

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MORTON GROVE  
RICHARD T. FLICKINGER MUNICIPAL CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- I. Village President Dan DiMaria convened the Regular Meeting of the Village Board at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Village Hall and led the Board and assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  
- III. Village Clerk Eileen Harford called the roll. Present were Trustees Bill Grear, Saba Khan, Rita Minx, John Thill, and Janine Witko. Trustee Connie Travis was absent with notice.

IV.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Trustee Minx moved to accept the Minutes of the November 8, 2021 Village Board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Khan. **Motion passed unanimously via voice vote.**

V.

**SPECIAL REPORTS**

- 1. Swearing in of New Fire Chief Ralph Ensign
  - a. Mayor DiMaria invited Mr. Ensign to join him at the podium. The mayor said that, after the retirement of Chief Frank Rodgers this past April, the Village Administration began an extensive evaluation of internal and external candidates to fill the position. After an open and accessible outreach effort for applicants, and a comprehensive evaluation process, Mayor DiMaria said it was his pleasure to submit Chief Ensign's qualifications to the Village Board for concurrence with his appointment as Morton Grove's Fire Chief at the November 8, 2021 Board Meeting. The Board unanimously concurred with the appointment.
  - b. Mayor DiMaria said Chief Ensign comes to the Village with decades of regional experience in the fire services and over a decade of experience in fire service leadership positions. He holds a bachelor's degree in Fire Service Management from Southern Illinois University and holds the highest certification from the Illinois State Fire Marshal as a Chief Fire Officer. He also continues to service as an unpaid assessor/evaluator for the Center for Public Safety Excellence. In addition to his obvious technical expertise, Mayor DiMaria said Mr. Ensign stood out because of his outstanding experience in the Illinois fire service, his diverse background in community risk reduction and emergency planning, his experience with grants and public management, and his collaborative community management style.

V. **SPECIAL REPORTS** (continued)

- c. Mayor DiMaria said Chief Ensign currently lives in Hawthorn Woods with his wife Diane. They have two children and four grandchildren, with another grandchild on the way. The mayor said it was his pleasure of administer the Oath of Office to Ralph Ensign. The Chief's wife pinned on his badge as the assemblage congratulated him.
- d. Chief Ensign thanked the Village Board and the Mayor for having faith and confidence in him. He was especially grateful to Mayor DiMaria for letting him know more about Morton Grove. He also thanked the duty crew present this evening, and gave a shout out to the fire chief of Spring Grove and his wife, also here tonight.
- e. Mayor DiMaria also thanked the fire personnel in attendance and said he thinks everyone in the department will be well satisfied with the Village's choice of Ralph Ensign for the Fire Chief. He asked Mary Jo LeBeau, the assistant to the Fire Chief, how many chiefs she has worked with in her tenure with the department. Ms. LeBeau said this will be her seventh chief!

2. **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest Awards Presentation**

- a. Rick Dobrowski, Fire Prevention Bureau Coordinator for the Morton Grove Fire Department thanked the winners, their parents, teachers, and others present for these awards this evening for being here. He said the message of Fire Prevention Week this year was "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety," i.e., the sounds of smoke alarms or carbon monoxide detectors. He said the Fire Prevention Bureau did 44 educational classes this year with kindergarteners.
- b. Mr. Dobrowski said that this poster contest is an annual tradition, although it was skipped last year due to COVID. All schools serving Morton Grove participated and 140 entries were received. The contest is sponsored by the Firefighter's Association, and each winner will receive a plaque with a digitized photo of their winning poster. The posters were judged on whether the message was clear, the fire safety message is correct, and the quality of the artwork.

c. The winners were:

