

Clerk's Office
Village of Westmont

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING HELD **Thursday, November 18, 2021.**

Mayor Gunter called the meeting to order at **6:00 P.M.**

WESTMONT VIRTUAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:	Mayor Gunter	<u>P</u>	Clerk Szymiski	<u>P</u>
TRUSTEES:	Barker	<u>P</u>	Simonovich	<u>P</u>
	Brady	<u>P</u>	Guzzo	<u>P</u> - remote
	Liddle	<u>P</u>	Nero	<u>P</u>

STAFF:

May (Village Manager)	<u>P</u>	Parker (Assistant Manager)	<u>P</u>	Sylvester (Community Dev. Director)	<u>P</u>
Brainerd (H.R. Director)	<u>P</u>	McIntyre (Communications Director)	<u>A</u>	Liljeberg (I.T. Manager)	<u>P</u>
Chief Gunther (Police Dept.)	<u>P</u>	Dep Chief Thompson (Police Dept.)	<u>A</u>	Dep Chief Gruen (Police Dept.)	<u>A</u>
Chief Riley (Fire Dept.)	<u>P</u>	Dep Chief O'Hare (Fire Dept.)	<u>A</u>	Mulhearn (Deputy Liquor Commissioner)	<u>A</u>
Ramsey (P.W. Director)	<u>P</u>	Mielcarski (Management Analyst)	<u>A</u>	Hennerfeind (Village Planner)	<u>P</u>

ATTORNEY: Zemenak P Carrara A

A QUORUM WAS PRESENT TO TRANSACT BUSINESS.

PRESS:

Bugle A

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DIRECTOR: Forssberg - P

THOSE PRESENT RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

OPEN FORUM:

Florence Dalton, 128 S. Cass Avenue - Her business has been at this location for 7 years and is now receiving notices for code enforcement issues.

VOTING KEY: **A=ABSENT** **AB=ABSTAIN** **N=NO** **W=Withdrawn**
 P=PRESENT **Y=YES** **R=RECUSE**

Note: *The items listed in these minutes are summaries only and are not meant to be a direct transcript of the Mayor's, Manager's, Clerk's and Trustees' comments. For actual quotes of the referenced items please refer to the Archival video copy of this meeting.*

VOTING SUMMARY

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
TRUSTEE BARKER	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
TRUSTEE BRADY	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
TRUSTEE GUZZO	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
TRUSTEE LIDDLE	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
TRUSTEE NERO	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
TRUSTEE SIMONOVICH	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>

REPORTS

Mayor Gunter

- Invited Fire Chief Riley to the podium to give an update on COVID-19 and a fatality that occurred at one of our ponds earlier in the week.
 - Fire Chief Riley gave the COVID update first.
 - While COVID cases have been trending down over the last month, that has leveled off and cases are increasing in several states, including Illinois in the last two weeks.
 - Over the last 7 days U.S. cases have increased by 23%, hospitalizations are down 1%, and deaths are down 13%.
 - In Illinois the new positivity rate is 3.5, which is up from a couple of weeks ago. Cases are up 60% and hospitalizations are up 29%, deaths have essentially stayed at 0%.
 - The transmission rate in DuPage County remains very high and the testing positivity rate is 3.3 and continues to increase. Hospitalizations remain low at approximately 5 per day, deaths remain low at approximately 1 per day.
 - In DuPage County we are currently at 114,167 cases along with 1,480 deaths. In Westmont we are at 2,806 cases and 92 deaths. There have been no new deaths in the last two weeks.
 - When we see an increase of hospitalizations and deaths, we will typically see an increase in cases. We expect this to be minimized by more people being vaccinated.
 - Urged everyone to continue to do the right thing and wear face masks, social distance, and wash your hands.
 - Last Sunday morning at 10:37am, Westmont Police and Fire were dispatched for a car that had driven into a pond at 999 Oakmont Plaza. Police and Fire Department members arrived at the scene and found a car fully submerged.

Rescue divers were put into the water and they punched out the glass windows on the passenger and drivers side. The driver was removed from the vehicle and placed into an ambulance, where he was pronounced deceased. The investigation is still ongoing by the Westmont Police Department and MERIT. Any further questions concerning this incident should be handled through Police Chief Gunther.

