

**CHANNAHON VILLAGE BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
AUGUST 3, 2020**

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

Also present were Village Administrator Thomas 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, Human Resources Director Jodi Denton, Village Attorney Jim Murphy and Village Clerk Kristin Hall.

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.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that John Vezzetti is here from Bernardi Securities to talk to us about refinancing the WESCOM bond. She stated that as you all know, we used our bonding authority to finance the bond for WESCOM. She also stated that rates being what they are, we now have the opportunity to refinance and save ourselves a little bit of money.

John Vezzetti, from Bernardi Securities, thanked the Board for allowing him to be here to give them some good news. He stated that interest rates have gone down and they feel like they can lower the interest rates on the WESCOM bonds. He also stated that the interest rate could also be lowered on the Village's 2012 Bonds and it could be done through one Ordinance that could be passed at the next Board meeting.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that this is not on the agenda but she asked Mr. Vezzetti to come here tonight to fill us in. She stated that we all love to save money whenever we can. She also stated that Trustee Slocum asked about the WESCOM bonds and if it would lower everyone's payment or if we would pay it off more quickly. The response was that we can look at different scenarios. She further stated that she personally feels like people are used to making the payment they are making and she likes the idea of reducing the debt quicker. She stated that she just wanted to make sure that everyone was okay with moving forward and if so, that we will bring this back at our next meeting, August 17th.

Board Direction was to move forward with the refinancing of the bonds.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Presentation – Grundy County Economic Development by Nancy Norton

Durkin stated Nancy Norton from the Grundy Economic Development Council (GEDC) is here to present their annual report. He stated the GEDC has worked with the Village in promoting economic development for Channahon. He also stated the GEDC is requesting financial support for their efforts. He further stated they have been a good partner in our efforts to foster economic development in our community and the region. He stated they are requesting an investment from the Village to the GEDC in the amount of \$5,000. He also stated this is consistent with the amount invested by the Village last year and this is a budgeted item.

Nancy Norton, President/CEO of the Grundy County Economic Development Council presented their annual report.

VP Moorman Schumacher thanked GEDC for being incredibly responsive in helping people wade through the sea of forms and application processes. She stated the Village has been fortunate to work with the GEDC.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Petrick stated he had no formal items, but he will have a few updates for the Board at the regular board meeting.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Discussion – 2020 Police Pension Tax Levy Demand Letter

Wagonblott stated Section 3-125 of the Illinois Pension Code requires that the Village of Channahon levy a tax to meet the annual actuarial requirements of the police pension fund (40 ILCS 5/3-125). She stated the Board of Trustees of the Channahon Police Pension Fund reviewed the actuarial valuation and GASB 67/68 reporting prepared by Foster & Foster. She also stated as a result of this review and discussion, the Police Pension Board voted to request that the Village Board levy \$814,884 for the Fund in December 2020. Note the following:

- The Village's recommended tax levy requirement is \$65,921 more than the prior year;
- According to the actuarial report, the Fund's investments returned 4.06% net of investment fees for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2020, on an actuarial basis;
- The funded ratio reported in the actuarial report is 63.5% which is almost exactly the same as the funded ration from the prior year; and
- In 2019 the Fund paid approximately \$407,000 in pension benefits. In approximately six years, the actuary projects the Fund's pension benefit payments will double;

She stated the Channahon Police Pension Board is grateful that the Village Board continues to have a proactive approach in seeking to grow its pension funds through investment now, as it is a fiscally responsible decision for the fund and the taxpayers of the Village of Channahon. She also stated the Police Pension Board looks forward to continuing the partnership with the Village to ensure the Pension Fund is properly funded.

Discussion – Hiring an Accounting Clerk

Wagonblott stated the Accounting Clerk position became available as a result of a resignation on June 4, 2020. She stated that per the Union contract, the Accounting Clerk position was posted internally until June 30, 2020. She also stated that along with posting the position internally, it was posted on the Village website, Facebook, Public Salary E-Blase, IGFOA and IML. She further stated that the 2020/2021 annual salary set by the Union contract is \$42,241. She stated that no internal candidate applications were received and a total of twenty-six (26) applications were received for the position. She also stated that she along with Durkin and Denton reviewed the applications. She further stated that six (6) candidates were chosen for the first round of interviews, which were held on July 15th and 16th with herself, Durkin and Denton. She stated that three (3) candidates were asked to return on July 23rd for second interviews. She also stated these interviews were conducted by Wagonblott and her staff, Churchill and Mikolic. She further stated that after the interviews were held, the panel concluded that Melissa Mazintas would be the recommended candidate. She stated that Melissa Mazintas was asked to return on

July 30th to meet with VP Moorman Schumacher and Trustee Greco. She also stated we are requesting the Board's approval of the recommendation of Melissa Mazintas at the Union contract annual salary of \$42,241 (\$20.3082 per hour) for this position, pending her background check and physical with drug screen.

VP Moorman Schumacher asked if anyone has a reason to go into Executive Session for this. She stated that she talked to Trustee Greco after the interview and said she trusted his judgment on the selection.