<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>Natalia Kubala</i>	<i>Jerusalem Lutheran</i>
<i>First Grade</i>	<i>Sayaam Ali</i>	<i>MCC Academy</i>
<i>Second Grade</i>	<i>Zara Hassan Fatima</i>	<i>MCC Academy</i>
<i>Third Grade</i>	<i>Trinity Vo</i>	<i>Jerusalem Lutheran</i>
<i>Fourth Grade</i>	<i>Sophie Freytes</i>	<i>Jerusalem Lutheran</i>
<i>Fifth Grade</i>	<i>Vivienne Howard-Check</i>	<i>Thomas Edison Elementary</i>
<i>Sixth Grade</i>	<i>Katalia Forsythe</i>	<i>Molloy Education Center</i>
<i>Seventh Grade</i>	<i>Jade Viruet</i>	<i>Jerusalem Lutheran</i>
<i>Eighth Grade</i>	<i>Natalia Atto</i>	<i>Jerusalem Lutheran</i>

Natalia Atto was also named the "Overall Winner" of the poster contest.

V. **SPECIAL REPORTS** (continued)

- d. After a brief period of photo-taking of the poster contest winners, Mr. Dobrowski thanked the Village Board members for all their support.

VI. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor DiMaria opened the Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget at 7:17 p.m. and turned it over to Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski.

- a. Mr. Czerwinski said he was pleased to present the Village's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 for the review and consideration by the Village Board. The proposed budget was presented on October 12, 2021 and October 13, 2021 at Budget Workshops which were open to the public. A first reading of the Budget and the Tax Levy Ordinances were on the November 8, 2021 Village Board Agenda.
- b. Mr. Czerwinski said this recommended budget represents the proposed expenditure plan for the delivery of municipal services and capital improvement needs for the Village in 2022. It represents a continued effort to maintain the services of the Village while keeping expenses under control. The proposed budget document provides financial and informational data.
- c. Financially, it offers line-item detail by fund, including revenues and expenditures. It also includes budget references for fiscal years 2020 and 2021; projected expenditures for 2021; and a proposal for budgeting for fiscal year 2022 expenditures and revenues. Informationally, it provides summary information identifying ongoing departmental objectives for key budget requests and a summary of budget modifications from the prior fiscal year.
- d. Mr. Czerwinski said the total proposed budget, including all expenditures and interfund transfers, is \$73.93 million, a decrease of 2.9% from the 2021 budget of \$76.12 million. This is due to some projects being completed in 2021, such as the purchase of a new fire truck. The budget also includes continued funding of projects not completed in 2021, such as a new water main connection to the Northwest Water Commission as a redundant water supply (\$1.7 million) and capital expenditures for Austin Avenue, the Oakton Street Path, and the Beckwith Bridget (\$1.8 million in Capital Projects and the Motor Fuel Tax Account.
- e. The General Fund budget, which includes the basic operating expenditures of the Village for administration, public works, police, fire, building, and senior and family services departments, is \$33.32 million, which is an increase of 2.28% (\$743,510) above the 2021 budget. This increase is attributed to an increase in pension costs, purchase of police vehicles, purchase of a dump truck for street maintenance, and cost of living increases for Village employees.
- f. Mr. Czerwinski pointed out the COVID had a significant impact on the revenues of the General Fund in 2020. Many revenues, especially sales and home rule taxes, improved in 2021, helped by the new Sawmill Station development. The Village has also received some American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding from the federal government to replace some of the revenue lost in 2020.

VI. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** (continued)

