

VILLAGE OF HEBRON
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
MAY 24, 2021

President Shelton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Shepherd, Lange, Peterson, Drevalas answered aye to roll call. Trustee Lillie was absent.

Discussion and Vote to Approve minutes of May 10, 2021 Village Board Meeting

Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2021 Village Board meeting. Trustee Drevalas seconded the motion. Trustees Peterson, Drevalas, Lange and Shepherd approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Discussion and Vote to Approve April/May 2021 Accounts Payable

Trustee Shepherd reported that there was \$16,180.95 due in accounts payable for General Fund and \$7,839.70 due in the Water/Sewer Fund accounts payable. The total due for accounts payable was \$24,020.65. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the April/May 2021 accounts payable as presented. Trustee Lange seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd, Lange, Drevalas, and Peterson approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

President's Report

President Shelton reported that since he took office as Village President, he has met with the Department Heads as well as the Village Attorney, Michael Smoron. He has been reviewing the Village Budget to get a better understanding of where the Village is at. He reported that repairs to the south tower at the Village sewer plant are underway. He mentioned that the Boy Scout project at the park has been delayed but will begin soon and Village sidewalk replacements have already begun.

Public Comment

Karen Lalor, 12718 O'Brien Road, requested to use the Village municipal parking lot next to the Police Department on a Saturday in July of 2021 to hold an event to build beds for children in need of them. The program is run by Chris Freeman of Cary, Illinois and is called Sleep in Heavenly Peace. The goal is to build 40 beds in one day. Cash donations will be accepted as well as mattresses, pillows, and blankets. Trustee Drevalas asked if there would be a rain date and Ms. Lalor responded that it would be rescheduled or moved to a different location.

Courtney Basichi, 12016 Prairie Avenue, explained that Hart's Saloon would like to hold a motorcycle event on June 5th from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. They would like to shut down a portion of Prairie Avenue for stunt riders to performer. Trustee Drevalas asked if Hart's had done an event like this before. Courtney answered that they had not. Trustee Peterson asked if they had discussed this with their neighbors and Courtney stated that they had talked to some. Trustee Drevalas asked how fast the stunt bikes would go and Courtney stated not more than 10 miles per hour, and they would monitor it closely. Discussion ensued regarding using the Village park instead. Courtney stated that they would like to keep it close to the business for sale of food and beverages.

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Anthony Smith, 12016 Prairie Avenue, No Comment

Alex Rothacker, 1460 East Belvidere, from Tops Kennels in Grayslake mentioned that he had heard that the K-9 program was being cancelled. He stated that this program was important and is critical to helping find missing children and suicidal individuals in addition to drug patrol. He mentioned that there was no K-9 officer in the Hebron area. K-9 Odin has already completed 200 hours of the program and the Village cost is half of what the normal fee would be. He reiterated that these dogs are not only for catching bad guys and he asked the Village to reconsider cancelling this program.

President Shelton stated that originally this program would be completed at no cost to the Village. The fees that the Village is incurring due to this includes outfitting the patrol car for managing a K-9, \$9,300 in training fees, and salaries incurred for the officer during training time. He is concerned that for the size and cost to the Village, this may not be a necessity.

Sergeant Gohmann, Hebron Police Department, stated that the dog pays for itself through fines. He said Odin is probably one of the top dogs in his class. He added that these dogs are worth their weight in gold.

Janet Ratajczak, 9936 Main Street, explained that she just found out about Hart's request to hold a motorcycle event. She feels that this would be a taxpayer liability regarding stunt riders and that it is not a family friendly event. She stated that her business would be hurt by this because of parking issues. She proposed that Hart's use the Village municipal parking lot instead. She feels that taxpayers should not support one business over another.

Chuck Ruehl, 13617 O'Brien Road, is asking to use the Village park to conduct a 5-Day Club with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). He mentioned that using the park would give the local children access to the program. The teachers and helpers are trained by CEF and have been given background checks. They are looking to hold this on July 12th through the 16th and there is no charge to those who attend. President Shelton asked if Mr. Ruehl lived within the local school district and he answered that they did. Trustee Peterson asked what the age group was for participant. Mr. Ruehl said the program was for children ages six through fourteen.

