

**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
AUGUST 27, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

- I. Village President Dan DiMaria reconvened the Regular Meeting of the Village Board at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Village Hall and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Village Clerk Eileen Harford called the roll. Present were Trustees Saba Khan, Rita Minx, Ashur Shiba, John Thill, Connie Travis, and Janine Witko.

III.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Mayor DiMaria asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of Part 1 of the Regular Meeting of the August 13, 2024 Village Board Meeting as presented. Trustee Minx so moved, seconded by Trustee Khan. **Motion passed via voice vote with 6 ayes, 0 nays.**
- b. Mayor DiMaria then asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of Part 2 of the Regular Meeting of the August 13, 2024 Village Board Meeting as presented. Trustee Minx made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee Travis. **Motion passed via voice vote with 6 ayes, 0 nays.**

IV.

SPECIAL REPORTS

NONE

V.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

NONE

VI.

PLAN COMMISSION REPORTS

NONE

VII.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

NONE

VIII.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

1. Mayor DiMaria reported that construction has begun on Gateway Plaza, which is the green space south of Lincoln Avenue at Ferris Avenue. The project includes a public plaza, bicycle parking racks, planting beds, and commemorative bricks donated by the community. The construction project will impact the sidewalk and parking on the south side of Lincoln Avenue in this area for a week, and total project should be completed by the end of October.
2. Mayor DiMaria encouraged everyone to stay up-to-date on the latest Village events and news by signing up for E-News and following the Village on Facebook and Instagram.

IX.

CLERK’S REPORT

Clerk Harford announced that the Condo Association meeting scheduled for August 28, 2024 has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

X.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Village Administrator:

1. Mr. Meyer presented **Ordinance 24-14, Amending Title 4, Chapter 6D Entitled “Liquor Control,” and Section 14 Entitled “Regulations for Licensees Operating Video Gaming Terminals on the Licensed Premise.”**
 - a. Mr. Meyer said this Ordinance will increase the maximum allowable income from video gaming that can be received by the licensee from the current thirty percent (30%) to fifty percent (50%). This is the second reading of this Ordinance.
 - b. Mayor DiMaria asked for a motion in regards to this Ordinance. Trustee Minx moved to adopt Ordinance 24-14, seconded by Trustee Shiba.

Motion passed: 5 ayes, 1 nay.

Tr. Khan	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Minx	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Shiba	<u>aye</u>
Tr. Thill	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Travis	<u>aye</u>	Tr. Witko	<u>nay</u>

- c. Prior to her vote, Trustee Witko explained that she had worked with Village staff on the original ordinance to narrow the maximum allowable income from video gaming. She said voting in favor of this ordinance seems contradictory, so she would be voting against it.
2. Mr. Meyer next presented for a first reading **Ordinance 24-15, Amending Title 1, Chapter 11, Section 4 Entitled “Fees For Specific Permits, Licenses, Certificates, and Services,” and Title 10, Chapter 1, Section 8 Entitled “Permit and Related Fees and Deposits” of the Municipal Code of the Village of Morton Grove to Update the Fees For Consulting Engineering Services and Third-Party Plan Reviews.**

X. **STAFF REPORTS** (continued)

A. Village Administrator: (continued)

- a. Mr. Meyer said in June of 2020, the Village Board had amended Title 1 of the Village Code to add a new Chapter 11 entitled "Fees" in order to provide a comprehensive fee schedule for various licenses, permits, and services authorized by the Code set forth in one location of the Village Code, so that it could be easily referenced by the public and annually reviewed by Village staff as part of the annual budget process. In reviewing practices, it was found that the Village was not capturing the full extent of fees associated with engineering reviews for third parties and for consulting engineers. The proposed modification to the fee schedule will help address anticipated costs for these types of plan reviews and will ensure that the Village is made whole on these costs.

As this is the first reading of this Ordinance, no action will be taken this evening.

3. Mr. Meyer reminded the assemblage that 2024-2025 vehicle stickers must be displayed by September 1, 2024. This is the "last call" to get your sticker! Owners of vehicles registered in the State of Illinois to a Morton Grove address must purchase a Morton Grove vehicle sticker. If you have received a vehicle sticker application for a car you no longer own, you must let the Village know by completing and returning the form. Call 847-965-4100 or visit Village Hall for assistance.
- a. Mayor DiMaria emphasized that this is really simple, yet every year the Finance Director receives many calls about this: if your vehicle is registered with the State of Illinois to a Morton Grove address, whether it's operable or not, you must purchase a Morton Grove vehicle sticker.