- g. Mr. Czerwinski said, due to improved revenues and continued cost containment, the Village projects it will add \$300,000 to the fund balance, which is estimated to be \$11,796,240 at the end of 2021. This is 35.4% of the 2022 budgeted expenditures. The Village has worked to build the General Fund balance over the last few years, and even with the effects of COVID, the General Fund balance has remained strong.
- h. The 2022 proposed budget includes a 3% property tax increase, representing a \$45.50 annual tax increase for a property valued at \$400,000. This projected increase is without consideration of the increased assessed value of our new development last year, which will reduce that projected impact. It should be noted that the Village had no property tax increase in 2019, 2020, and 2021. The property tax increase is necessary to keep pace with the continuing increases in pensions and operating costs. Department directors continue to diligently control expenditures and monitor revenues as well as all of the assets of the Village in a fiduciary manner. This proposed managed budget is the result of those efforts.
- j. Mr. Czerwinski said that, although this proposed budget is significantly controlled, it does offer progressive enhancements and organizational outcomes which support the long-term stability and operation needs of the Village, including:
  - Bond Rating Stabilization (maintenance of financial reserves and pension contributions)
  - Austin Avenue Reconstruction (Lincoln Avenue to Oakton Street)
  - Northwest Water Commission connection as a redundant water supply
  - Oakton Street Path
  - Maintenance of Public Facilities (roofing work at Public Works)
  - Systematic Replacement of Operational Equipment (police squad cars and street maintenance equipment)
  - Full-Time Social Worker
  - Resurfacing of Streets
  - Water Main Replacement
- k. Mr. Czerwinski said the end result of this budget reflects the work of department directors and their staffs; their work is greatly appreciated. Additionally, Mr. Czerwinski recognized Hann Sullivan, Finance Director, and Tom Friel, Assistant to the Village Administrator, for their work in the development of this proposed Budget. Mr. Czerwinski said he was happy to answer any questions from the Board or the public.
- l. **Eric Poders, 7940 Foster**, commented that people are going to see their property tax bills go up. He commended staff and the Board for keeping the property tax increase at 0% over the last three years, and noted that if you take the \$45 on a \$400,000 house, it averages out to about \$11 a year over the last four years. But school boards and other taxing entities will likely also have tax increases, so Mr. Poders encouraged people to remember, when they look at their property tax bill, that the Village's portion is a very small percentage of the total tax bill.
- m. Mr. Poders also noted that he has been to the Amazon Fresh grocery store about 16 times since they've opened. He's also been promoting the coupons that Amazon mailed out.

VI. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** (continued)

- n. Mr. Poders said he is concerned, however, because Amazon is not collecting the correct amount of sales tax, so the Village is basically losing out. He showed a receipt he had and said that the Village lost a few dollars on the tax collected for what he purchased. Mr. Poders asked that Mayor DiMaria or Ms. Sullivan discuss this with Amazon's regional leadership team or even travel to Amazon's headquarters in Seattle. Not only are the cameras in Amazon Fresh making mistakes, the company is over-charging people!
- o. Mr. Poders commended staff for going full-time on the social worker. He said he's aware of the Outstanding Neighbor program, and has heard about a program to help people out with snow shoveling, but he wondered how that program works. If you see a neighbor who is struggling, for example, with snow removal...should you call the social worker? Or if you have a neighbor who is just struggling with everything, should you call the fire department non-emergency number?
- p. Lastly, Mr. Poders commended the Village on the hiring of a new Fire Chief; he felt Chief Ensign would be a great asset to the Village. He said he hoped the Village would see more federal funding come in from the Build Back Better plan, in which case he hoped that some budgeted funds could be reallocated to more social services. He thanked the Board and staff for all their hard work.

Mayor DiMaria asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Trustee Minx so moved, seconded by Trustee Witko. **Motion passed unanimously via voice vote. Public Hearing closed at 7:28 p.m.**

VII. **PLAN COMMISSION REPORTS**

NONE

VIII. **RESIDENTS' COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)**

NONE

IX. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- 1. Mayor DiMaria proclaimed the month of December 2021 as "Food Pantry Awareness Month" in the Village. He said that, in 2020, the Niles Township Food Pantry served 3,000 separate households, which is about 9% of the total households in Niles Township. The Pantry served nearly 61,500 total individuals, as many families rely on the Pantry on a regular basis and even more so during these difficult times; in 2020, the Pantry distributed nearly 1.4 million pounds of food.