Cindy Gentry, 11707 Prairie Avenue, asked who would be policing Hart's motorcycle event and added that she was concerned about crowds and the length of time the event would be held. President Shelton asked Chief Donlea if there would be additional police presence. He stated that there would be and that they could ask for additional assistance, if necessary, at a cost to the Village. He added that during similar events hosted by Hart's in the past that they have had little trouble. There will be a cost to the Village for having additional officers on duty, however. Courtney Basichi confirmed that they can provide proof of insurance at 2 million dollars. Chief Donlea stated that alcohol consumption would be confined to a certain area.

Motion to Approve the Appointment of One Open Trustee Position and, if Approved Swearing in of New Trustee

President Shelton introduced Mark Mogan for appointment and approval to fill the open trustee position. He explained that Mr. Mogan comes with 24 years of police service, two years of service on the Village of Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission, and 11 years as a Hebron Village Trustee from 2007 until 2018. He added that Mark contemplates issues, considers things carefully and is slow to over-react in decision making. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the appointment of Mark Mogan to the open trustee position on the Village Board. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

Trustee Peterson asked Mr. Mogan if he held any leadership positions on the Village Board previously. Mr. Mogan answered that he was the liaison with the Village Police Department. He said he has lived in the Village since 1996 and has been involved with the Village since then by helping at various functions when he could as well as keeping an optimistic attitude. Trustee Peterson asked if he will be available and if he is open to good communication. Mr. Mogan responded that he will be readily available. Trustee Shepherd stated that when Village signs were in disrepair in the past, Mark Mogan took on the project to repair them. He said Mr. Mogan is not afraid to take on projects and that he will research both sides of any issue. Trustee Shepherd, Peterson, Lange, and Drevalas approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

Motion to go into Closed Session to Consider the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the Village Pursuant to Section 2(C)(1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to go into closed session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Village pursuant to Section 2(C)(1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act at 6:43 p.m. Trustee Drevalas seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd, Drevalas, Peterson, Mogan, and Lange approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

By roll call vote, the Board closed executive session at 7:07 p.m. and returned to the Board room.

Motion to Rescind the Resolution of the Village of Hebron Creating the Additional Position of Lieutenant Approved April 26, 2021

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to rescind the resolution of the Village of Hebron creating the additional position of Lieutenant approved on April 26, 2021. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd commented that this is not being done for any other personnel and questioned why it is being done for the Police Department. Trustee Peterson asked Attorney Smoron for clarification. Attorney Smoron confirmed that, as it stands, if the Chief were terminated, his position would revert to Lieutenant. He added that President Martinez was trying to protect this position. President Shelton reiterated that if the Chief is terminated, even for detrimental reasons, he would revert automatically to the Lieutenant position with full benefits making any individual in this position untouchable. Trustee Shepherd stated that terminated should mean terminated. He added that no matter what the Chief may do wrong, he would still be employed by the Village. Trustee Mogan stated that he felt this language is

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dangerous being if the Chief were convicted of breaking a law, the Village cannot terminate his employment. Trustee Lange mentioned that this was put in place to protect the position's pension. He stated that he believes that if the person in the Chief position were to be convicted of breaking the law, the Village should be able to terminate this person. Trustee Shepherd added that he feels that this would be playing favoritism to one Village department.

Attorney Smoron suggested an amendment to change the language of this resolution. Trustee Peterson asked to amend the resolution with clarification. President Shelton stated that it must include exact verbiage to amend the resolution, which Trustee Peterson would have to supply. Trustee Peterson could not supply exact verbiage to amend the resolution.

Trustee Shepherd and Mogan voted yes to the proposed motion. Trustee Lange, Peterson, and Drevalas, voted no. Motion denied.

Motion to Approve a Motorcycle Event for Hart's Saloon on June 5, 2021

President Shelton stated that Hart's is seeking approval to close a portion of Prairie Avenue from Main Street to Illinois Avenue, specifically from Hart's driveway west to Illinois Avenue. The event would be four hours long from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and would include a demonstration by motorcycle stunt riders. It would be open to the public. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the motorcycle event on June 5, 2021, presented by Hart's Saloon. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion.

