

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2021**

VP Moorman Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Trustees Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum present.

Roll call was taken with Trustees Greco, Host, McMillin, Perinar, Scaggs and Slocum present.

Also present were Village Administrator Durkin, Director of Community Development and Information Systems Mike Petrick, Finance Director Heather Wagonblott, Director of Public Works Ed Dolezal, Chief of Police Shane Casey, Village Attorney David Silverman and Village Clerk Kristin Hall.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated due to the increasing number of COVID-19 infections in our region, the Village of Channahon is permitting but discouraging public attendance of Village meetings. She stated those attending Village meetings will be required to comply with social distancing requirements and the Village will enforce the Governors Executive Order in regards to additional restrictions prohibiting the gathering of 10 or more people. She also stated that the public may listen to the meeting and provide public comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, by calling 1 (636) 362-6350 or by e-mailing comments to meetingcomments@channahon.org and the comments will be read into the minutes.

VP Moorman Schumacher informed everyone present that anyone who speaks at the meeting shall be deemed to have given his/her consent to the recording of their likeness and speech. This meeting is being recorded.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Durkin stated he had no formal items.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Petrick stated that he had no formal items but wanted to take a quick moment to remind those on the call to keep yourself muted when you are not talking. That will help others on the call. He stated the sound is not too bad in this room but we did have some reports from last meeting that people on the phone heard a lot of feedback from others on the phone. He also stated to those on the phone to please mute your phone when you are not talking and to those in the room if you can try to use the microphone and talk a little slower, that will help those that are on the phone to hear a little bit better.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Moody’s Review and Report

Wagonblott stated as a result of the Village’s upcoming bond refinancing for utility bonds and the WESCOM bonds, Village staff participated in a Moody’s rating call on Monday, December 16, 2020. She stated on December 23, 2020, Moody’s Investors Service reaffirmed the Village’s bond rating of Aa2. She also stated that the reaffirmation of the Village’s rating means that the Village’s rating stayed the same from the previous rating issued by Moody’s Investors Service

(last reaffirmed in 2016). She further stated that that Village's affirmation of the bond rating tells investors that the Village of Channahon has a very low credit risk which in turn makes the bonds more likely to be purchased by investors. She stated the bond rating is an indication that the Village's bonds are a relatively safe investment for the purchaser in that the bonds are very likely to be repaid. She also stated that the Moody's report noted that "The Village of Channahon has a healthy financial profile with extremely strong reserves and a low debt burden. She further stated that the tax base is well below similarly-rated peers and has a high level of taxpayer concentration. Additionally, the Village's pension liabilities are moderate." She further stated that the Village's tax base has grown at an average annual rate of 12.6% over the last five years and the tax base is currently valued at \$1.5 billion. She stated during the rating call, Moody's personnel noted that the Village's tax base is well below the \$3.1 billion national median typically seen in conjunction with this rating, affirming that Channahon's established financial practices allow us to maintain such a high rating even with a lower tax base. She also stated that there are only two credit ratings higher than the Aa2 rating assigned to the Village of Channahon. She further stated that in order for the Village to achieve a higher credit rating, the Village must have a substantial increase in the tax base, population growth and further moderation of the Village's unfunded pension liabilities. She stated that the Village of Channahon's General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A and 2021B went out to the market the week of December 28, 2020. She also stated she distributed a copy of the final Moody's Credit Opinion and summary letter, if there were any questions.

Trustee Scaggs asked if this is something they do every year.

Wagonblott stated no, only if we are refinancing or looking to purchase or issue bonds. She stated that every year she comes before the Board with Annual Moody's Review. She also stated that it is not as in depth but it does not reaffirm the credit rating for the Village. She further stated that the last time we did this was in 2016.

Trustee Greco stated as Wagonblott mentioned we are heading in a great direction.

Durkin stated that what stood out to him the most was that the national median for communities with this rating is twice as much tax base as we have. He stated they don't typically see this high of a rating in a community with the tax base our size.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Promotion of Officer to Rank of Sergeant

Casey stated that Daniel Hoppe was here from the Police and Fire Commission.