IX. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (continued)

- a. Mayor DiMaria said the demand for emergency food continues to grow in the wake of this global pandemic. Food banks like the Niles Township Food Pantry are more critical than ever. The Pantry continues to provide meaningful volunteer service and in-pantry shopping to those in need, and has helped encourage installation of mini-food pantries across the township through the 2021 Coming Together program.
  - b. The Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation is collecting monetary-donations this year to purchase holiday gift cards so children from families in need can enjoy the upcoming holidays.
  - c. Mayor DiMaria said the Food Pantry is run and supported by the Niles Township Government and food and other services provided to Food Pantry clients is paid for out of the Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation, a 501(c)3 charitable foundation. He urged all residents to support the efforts of the Niles Township Food Pantry by making a monetary donation to the Food Pantry holiday drive and by donating (whenever possible) non-perishable food items.
2. Next, Mayor DiMaria presented **Resolution 21-74, Authorizing the Installation of Temporary Street Signs in the 9300 Block of Oketo Street in Morton Grove, Illinois, to Honor Bette C. Horstman.**
- a. He said the Village would like to honor and recognize Bette for her contributions to Morton Grove and her service to our country. She has been a resident of Morton Grove for 65 years and will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 6, 2021.
  - b. Bette graduated from the University of Michigan in 1943, received her physical therapy certification from the Mayo Brothers School of Medicine in 1944, and then joined the US Army Medical Corps as a First lieutenant in 1945, serving for 2 years during World War II in the South Pacific as the only physical therapist on the island of Saipan, and was honorably discharged from the service at the rank of Captain in 1946.
  - c. Mayor DiMaria said Bette is most proud of her service to our country and our veterans. She has received many awards and recognitions over the years. Bette's seemingly inexhaustible energy and passion to serve her country and community is an example for all of us, and stands as a living testament to a life of service, selflessness, compassion, and civic pride. This Resolution will authorize the Village to install honorary temporary street signs for Bette C. Horstman Lane in the 9300 block of Oketo Street to honor Bette for her service and dedication to her country, community, and the Village, as she approaches her Centenarian milestone.

Trustee Minx moved to approve Resolution 21-74, seconded by Trustee Witko.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear      aye  
Tr. Thill      aye

Tr. Khan      aye  
Tr. Travis    absent

Tr. Minx      aye  
Tr. Witko     aye

IX. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (continued)

- d. Trustee Minx told Bette, "I hope I have the energy to do the things you do when I get near your age." She marveled at Bette's consistency in volunteering for Morton Grove Days and marching in the parade. She said, "Bette, you are an inspiration to all of us."
  - e. Trustee Thill commented that Bette is part of "The Greatest Generation" and thanked her.
3. Mayor DiMaria announced that some normalcy is coming back—Santa will be coming to Morton Grove on Saturday, December 4! He begins his parade at Greenwood & Waukegan at 11:00 a.m., and his trip will end at Main Street & Austin Avenue between 1:15 and 1:30 p.m. Santa will reappear at the northwest corner of Harrer Park (6250 Dempster) for a drive-up greeting and to provide gifts to children receiving specially marked candy from the parade. Due to the current public health situation, this year's gift redemption will be drive-up only. Those wishing to redeem specially marked candy must enter the west side of the park from westbound Dempster Street. Mayor DiMaria said a detailed map of Santa's route through town can be found at [www.mortongroveil.org/santa2021](http://www.mortongroveil.org/santa2021).
  4. Mayor DiMaria said the Morton Grove Police Department's annual Toys for Tots drive is now underway. New unwrapped toys can be donated at the following locations:
    - MG Police Department, 6101 Capulina Avenue
    - MG Fire Department #4, 6250 Lincoln Avenue
    - MG Village Hall, 6101 Capulina Avenue
    - MG Park District, 6834 Dempster Street
    - MG Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Avenue.

The Toys for Tots collection ends on December 10, 2021.