- Mayor Gunter recapped the 100th Anniversary Celebration. It was an outside event and had an amazing turn out.
 - Thanked Larry Forssberg and his committee for the legacy awards that went to the businesses and the families.
 - Our future mural was unveiled and our 2121 time capsule was placed in the newly dedicated Szymski Plaza, which is directly west of Village Hall. The time capsule will be opened at the Village's 200th Anniversary. There are pictures on the Village website photo gallery. A video of the event will be finished soon. Staff did a tremendous job organizing our birthday celebration which concluded with fireworks. Thanks to everyone who attended.
 - Invited Larry Forssberg to the podium. He invited two Westmont businesses who were unable to attend.
 - Larry Forssberg stated that we have 25 businesses in town that have served Westmont for 50 years or more. The cumulative amount of years of service those businesses have been providing totalled to 1,611 years.
 - Haraldsen's Garage since 1956
 - Oakwood Electric since 1975
 - We will conclude our 100th Anniversary Celebration with our Holly Days Parade, which will be 5:00pm on December 4th. This year the parade will cross the tracks and head west on Quincy Street. The Tree lighting will be by the Westmont Centre at the corner of Cass and Quincy. Then everyone will walk over toward west Quincy Street to watch the fireworks and take outdoor pictures with Santa.

Village Clerk Szymski

- Village offices will be closed November 25th and 26th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- The Westmont High School Band Booster Craft Show will be December 4th from 9:00am to 9:00pm.
- Expressed her pride in our Mayor for the hard work and dedication that he has given to our community. He did a terrific job.

Mayor Gunter thanked Clerk Szymski and stated that many people were involved to make this happen, staff, the committee, the park district, the library, and others.

Trustee Brady

- The Community Development Committee reported that the November Planning and Zoning Commission agenda this month includes recommendations to modify zoning regulations for public utility accessory buildings, a proposed site and landscape plan for a public utility accessory building at 200 West 63rd Street (AT&T). A recommendation to create a zoning definition for 'bowling alley and request for multiple uses at Suburbanite

Bowling at 201 West Ogden. A request to rezone and subdivide the property at 538 65th Street to create 2 buildable lots and request for a variance at 319 North Lincoln to allow a driveway to be closer to the side lot line than allowed. Items will come to the Village Board in the coming weeks.

- The Westmont Chamber of Commerce will have a business after hours event. The Annual Christmas Business After Hours at DJ's Sports Bar & Grill is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7th, 5:00pm to 7:00pm and all businesses are welcome.

Trustee Johanik-Guzzo

- The next Fire Public Safety Committee meeting will be March 10, 2022 at 4:30pm at Village Hall.
- Thanked the Mayor, the 100th Anniversary Committee and Village Staff for their hard work in making the 100th Anniversary a success. Thanked the residents because there was a great turn out to the event.

Trustee Simonovich

- The next Police Public Safety Committee meeting will be December 22 at 9:00am.
- Welcomed Julie Johnson to the Community Development Department. She joined the team as a Part Time Permit Coordinator.
- Next month we will be starting interviews for the Village Planner position.

Trustee Nero

- Our next Public Works Committee meeting will be on December 16th, 4:30pm at Village Hall.
- Reminded everyone to keep the leaves away from the storm drains. The Public Works team reminds everyone to not rake the leaves into the street. Westmont has a free leaf collection program in the month of November. Keeping storm drains clear of leaves and other debris prevents flooding.
- The MFT program is finishing up this week, so there is a lot of new resurfacing done.
- The Stormwater Project at 63rd and Richmond is completed and the new gateway sign is up.
- The new Village Centre is 80% complete depending on the weather, it should be completed by December 1, 2021.
- Thanks to the Mayor, staff, and committee members. It was a great birthday party. Everyone had a good time and there was 5 years of planning that went into this event. It was a lot of fun.