Daniel Hoppe, Chairman of the Police & Fire Commission, stated that he came before the Village Board tonight on behalf of the Village of Channahon Police Commission to recommend the promotion of Officer Paul Potts to the rank of Sergeant. He stated that Officer Potts has successfully completed the promotional process consisting of a written examination and an oral interview administered by the Police Commission. He also stated that based on his score, combined with his departmental merit and efficiency rating, Officer Potts is currently the highest ranked candidate remaining on the Sergeant Eligibility list. He further stated that with the

approval of the Village Board, he would suggest VP Moorman Schumacher to administer the oath of office to Officer Potts promoting him to the rank of Sergeant.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated it is on the agenda this evening. She stated that Officer Potts was unable to attend so we will still vote on it this evening and as soon as Officer Potts is available, she will administer the oath of office.

Casey stated that Paul joined Channahon in April 2007 and is currently assigned to our Investigations Department. He stated with the retirement of Sergeants Jackubowski, there is a vacant Patrol Sergeant position. He stated this position oversees the day-to-day patrol operations, and directly supervises patrol officers assigned to them. He also stated Officer Potts is the top scoring candidate on our Sergeant Eligibility List. He further stated having completed all the requirements to be eligible for promotion, the Police Commission is recommending the promotion of Officer Paul Potts to the rank of Sergeant. He stated Paul Potts, if promoted, will move to the Operating Engineers Local 150 union. He also stated he will receive a pay increase to the Step 1 Sergeants' wage as determined in the current collective bargaining agreement and this is a budgeted item.

Discussion – Purchase of 14 Motorola APX4500 Enhanced StarCom Mobile Radios

Casey stated the push for interoperable radios, combined with technological advancement, have seen the public safety sector moving to the more reliable and mission-critical communication capabilities of the 7/800 MHz digital P25 trunked radio systems – such as the Motorola Starcom21 platform. He stated over the last several years, with the consolidation of 911 PSAPs, more communities have moved to P25 system, effectively making our current VHF in-squad radios less and less useful. He also stated the addition of the new radios in the squads will help integrate and assist in our Rescue Task Force response with fire departments and other agencies, enhances our abilities on Incident Command scenes, and allows for personnel to monitor multiple frequencies at once as needed. He further stated these radios can be a multiplier during critical incidents, and is an added commodity in the safeguarding of our community. He stated this is a budgeted item and would be under the line item allotment for the equipment. He also stated this would be a WESCOM pass-through invoice.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Town Center Unit 4 – Release of Improvement Completion Guarantee for Site Development Permit

Dolezal stated this guarantee is held to provide funding to stabilize the construction site, maintain and provide for permanent erosion and sediment controls, and make repairs to incomplete work in ROW or to public improvements resulting from Site Development Permit (SDP) work for this site. He stated the SDP was issued to allow preliminary mass grading and demolition work at the site in preparation for full site improvements. He also stated the guarantee is held by a single cash escrow agreement. He further stated the Village has now received the full Town Center U-4 ICG in the amount of \$2,301,642.00. He stated this guarantee provides funding to insure completion of residential subdivision infrastructure improvements including new roads, water main, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, street lighting, parkways, etc., as well as for previous Site Development Permit work. He also stated provision of the full guarantee causes the \$25,000 site development permit guarantee to be redundant.

Discussion – Channahon Town Center Unit 3 and St. Elizabeth Residences – Release of Maintenance Guarantees

Dolezal stated this guarantee has been held with a single Maintenance Guarantee Bond. He stated in accordance with Subdivision and Development Regulations, the developer has requested the Village release the maintenance guarantee in the amount of \$263,681.00. He also stated Public Works Staff has verified constructed improvements are in good condition.

COMMUNICATIONS

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that we did receive a letter from IDOT today regarding the Park and Ride. She stated they sent a letter in response to Durkin’s letter dated December 15th, concerning the Illinois Department of Transportation - Interstate 55 and US Route 6 Park and Ride facility. She also stated that the department is currently reviewing the issues outline in your letter and expect to provide a detailed response before the end of January 2021. She further stated we will stay on that.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Potts thanked the Board for considering him for the promotion to Sergeant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

**Submitted by
Kristin Hall
Village Clerk**

Kristin Hall by Henselme