5. Also underway is the Morton Grove Fire Department/Firefighter's Association Annual Food and Gift Drive. Mayor DiMaria said the Firefighter's Association is collecting donations to purchase gift cards, toys, and a holiday ham for families in need. Non-perishable food will not be collected this year due to the ongoing pandemic. Those wishing to donate can write a check payable to Firefighter's Association of Morton Grove and sent to or dropped at Fire Station #4, 6250 Lincoln Avenue, Morton Grove, Attention: Food Drive. Food and gifts will be provided to families on December 17. Any questions, please contact the Fire Department at 847-470-5226.
6. Mayor DiMaria, on behalf of the Village Board and his family, wished one and all a very happy Thanksgiving this coming Thursday. He said "We all have a lot to be grateful and much to be thankful for this year. A lot has happened in Morton Grove for its betterment this year." The mayor personally thanked the Board, Village staff, and Village residents for all the support he's received this year and encouraged everyone to "take a knee" and be grateful.

X. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Clerk Harford had no report this evening.

XI. **STAFF REPORTS**

A. **Village Administrator:**

1. Mr. Czerwinski announced that Village Hall and Public Works will be closed on November 25 and 26, and December 24 and 31.
- a. Trustee Thill asked what people should do if they need Public Works during any of these days. Mr. Czerwinski said people should call the Police Department non-emergency number, or, if there is an emergency, call 9-1-1.
2. The Village, through the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and Elgin Recycling, is offering free holiday lights recycling. Only strings of lights will be accepted (no garland with lights entwined, lighted wreaths, or that sort of thing.) There is a box on the south side of the Village Hall lobby for residents to drop off their holiday lights. This recycling program will end on February 1, 2022. Any questions on what is acceptable for recycling, please call 847-448-4311.

B. **Corporation Counsel:**

Corporation Counsel Liston had no report this evening.

XII. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS**

A. **Trustee Grear:**

Trustee Grear had no report this evening.

B. **Trustee Khan:**

Trustee Khan had no report this evening.



XII. TRUSTEES' REPORTS (continued)C. Trustee Minx:

1. Trustee Minx presented **Ordinance 21-13, An Ordinance Adopting the Budgets for All Corporate Purposes of the Village of Morton Grove and the Morton Grove Library, Cook County, Illinois, for the Calendar Year Effective January 1, 2022 and Ending December 31, 2022.**
  - a. She explained that the 2022 Budget represents the Corporate Authorities' projections of revenue that are expected to become available during fiscal year 2022, as well as recommended expenditures for the Village. The Budget was presented at Village Workshops held on October 12 and October 13, 2021, and during a Public Hearing earlier this evening (with appropriate public notice). The Budget has been available for inspection at the office of the Village Administrator, the Public Library, and has been posted on the Village's website.

Trustee Minx moved to adopt Ordinance 21-13, seconded by Trustee Gear.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Gear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

2. Next, Trustee Minx presented **Ordinance 21-14, An Ordinance Levying and Assessing Taxes for the Village of Morton Grove, Cook County, Illinois for 2021 to be Collected in the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022.**
  - a. She explained that this Ordinance sets the 2021 property tax levy amount that will be collected and will fund the 2022 budget. This ordinance must be adopted and filed with the Cook County Clerk in order to levy property taxes within the Village of Morton Grove.
  - b. Trustee Minx said, pursuant to Ordinance 21-13, the amount necessary to be levied for the 2021 property taxes is: \$10,208,328 for Village operational expenses, \$858,879 for Village debt service and \$3,438,617 for the Library. This will result in a levy of \$11,067,207 for the Village and \$3,438,617 for the Library for a total levy of \$14,505,824.
  - c. By law, the Village is required to levy an additional \$1,799,884 for Village debt service payments authorized by general obligation notes and bonds for a total levy before abatements in the amount of \$16,305,708. However, the Village Board intends to adopt Resolutions that will immediately abate \$1,799,884 from the levy, resulting in the net levy as intended by the Corporate Authorities in the amount of \$14,505,824. The effective result is a 3% increase in the Village's portion of the tax levy and a 0% increase in the Library's portion of the tax levy, resulting in an overall increase of 2.28% from the final extended tax levy from the previous year.