Trustee Liddle

- The next Administration / Finance Committee meeting will be 4:30pm, December 2, 2021 at Village Hall.
- Downtown Painted Windows Project - The Fall & Halloween painted windows project was such a success that Westmont Special Events and the Creative Arts Network are

collaborating again for Winter and Holiday paintings. Businesses can go to westmontevents.com to sign up

- Kris Kringle Pub Tour - The next Westmont Special Events pub tour will be Saturday, Dec. 11. This will be a costumed event and people are encouraged to dress up as their favorite holiday character, or just wear your tackiest, over-the-top holiday sweater. More info at westmontevents.com

Trustee Barker

- At the end of last week Sister Noreen George passed away. She had been the principal at Holy Trinity School for nearly 20 years. She was a remarkable woman and the education there was outstanding under her leadership. Offered condolences to the school and those who knew her.
- Thanked EIC members and the Maercker School District Science Club who volunteered at the pumpkin composting event.
- We continue to have a free leaf pickup in November. Leaves placed in kraft paper bags do not need to be stickered.
- Cooking oil can be recycled at the Downers Grove Sanitary District at any time. Downers Grove Sanitary is located at 2710 Curtis Street in Downers Grove.
- Holiday lights can be recycled and they can be dropped off at the Library or the Fire Department Headquarters. That is going on now through the end of January.

Chamber Director, Larry Forssberg, gave a recap of the Wicked West Fest in the month of October.

- Pete Mumford is the lead person at the Westmont Centre for College of DuPage. He also serves on the Chamber Board and received an award for the scarecrow decorating contest.
 - Pete addressed the Village Board and thanked them for the award.

ITEMS TO BE REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

No items to be removed from the consent agenda.

(1) CONSENT AGENDA [Omnibus Vote]:

Village Manager May addressed the Board on this agenda item.

Motion by **Trustee Liddle** to approve the consent agenda.

(A) BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board to consider approving the minutes of the Village Board Meeting held **November 4, 2021**.

(B) FINANCE ORDINANCE #15: Dated **November 18, 2021** in the amount of **\$ 1,789,158.97**

(C) PURCHASE ORDERS

22201475	Baxter & Woodman	\$ 34,100.00
22201476	Compass Minerals America Inc.	51,926.40
	PURCHASE ORDER TOTAL	86,026.40

(D) TOTAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS & FINANCE ORDINANCE: \$ 1,875,185.37

(E) WESTMONT PARK DISTRICT WINTER BEERFEST - FEE WAIVERS

Board to consider an ordinance approving a waiver of fees for the following items:

- Special Event Liquor License Fee
- Temporary Use Permit
- Tent Permit
- Food Truck Permits

Seconded by **Trustee Nero** and the motion passed.

VOTE ON MOTION #1

Ayes: Barker, Brady, Guzzo, Liddle, Nero, Simonovich

Nays: None

Absent: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

(2) SZYMSKI PLAZA DESIGNATION

Mayor Gunter addressed the Board on this item.

Motion by **Trustee Barker** to consider approving a Resolution designating the public plaza adjacent to Village Hall at 31 W. Quincy Street as "Szymiski Plaza".

Seconded by **Trustee Liddle** and the motion passed.

VOTE ON MOTION #2

Ayes: Barker, Brady, Guzzo, Liddle, Nero, Simonovich

Nays: None

Absent: None



Village Clerk's Office

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(3) LIHWAP VENDOR AGREEMENT

Assistant Village Manager Parker addressed the Board on this item.

Motion by **Trustee Liddle** to consider an ordinance adopting an agreement with the DuPage County Department of Community Services to participate in the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program.

Seconded by **Trustee Nero** and the motion passed.

VOTE ON MOTION #3

Ayes: Barker, Brady, Guzzo, Liddle, Nero, Simonovich

Nays: None

Absent: None

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Mayor Gunter stated that this was a short agenda. Planning and Zoning was moved to last night from the previous week or we would have had several other items on this agenda. However, those items will likely be on the next agenda.
- Trustee Liddle wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. Please stay safe over the holiday.

(4) MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:31 P.M.

Motion by **Trustee Brady** to adjourn the meeting at **6:31pm.**

Seconded by **Trustee Barker** and the motion passed.

VOTE ON MOTION #4

Ayes: Barker, Brady, Guzzo, Liddle, Nero, Simonovich

Nays: None

Absent: None

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:31 P.M.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Virginia Szymiski, Village Clerk

Ronald J. Gunter, Mayor

Dated this 2nd day of December, 2021