

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

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

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**Call to Order**

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

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**Other Officials in Attendance**

Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; David Ziegler, Community Development Director; Heather Galan, Public Works Director; John Kavanagh, Fire Chief; David Douglass, Deputy Fire Chief; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Jeremy Gaughan, Deputy Police Chief.

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**Roll Call**

**PRESENT: 6- Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross**

**ABSENT: 0-**

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Hood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**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- Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross**

**NAY: 0- None**

**ABSENT: 0- None**

**Motion Carried.**

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**B. CONSENT  
AGENDA /  
OMNIBUS VOTE**

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

1. Approval of minutes from the August 19, 2024 meeting.
2. Approval of Ord. 2024 - 59 accepting the Final Plat of Resubdivision of the property located at 3437 Cheyenne Road.
3. Approval of Information System Division's recommendation to purchase a one-year VMWare Support subscription from Zones LLC at a total cost of \$23,126.40. (State of Illinois Innovation and Technology Contract).
4. Approval of Payroll for period ending August 23, 2024 in the amount of \$1,067,828.79.
5. Approval of Bills for the period ending September 9, 2024 in the amount of \$860,454.78.

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- Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross**

**NAY: 0- None**

**ABSENT: 0- None**

**Motion Carried.**

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**C. PETITIONS AND  
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Administration of Oath of Office for the promotion of Police Sergeant Matt Bendler to Police Commander.

Chief Smith spoke briefly about Officer Matt Bendler and his accomplishments.

Mayor Hood then administered the oath of office.

Sergeant Bendler spoke briefly, introducing his family and thanking everyone involved with his professional development over the years as a Gurnee Police Officer.

2. Approval of Proclamation designating September 15 - October 15, 2024 as Hispanic Heritage Month in the Village of Gurnee.  
Mayor Hood summarized the Proclamation.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of a Proclamation designating September 15 - October 15, 2024 as Hispanic Heritage Month in the Village of Gurnee.

**Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.**

3. Approval of Proclamation designating September 15 – September 21, 2024 as Child Passenger Safety Week in the Village of Gurnee.

Mayor Hood summarized the Proclamation.

It was moved by Trustee Woodside, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of a Proclamation designating September 15 – September 21, 2024 as Child Passenger Safety Week in the Village of Gurnee.

**Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.**

**D. REPORTS**

None.

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

Approval of Ord. 2024 - 60 authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Warren Township High School District 121 and the Village of Gurnee for the installation and operation of communications equipment on the Heather Ridge Water Tower located at 5761 Manchester Drive, Gurnee.

Administrator Muetz said the Village of Gurnee owns the Heather Ridge water tower. The Village was recently approached by Warren Township District 121 requesting permission to install an antenna and related equipment on/in the tower to assist with its bus transportation communications. In 2020 the same agreement was approved with Woodland District 50 to operate basically the same setup. The agreement requires District 121 submit plans for Village review and approval, cover all costs related to the planning/installation/inspection of the equipment, address any interference issues, maintain the equipment in good working order and remove the equipment if it is in the way for Village water tower maintenance activities. Muetz stated in the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation, staff proposes to not charge District 121 rent for being on the tower. The agreement was approved at District 121's August 26th Board of Education meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Ord. 2024 - 60 authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Warren Township High School District 121 and the Village of Gurnee for the installation and operation of communications equipment on the Heather Ridge Water Tower located at 5761 Manchester Drive, Gurnee.

**Roll call,**

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

**NAY: 0- None**

**ABSENT: 0- None**

**Motion Carried.**

2. Approval of issuing a Class 4 and Class 13 Liquor License to Robert Mills for the operation of Mariano's (6655 Grand Avenue).

Administrator Muetz said Gurnee's Mariano's store is now under new ownership. While staff expects no impact to the store's operations, with the sale there are some items that need to be updated, including the Liquor License manager. The Police Department has reviewed the updated application and found nothing to preclude issuing the licenses. Muetz stated since the licenses are existing and essentially be transferred to a new entity, there is no need to amend the Municipal Code.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of issuing a Class 4 and Class 13 Liquor License to Robert Mills for the operation of Mariano's (6655 Grand Avenue).

**Roll call,**

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

**NAY: 0- None**

**ABSENT: 0- None**

**Motion Carried.**

3. Approval of Police Department request to purchase one 2024 GMC Terrain from Woody Buick GMC of Gurnee at a cost of \$31,669.03 (Police Department Unit #112).

Administrator Muetz said included in the FY 24/25 Approved Budget was the replacement of one Police Department detective vehicle. The vehicle scheduled to be replaced is a 2015 Chevrolet Equinox with 142,000 miles on it. The Fleet Division reached out to some local dealerships in an attempt to locate a replacement vehicle. Woody Buick GMC of Gurnee has a GMC Terrain that will meet the Police Department's needs

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Police Department request to purchase one 2024 GMC Terrain from Woody Buick GMC of Gurnee at a cost of \$31,669.03 (Police Department Unit #112).

**Roll call,**

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

**NAY: 0- None**

**ABSENT: 0- None**

**Motion Carried.**

**G. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Hood reviewed upcoming dates related to the area east of Route 41. He stated on September 13th is a concert at Christine Thompson Park. On September 16th a group will meet at the Police Department Community Room to discuss issues related to the area. On September 30th the regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting will serve as a Town Hall meeting with a presentation from the Police Department. Other Village staff members will also be in attendance. Mayor Hood stated the Town Hall would be from 7:00pm until 9:00pm. He stated if residents wanted to send questions ahead of time, they could

**Karen Finkel  
416 Magnolia Ave  
Gurnee. IL**

Ms. Finkel asked where residents could send questions and if information related to the Town Hall would be shared with the public. She stated she would share if on social media.

Mayor Hood stated questions could be emailed to [Villageboard@village.gurnee.il.us](mailto:Villageboard@village.gurnee.il.us) and that information would be shared related to the Town Hall.

**Closing Comments**

None.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to adjourn the meeting.

**Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.**

Mayor Hood adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

**Andrew Harris,  
Village Clerk**