XII. TRUSTEES' REPORTS (continued)C. Trustee Minx: (continued)

Trustee Minx moved, seconded by Trustee Witko, to adopt Ordinance 21-14.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

Trustee Minx then presented several Tax Abatement Resolutions:

3. **Resolution 21-67, Tax Abatement Resolution for 2021 Tax Levy Relation to Ordinance 15-02.**
  - a. Trustee Minx explained that, pursuant to the 2022 Budget, the Village has chosen to pay for certain bond debt service payments from sources other than property taxes. In order for the County Clerk not to levy said debt service payments, it is necessary to pass this resolution and to file a certified copy of this with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois. This resolution authorizes the abatement (reduction) of taxes levied for 2021 (which are collected in 2022) in the amount of \$1,515,550.
  - b. She said that in March of 2015, the Board issued \$10,010,000 in General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015, to refinance a portion of the 2007 Lehigh Ferris Tax Increment Financing (TIF) debt issue and to fund new capital improvements. Pursuant to Ordinance 15-02, the levy of taxes for the debt service payment for the year 2020 is \$1,999,300. Trustee Minx said that the 2022 Budget has allocated revenue from the Lehigh Ferris TIF Fund in the amount of \$791,800, and revenue from the General Fund in the amount of \$723,750 to partially pay for this debt service. The law requires the Village to levy taxes as required by Ordinance 15-02, but then may abate said taxes pursuant to a resolution which identifies the alternative source(s) of revenue and obligates the Village Treasurer to set aside and designate those funds to partially pay the required bond payments. After all abatements, the net levy for this bond series is \$483,750.

Trustee Minx moved to approve Resolution 21-67, seconded by Trustee Witko.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

4. **Resolution 21-68, Tax Abatement Resolution for 2021 Tax Levy Relating to Ordinance 02-30.**
  - a. Trustee Minx explained that, pursuant to the 2022 Budget, the Village has chosen to pay for certain semi-annual note debt service payments from sources other than property taxes.

XII. TRUSTEES' REPORTS (continued)C. Trustee Minx: (continued)

- b. In order for the County Clerk not to levy said debt service payments, it is necessary to pass this resolution and to file a certified copy of this with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois. This resolution authorizes the abatement (reduction) of taxes levied for 2021 (which are collected in 2022) in the amount of \$526,863.91.
- c. She said that in July of 2002, the Board issued \$5,300,000 in General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2002. Pursuant to Ordinance 02-30, the levy of taxes for the debt service payment for the year 2021 is \$526,863.91. Trustee Minx noted that, in September of 2009, the Village Board issued refunding bonds in the amount of \$4,920,000, Series 2009A, to refinance the remaining Series 2002 Notes. However, despite the refunding, Cook County will continue to levy taxes as provided for in Ordinance 02-30. Therefore, a Resolution abating the debt service for the Series 2002 Notes is required. After all abatements, the net levy for the 2002 Notes is zero (\$0).

Trustee Minx moved, seconded by Trustee Khan, to approve Resolution 21-68.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

5. **Resolution 21-69, Tax Abatement Resolution for 2021 Tax Levy Relating to Ordinance 19-15.**

- a. Trustee Minx explained that, pursuant to the 2022 Budget, the Village has chosen to pay for certain semi-annual bond debt service payments from sources other than property taxes. In order for the County Clerk not to levy said debt service payments, it is necessary to pass this resolution and to file a certified copy of this with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois. This resolution authorizes the abatement (reduction) of taxes levied for 2021 (which are collected in 2022) in the amount of \$284,334.
- b. She said that, in November of 2019, the Board issued \$5,455,000 in General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2019. Pursuant to Ordinance 19-15, the levy of taxes for the debt service payment for the year 2021 is \$659,463. She said the 2022 Budget has allocated revenue from the Water Sewer fund in the amount of \$284,334 to partially pay for this debt service payment. The law requires the Village to levy taxes as required by Ordinance 19-15, but then may abate said taxes pursuant to a resolution which identifies the alternative source of revenue and obligates the Village Treasurer to set aside and designate those funds to partially pay the required bond payments. After all abatements, the net levy for this bond series is \$375,129.

