Matt Haller Act is not enough. She then discussed explosion, compliance and storage concerns. She concluded by urging the Board to act.

**Kathy Broxton
702 Colby Ct.
Gurnee, IL**

Ms. Broxton asked when the Village will act to ban ethylene oxide emissions.

**CJ Walton
705 Chandler Rd.
Gurnee, IL**

Mr. Walton stated Federal agencies are currently a mess and therefore they are deferring to the local level. He stated he believes ethylene oxide will be banned in the future, but in the interim the Village needs to act. Mr. Walton further stated he believes the Village can use Home Rule authority to address concerns. He then reviewed statements from the January 28, 2019 Village Board meeting and provided a rebuttal. He

concluded by stating the provisions in the Illinois Constitution are dated and the Village should work to be a point of change.

Kathy Broxton
702 Colby Ct.
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Broxton stated she heard someone is moving out of Gurnee due to their concerns regarding Eto.

Barb Hernandez
1905 Buckeridge Ct.
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Hernandez urged the Village Board to use Home Rule authority to address ethylene oxide concerns. She stated she believes the Village can control emissions and that when Sterigenics in Willowbrook closed the presence of ethylene oxide plummeted. She closed by urging the Board to act.

John Bardi
4525 Providence Rd
Gurnee, IL

Mr. Bardi stated 110lbs in emissions is still too much. He then referenced the number of pounds emitted since 2009 and stated enough harm has already been done, the Village needs to take action.

Tatyana Santamaria
4839 Kings Way W.
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Santamaria urged the Village Board to use Home Rule authority to address ethylene oxide concerns.

Jolanta Pomiotlo
4981 South Rd
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Pomiotlo criticized the information included in the Keeping Posted newsletter. She then discussed an online petition which collected approximately 1,100 signatures in two weeks asking the Village to ban ethylene oxide. She stated she believes Gurnee and Waukegan can act. She concluded by stating the Village needs to stop protecting companies and rather protect the community.

Diane Surufka
1336 Sunrise Ln
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Surufka asked the Village Board to reflect on the comments made tonight.

Mayor Kovarik stated the Village has a webpage dedicated to ethylene oxide which includes regular updates. She also stated the background levels referenced during Public Comment tonight are not consistent with what regulatory agencies that have conducted sampling have stated.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

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

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Kovarik adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Andrew Harris,
Village Clerk