B. Corporation Counsel:

Corporation Counsel Liston had no formal report this evening.

XI. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS**

A. Trustee Khan:

Trustee Khan had no formal report this evening.

B. Trustee Minx:

1. Trustee Minx presented **Resolution 24-47, Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services.**

XI. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)

B. **Trustee Minx:** (continued)

- a. Trustee Minx explained that this Resolution will authorize the Village Administrator to execute an agreement with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services in connection with supplemental ambulance rates.
- b. She said Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) is a supplemental federal funding program that allows Illinois local governments that perform emergency medical transports for Medicaid patients to submit for additional reimbursement for unrecovered costs associated with those transports. Currently, the State reimburses municipalities a set amount for Medicaid transports, regardless of the actual cost of providing those services. Pursuant to GEMT, the federal government will pay the State the difference between the set amount and the actual costs incurred for Medicaid transports. Once the State receives the funds from the federal government, it will reimburse the Village for a portion of the funds received. This Resolution will approve an inter-governmental agreement (IGA) between the Village of Morton Grove and the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) to establish supplemental ambulance rates. The IGA will affirm the rates HFS will pay the Village for covered services for members of the public enrolled in medical programs through HFS.

Trustee Minx moved to approve Resolution 24-47, seconded by Trustee Travis.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

- 2. Trustee Minx encouraged everyone to attend the Morton Grove Fire Department's Open House on Saturday, September 7, from 11am to 2pm at 6250 Lincoln Avenue. Residents will get a chance to get up close to the equipment and try using the fire hose and fire extinguishers.

C. **Trustee Shiba:**

Trustee Shiba encouraged everyone to attend the 2024 Sustainability Expo, which is set for Saturday, September 14, from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Morton Grove Civic Center. The Village currently has over 30 exhibitors. Please visit www.mortongroveil.org to see the full list of exhibitors.

XI. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)

D. Trustee Thill:

1. Trustee Thill presented **Resolution 24-48, Authorizing the Village Administrator to Issue Contract Change Orders for Austin Avenue Improvements (MFT Section 12-00106-00-PV).**
 - a. This Resolution will authorize the Village Administrator to execute contract change orders for Austin Avenue Improvements (MFT Section 12-00106-00-PV).
 - b. Resolution 24-05, approved earlier this year, authorized an agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for construction improvements and construction engineering on Austin Avenue and Oakton Street, referred to as "Austin Avenue Improvements." The agreement specifies that IDOT publicly bids, awards, contracts with, and pays the contractor. The Village reimburses IDOT for the Village's share of the cost. The contract amount by IDOT is \$4,541,910.49. The agreement also specifies the Village is responsible for construction engineering, which includes authorizing work due to unknown or differing site conditions, or having no payment provisions in the contract.
 - c. The Municipal Code authorizes the Village Administrator as the Village's purchasing agent to execute change orders to a cumulative amount of \$25,000. To facilitate effective and efficient construction operations for this project scope, this Resolution authorizes the Village Administrator to approve change orders for up to \$200,000 (4.4%) of the approved awarded contract while staying within the allotted not-to-exceed amount approved by the Village Board. To date, the Village Administrator has approved five change orders with a new impact of \$8,641.80.
 - d. Trustee Thill asked if the Village has a total cost of this improvement project, outside of the change orders. Corporation Counsel Liston responded that the entire project cost is \$4,541,910.49. Some of the cost Morton Grove is incurring will be reimbursed by the State and some by the Village of Skokie as well. But because this contract is so large, and due to the nature of the work, staff is asking that the Village Administrator be authorized to make change orders up to \$200,000 rather than the \$20,000, which is more the norm.

Trustee Thill moved to approve Resolution 24-48, seconded by Trustee Minx.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

2. Next, Trustee Thill presented **Resolution 24-49, Authorizing the Purchase of a New 2024 Dynapac Vibratory Roller from Casey Equipment Company, Inc.**
 - a. The Vehicle Maintenance Division of Public Works routinely reviews vehicles and equipment for their technological, economic, and service life.

XI. TRUSTEES' REPORTS (continued)

D. Trustee Thill: (continued)

- b. This data analysis considers vehicle and equipment fuel economy, safety, dependability, service life, and repair costs. During this review, Public Works staff recommended replacing the 1996 Bomag Roller and the 2001 Ingersoll-Rand Roller. The purchase of a new Dynapac Vibratory Roller was competitively bid through Sourcewell Procurement Agency pursuant to Contract #060122-DYN with Casey Equipment Company, Inc. of Arlington Heights, IL being the authorized regional Dynapac dealer for this contract. Casey Equipment has agreed to accept the 1996 Bomag Roller and the 2001 Ingersoll-Rand Roller as trade-ins in the purchase agreement. The trade-in value for those two items totals \$3,000.00, which has been deducted from the list price of \$46,151.76, making the financial impact of this Resolution \$43,151.76.
- c. Trustee Thill asked for an explanation of what, exactly, the Village is purchasing and what is it used for. Mr. Meyer responded that it's used to smooth out surfaces of roadways and alleyways. The Village is getting one new vehicle to replace two very old ones.