Trustee Minx moved to approve Resolution 21-69, seconded by Trustee Grear.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

XII. TRUSTEES' REPORTS (continued)C. Trustee Minx: (continued)

- c. Trustee Gear thanked Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski, Finance Director Hanna Sullivan, Finance Department staff, and all the departments for their hard work on the 2022 Budget.
- 6. Trustee Minx wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving, and wished all who will be traveling over the holiday safe travels.

D. Trustee Thill:

Trustee Thill had no formal report this evening.

E. Trustee Travis:

Trustee Travis is absent with notice this evening, but Trustee Khan will cover the items under Trustee Travis' report.

- 1. Trustee Khan presented **Resolution 21-70, Authorizing a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Village of Morton Grove and the Morton Grove Firefighter's Association for January 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2023.**
  - a. She explained that this Resolution will approve a four-year collective bargaining agreement between the Village and the Morton Grove Firefighter's Association, IAFF Local 2178. The most recent contract expired on December 31, 2019.

Trustee Khan moved to approve Resolution 21-70, seconded by Trustee Minx.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Gear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

- 2. Next, Trustee Khan invited all residents and businesses to participate in the Village's 2021 Winter Adopt-a-Planter Program. The Public Works Department has planted 4-foot evergreen trees in planters throughout the Village. Participants will be assigned a tree to decorate and care for this winter, with the option to plant it in their yard for free when the program ends. Sign-up officially ended on November 15, 2021, but there are still a few planters available. Program information is available at Village Hall or on the Village website.

XII. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)E. Trustee Travis: (continued)

3. Trustee Khan reminded everyone that the Community Relations Commission is sponsoring a "Student Photo Contest" for students to be creative in sharing their experiences about going back to school or life around town. Photos must be received by November 29, 2021, and can be submitted to [www.mortongrovel.org/photocontest](http://www.mortongrovel.org/photocontest). Winners will be announced at the Village Board meeting on December 13, 2021.

F. Trustee Witko:

1. Trustee Witko presented **Resolution 21-71, Authorizing the Purchase of 3,000 Tons of Roadway Salt From Compass Minerals America, Inc.**
  - a. She explained that the State of Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) conducted a contract re-procurement for the purchase of roadway salt for the period of October 15, 2021 to October 16, 2022. The Village has utilized the State bidding process in the past for the purchase of roadway salt. Compass Minerals America, Inc. was the vendor selected by the CMS. The 3,000 tons of roadway salt authorized as a baseline amount of material in this Resolution is at a cost of \$49.78 per ton delivered. As part of the agreement, the Village must purchase 80% of the baseline ordered amount, with the ability to purchase 120% of this amount. The cost for the baseline amount is \$149,340, and the not-to-exceed potential amount at 120% of the baseline amount is 3,600 tons, resulting in a not-to-exceed cost of \$179,208.

Trustee Witko moved, seconded by Trustee Minx, to approve Resolution 21-71.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

2. Next, Trustee Witko presented **Resolution 21-72, Authorizing the Purchase of One New Freightliner Dump Truck With Spreader and Snowplow From Trans Chicago Truck Group of Elmhurst, Illinois.**
  - a. She explained that Public Works routinely reviews vehicles and equipment for fuel economy, safety, dependability, age, and excessive repair cost, and has recommended the Village replace the 1998 Dump Truck #35. With the concurrence of the Village Administrator and Finance Director, the current vehicle has been designated as surplus equipment and will be disposed of by auction through the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) Equipment Auction after the new vehicle is received and operational during the third quarter of 2022.