Trustee Greco stated that Melissa was very enthusiastic and what caught his attention right away is that she is only 30 years old and wants this to be her last move. She wants to make this a career. He stated that a lot of customer service experience along with computer experience. He also stated that they told her this was a difficult job, not only with the residents but with the numbers.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that this is heavily a customer service job. Calls are received about water service and people don't call when they are happy, they call when they are unhappy. She stated that she has a pretty extensive background in customer service. She also stated that if anyone has any questions, we can go into Executive Session for this.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Casey stated he had no formal items for discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Discussion – Agreement for Engineering Services for Water System Modeling and Alternative Water Supply Evaluation

Dolezal stated as the Board is aware, there is very good indication that the aquifer the Village uses as its water supply cannot sustain production. He stated projections indicate that it may be unreliable as early as 2030. He also stated the City of Joliet has determined that they will use Lake Michigan water as an alternate source and is actively pursuing the project. He further stated Joliet has approached Channahon, as well as other municipalities, to see who would like to participate. He stated the manner of that participation, such as governing structure and cost, is still unknown. He also stated at this time, though, it is necessary to figure out what improvements would be required to our system and Joliet's system to distribute water throughout the Village including future growth areas. He further stated the attached Task Order has Strand modelling our system, analyzing the system to determine required improvements, exploring the Illinois River as an alternative to Lake Michigan, and developing possible water rates for each alternative based on current understanding of Joliet's intentions. He stated that the Director of Utilities from the City of Joliet has put together a PowerPoint presentation, and we have asked her to come to one of our Board meetings to present it. He also stated that is scheduled for September 8th, if the Board is interested in that.

VP Moorman Schumacher stated that this is a huge deal and a huge investment no matter what we do. She stated that the aquifer is not being replenished as quickly as it is being used. She stated that there is a lot of unanswered questions, so the information is valuable for all of us to see. She stated that September 8th is fine with her.

Dolezal stated she is available, September 8th. She will be here for a presentation to the Board.

Discussion – An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Personal Property Owned by the Village of Channahon - 1st Read

Dolezal stated this item relates to declaring some equipment and vehicles surplus. He stated that one is a 2008 Ford Ranger and the other is a 2001 Ford F-150 that has an aerial lift. He also stated we will look to dispose of both of those. He further stated that we may need to find a more specialized way to get rid of the Ford F-150 because of the aerial lift.

Discussion – Award Chip Spread Project

Dolezal stated a Bituminous Surface Treatment (Chip Seal) project was one part of the Village’s 2019 Road Management Program. Project streets included Gun Club Rd. (north of Bungalow Rd), Hansel Rd. (Ridge Rd. to McLindon Rd.), Ridge Rd. (US 6 to Hansel), Northern Illinois Dr. (US 6 to cul-de-sac), and Municipal Dr. (US 6 to N. IL. Dr.). He stated though the vast majority of the project is in good condition, the intersection of Ridge Rd. with Hansel Rd. and the cul-de-sac of Northern Illinois Dr. have seen a significant ‘flushing’ of bitumen and/or loss of surface chips. He also stated the suspected cause appears to be a combination of prolonged excessive heat and heavy truck turning movements at these locations. He further stated repairs will consist of spreading stone chips at each location followed by pneumatic rolling to initiate embedment of the chips into the surface. He stated regular traffic will further drive in the chips. He also stated due to the small scope of work and Staff’s wish to expedite the scheduling of repairs, Village Staff recommends contracting with Gallagher Asphalt to respread chips. He further stated due to the quantity of stone chips being unknown, Gallagher’s contract proposal includes \$11,950.00 for Chip Spreading (labor, spreader, trucking, traffic control, rolling), plus \$19.95 per ton of chips actually used.

Discussion – Enter into Contract for Repairs to Bluff Road

Dolezal stated recently a sinkhole developed on Bluff Road near Valley Drive. He stated when Will County investigated the failure, a large void was discovered beneath the Road. He also stated the void was immediately adjacent to a watermain casing pipe that the Village installed when watermain was constructed along Bluff Road to the East side of I-55. He further stated the watermain was not leaking and there was no indication that the material had migrated elsewhere. He stated it was concluded that the void was created during the watermain construction by auguring excessive material through the casing pipe therefore making this issue the Village’s responsibility. He also stated coincidentally, the County has let a project to mill and overlay Bluff Road that is set to begin July 31st. He stated in order to avoid delays and possible conflict between contractors during the County’s project, we requested a unit price proposal from the contractor doing the County’s project. He also stated the contract is unit price because there is no way to determine the full extent of the required repairs until the contractor can expose the failure.

Trustee Greco asked when they would be starting. He stated that they had two dates posted that have come and gone.

Dolezal stated that they started on July 31st and didn’t differentiate between which location would be first. He stated that it is a pretty simple process and they think they will be able to keep both lanes open.

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC COMMENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee of the Whole was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

**Submitted by
Kristin Hall, Village Clerk**