Trustee Thill moved to approve Resolution 24-49, seconded by Trustee Witko.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

3. Trustee Thill then brought forward **Resolution 24-50, Authorizing a Contract With Efraim Carlson & Son, Inc. for the Construction of the Morton Grove Metra Station and Site Improvements.**

- a. This Resolution will authorize the Village Administrator to execute a contract with Efraim Carlson & Son, Inc. for construction of the Morton Grove Metra Station and Site Improvements, and to execute change orders as necessary to complete the project on schedule.
- b. The Morton Grove Metra station, located at 8501 Lehigh Avenue in Morton Grove, was constructed in the 1970's and last updated in the 1980's. In 2021, the Village created the Lincoln/Lehigh TIF District with a key goal of supporting enhancement of the outdated commuter station. The Village plans to reconstruct the station in accordance with architectural and engineering plans prepared by RM Swanson Architects and approved by Metra. The future station and site will feature quality architecture and include improvements to the surrounding platform, landscaping, parking lot, bicycle parking, and pedestrian areas, serving as an attractive gateway to the Village.
- c. On June 5, 2024, the Public Works Department advertised and invited bids for the construction of "The New Morton Grove Metra Station and Site Improvement." Eight bids were received. Efraim Carlson & Son, Inc. was the lowest bidder with a bid amount of \$3,680,000. Staff considers it practical to authorize the Village Administrator to issue contract change orders not to exceed \$368,000, or 10% of the contract amount, to be prepared to accommodate extra costs to keep construction on schedule and completed in 2025.

XI. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)

D. Trustee Thill: (continued)

- d. This Resolution will authorize a contract with Efraim Carlson & Son, Inc. for the new Morton Grove Metra Station and site improvement projects in an amount not to exceed \$4,048,000.

Trustee Thill moved, seconded by Trustee Minx, to approve Resolution 24-50.

- e. Trustee Thill asked if the Village had received any monetary support from Metra for this project. Mr. Meyer assured him that the Village has. *(Detailed response from Finance Director inaudible.)*

Mayor DiMaria called for the vote on Resolution 24-50.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

E. Trustee Travis:

- 1. Trustee Travis reminded those who adopted a planter to please make sure you're checking on it.
- 2. Also, the Summer Photo Contest will be ending on Labor Day. Those interested in submitting photos should make sure their photos reflect the theme ("Summer in Morton Grove") and get them submitted by or before Labor Day. More information can be found on the Village's website.
- 3. She reminded everyone that Block Party Kits are still available on the Village's website, even though the summer is winding down. These kits include everything you need for planning and hosting a successful block party.

F. Trustee Witko:

- 1. Trustee Witko presented **Resolution 24-51, Authorizing Application For and Execution of a Technical Assistance Agreement with the Regional Transportation Authority to Develop a Dempster Street Corridor Plan in the Village of Morton Grove.**
 - a. She explained that the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) has approved the Village's application requesting a Dempster Street Corridor Plan as part of the 2024 Community Planning Program. The grant will be used to hire a consultant team to undertake long-range planning efforts for the Dempster Street corridor in support of numerous Strategic Plan objectives.

XI. TRUSTEES' REPORTS (continued)

F. Trustee Witko: (continued)

- b. The Dempster Street Corridor Plan process will be leveraged for a broader Comprehensive Plan update that will be led by staff. Following approval of the Governing Resolution, staff will work with RTA staff to develop a scope of work and draft intergovernmental agreement for approval by the Village Board. The grant award is for a no-to-exceed of \$200,000 that includes a 20% local match requirement (\$40,000) that the Village is responsible for providing. Lehigh/Ferris TIF District funds may be used toward the local match provided the funds are dedicated for that use prior to the TIF District's expiration on December 31, 2024.