XII. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)F. Trustee Witko: (continued)

- b. Trustee Witko said the purchase of a new Freightliner Dump Truck with Salt Spreader and Snowplow for the Public Works Department was competitively bid through the Sourcewell Procurement, Contract #081716. Trans Chicago Truck Group in Elmhurst was selected as the low bid vendor in the amount of \$215,160. Funding for this purchase is available in the 2022 General Fund in the amount of \$235,000. The purchase is being authorized at this time to avoid upcoming price increases and supply chain issues.

Trustee Witko moved, seconded by Trustee Minx, to approve Resolution 21-72.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

3. Trustee Witko then presented **Resolution 21-73, Authorizing the Execution of a Service Contract With Municipal GIS Partners, Inc. (MGP) For Geographic Information System Services.**
- a. She explained that the Village has been a member of the Geographic Information System Consortium (GISC) since 2002 to reduce the costs of implementing GIS technology by participating in collective bargaining, group training, joint purchasing, and development and innovation sharing. MGP has been the service provider for GIS services to GISC since GISC began in 1999. This contract will be in effect from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, and includes optional renewal terms of successive one-year periods. The amount of this contract is a not-to-exceed value of \$83,120.

Trustee Witko moved to approve Resolution 21-73, seconded by Trustee Minx.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>absent</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>aye</u>

4. Lastly, Trustee Witko presented for a first reading **Ordinance 21-15, An Ordinance Approving an Easement Agreement Between the Village of Morton Grove and the Morton Grove Park District for the Installation and Maintenance of a Water Main in Harrer Park.**
- a. She explained that the Morton Grove Historical Museum is owned by the Morton Grove Park District and is located at Harrer Park, 6250 Dempster Street. The Historical Museum, along with the Village-owned Historical Museum Annex and the American Legion Post #134 Memorial Civic Center receives water service from a single pipeline connected to the Village water main in Dempster Street.

XII. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)F. **Trustee Witko:** (continued)

- b. Trustee Witko said the Village Engineer has recommended the Village install a new water main to connect to the water main in Dempster Street and the water main in Harrer Park to improve the water service configuration and the water quality at the Historical Museum and Civic Center. The Village and the Park District have worked together to reach an easement agreement to grant the Village the perpetual right to use a portion of Harrer Park to construct, operate, maintain, repair, and replace a public water main. This Ordinance will approve the Easement Agreement and authorize the Agreement and Plat of Easement to be recorded with the Cook County Recorder's office. The fiscal impact of this ordinance is \$3,000 for document preparation (50% of which will be reimbursed to the Village by the Park District.)

Trustee Witko said, as this is the first reading of this Ordinance, no action will be taken tonight.

Trustee Thill commented that the Village does not own the Historical Museum; it owns the land on which the Museum is located.

XIII. **OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

XIV. **WARRANTS**

Trustee Minx presented the Warrant Register for November 22, 2021 in the amount of \$2,319,433.90. She moved to approve this evening's Warrant Register as presented, seconded by Trustee Witko.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear      aye  
Tr. Thill      aye

Tr. Khan      aye  
Tr. Travis    absent

Tr. Minx      aye  
Tr. Witko     aye

XV. **RESIDENTS' COMMENTS**

NONE

XVI.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Minx moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Witko.

**Motion passed: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.**

Tr. Grear      aye  
Tr. Thill      aye

Tr. Khan      aye  
Tr. Travis    absent

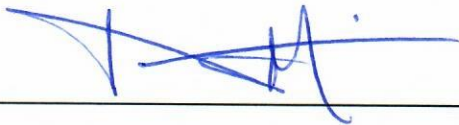
Tr. Minx      aye  
Tr. Witko     aye

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

PASSED this 13th day of December, 2021.

Trustee Grear	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Khan	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Minx	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Thill	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Travis	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Witko	<u>Aye</u>

APPROVED by me this 13th day of December, 2021.



Daniel P. DiMaria, Village President  
Board of Trustees, Morton Grove, Illinois

APPROVED and FILED in my office this 14th day of December, 2021.



Eileen Scanlon Harford, Village Clerk  
Village of Morton Grove, Cook County, Illinois

Minutes by Teresa Cousar