Trustee Witko moved to approve Resolution 24-51, seconded by Trustee Minx.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

2. Next, Trustee Witko presented **Resolution 24-52, Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Cook County for the Award of 2024 "Invest in Cook" Program Funds.**

- a. She said this will authorize an intergovernmental agreement with Cook County for the award of "Invest in Cook" grant funds to be used for the installation of accessible pedestrian facilities, bicycle parking, a public plaza, and other right-of-way improvements in the area across from the Morton Grove Metra station as part of the planned mixed-use development at 8500-50 Lehigh Avenue.
- b. Trustee Witko explained that Cook County has approved the Village's application for 2024 Invest in Cook program funding to make bike and pedestrian improvements along Lehigh Avenue as part of the planned 36-unit mixed-use development project at 8500-50 Lehigh Avenue. The \$250,000 grant will be used to make public improvements that are critical to the transit-supportive environment envisioned for the area. The project will complement the investment of \$3.5 million the Village is making in reconstructing the Metra station and site, in addition to lighting and sidewalk improvements planned in the immediate area in 2024 and 2025. Construction of the project and final reimbursement by the County must occur before November 30, 2028. Trustee Witko commented, "This is very exciting!"

Trustee Witko moved, seconded by Trustee Thill, to approve Resolution 24-52.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

XI. **TRUSTEES' REPORTS** (continued)

F. Trustee Witko: (continued)

3. Trustee Witko then brought forward **Resolution 24-53, Establishing a Moratorium on Processing Applications for Zoning Variations, Special Uses, Planned Use Developments, and Vacations For Non-Sales Tax Generating Uses along The Dempster Street Corridor Plan Study Area.**

a. Trustee Witko said the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and Village of Morton Grove have approved a Technical Assistance Agreement in furtherance of the Village’s Strategic Plan to develop a Dempster Street Corridor Plan (Plan). As part of this Plan the Village will gather feedback from community stakeholders and urban planning experts to understand the future needs and uses for this area. The Plan is guided by the principles of “On To 2050” to interweave roadway safety improvements, economic growth, and housing needs. To this end, staff has recommended the establishment of a moratorium prohibiting the processing of applications relating to non-sales tax generating uses for the target area. This would allow for economic growth and addressing of housing needs through sales tax and housing through the potential of mixed-use developments. The area governed by the Plan is the length of Dempster Street from Central Avenue (near the Edens Expressway interchange) to just west of Waukegan Road. The moratorium would likely conclude with the approval of the Plan along with implementing any zoning recommendations and considerations from the Plan for the service area.

Trustee Witko moved to approve Resolution 24-53, seconded by Trustee Shiba.

b. Trustee Thill wondered if the new Village Hall/Police Department would be exempt from the moratorium. Mr. Meyer responded that it would not be exempt; however, the moratorium only applies to new applications, and the one for the Village Hall/MGPD was filed a year ago.

Mayor DiMaria called for the vote on Resolution 24-53.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

Mayor DiMaria noted that if he would have had to vote on this, he would’ve voted “aye” too!

XII. **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Trustee Thill requested that residents who have new trees planted in their parkway to please give them about 10 gallons of water or so every other week. They need it!

2. Trustee Thill noted that West Nile Virus is once again a concern. He urged people to empty anything in their yard that contains any standing water. It’s a breeding ground for mosquitos! He also said to use caution when you’re out at dusk or in the woods.

XIII.

WARRANTS

Trustee Khan presented the Warrant Register for August 27, 2024 in the amount of \$1,377,905.08. She moved to approve the Warrants as presented, seconded by Trustee Thill.

Motion passed: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

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

XIV.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

Devesh Pandit thanked the Board for allowing him to speak. He also thanked Mayor DiMaria, Corporation Counsel Liston, Trustee Thill, and Trustee Travis for attending the Foundation for India and Indian Diaspora Studies Program. He spoke briefly about some upcoming programs and about advocacy in Washington. He mentioned that the organization is going to do, as it has in the past, a non-perishable food drive. He thanked the Board again, and Mayor DiMaria thanked him, saying "Thank you for having us! It was a great event."

XV.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Minx moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Khan. **Motion passed unanimously via voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

PASSED this 10th day of September 2024.

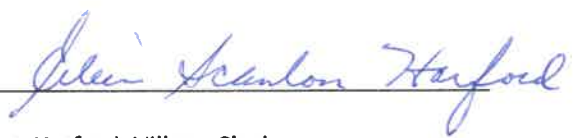
Trustee Khan	<u>Agre</u>
Trustee Minx	<u>Agre</u>
Trustee Shiba	<u>Agre</u>
Trustee Thill	<u>Agre</u>
Trustee Travis	<u>Agre</u>
Trustee Witko	<u>Agre</u>

APPROVED by me this 10th day of September 2024.



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

APPROVED and FILED in my office this 11th day of September 2024.



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

Minutes by Teresa Cousar