Trustee Peterson stated that she is favor of the event, but not in favor of closing the road. Courtney Basichi stated that Hart's is concerned for the safety of the participants and the residents on Prairie and will do everything to keep this a safe event. Trustee Mogan stated that all the surrounding businesses would have to be on board with approval of this event or he would not be for it. There was brief discussion about holding this event at the Hebron Community Park, but Courtney stated that Hart's wanted the event close to their business to increase their sales. Trustee Lange is concerned for the neighbors surrounding this event. President Shelton mentioned that since there was a short time frame regarding this request, it made it difficult to gain neighbor approval in time. Trustee Mogan asked if they will still hold an event without approval of shutting down the road. Courtney stated that they will hold the event without the motorcycle group.

Trustee Shepherd voted to approve the proposed motorcycle event of Hart's Saloon on June 5, 2021. Trustee Mogan, Lange, Peterson, and Drevalas, voted no. Motion denied.

Motion to Ratify Approval of Waiver of Park Rental Fees for School District 19 on May 21, 2021

Trustee Peterson made a motion to ratify approval of the park rental fees for School District 19 on May 21, 2021. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion. Trustee Peterson, Mogan, Lange, Shepherd, and Drevalas approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

Motion to Approve the Waiver of Park Rental Fees for CEF Summer 5-Day Club

Trustee Mogan made a motion to approve the waiver of park rental fees for the CEF Summer 5-Day Club. Trustee Drevalas seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd stated that he is always in favor of the park being used. Trustee Lange stated that this was a non-profit group that are part of School District 19. Trustee Peterson asked if children from other Village churches would be welcome to attend. Chuck Ruehl who is organizing the event stated that all children would be welcome. Trustee Mogan, Drevalas, Peterson, Lange, and Shepherd approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

Department Head Reports

Chief Donlea reported that from March 1, 2021, to present the Police Department has responded to 1,100 calls. Three hundred of those calls were for traffic stops; some of which escalated into drug busts, etc. This also included a home invasion. The Department is having trouble keeping officers available as in summer the calls increase. Chief Donlea handed his full report to President Shelton.

Dan Nelson, Public Works Superintendent reported that they have been working on replacing sidewalks throughout town, they replaced pipes at the sewer plant, and they are working to take care of a sewer backup issue. He had to call in help for the sewer backup which required a jetter and a pumper. He has been working with Dick Ackerman and the business involved with the backup to rectify the situation. He also mentioned that his department can fill pools for \$50.

There were no other reports.

Attorney Report

Attorney Smoron spoke very briefly regarding the interest Lenar Builders has in the lots in the Trails of Hebron.

Board Comments

Trustee Shepherd had no comments. Trustee Lange reported that he will be sitting in on the business association meetings and the Township meetings. He will report back to the Village Board. Trustee Drevalas asked if the Board could do a consensus vote to approve the Hart's event upon approval from the adjacent neighbors. President Shelton stated that due to the time constraint, this was a moot point.

Trustee Drevalas also asked if the Board could discuss K-9 Odin at the next Board meeting. President Shelton stated that the costs are coming in and the Village of Hebron does not have the funds to cover this program. Chief Donlea stated that the dog could be a benefit but felt that the size of the Village may not warrant sending staff out of town with the K-9. Sergeant Gohmann expressed that he would rather use a K-9 then to make the choice to shoot someone. He explained what the many possible uses of a K-9 could be and explained that some of the cost could be recovered using a K-9 officer. President Shelton stated that this dog was supposed to be at no cost to the Village. There has only been \$1,500 collected in donations and the Village still owes \$7,800 for his training. Trustee Drevalas stated that Topps is not pushing for payment and is willing to wait for payment as the donations come in. Sergeant Gohmann added that he is willing to do four hours of K-9 training without pay on Saturdays. He also

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explained that the invoice to Topps will still have to be paid regardless of discontinuing the program; in this case he asked why not continue the training. Resident Joann Lange stated that the residents have contributed to this program and are still willing to help. President Shelton agreed to continue the training for the time being. Discussion ensued regarding drafting a contract between the Village of Hebron and Sergeant Gohmann regarding the K-9.

Trustee Peterson reported that she will attend School District 19 Board meetings and act as a liaison for the Village. She said that they have two upcoming events scheduled, one being a Memorial Service at the High School beginning at 9:00 a.m. and they will have a free Petting Zoo from 10:00 a.m. until noon on June 16th.

Trustee Mogan stated that he is honored to be back on the Village Board. He asked, by request of a resident, if there was a program in place for the Village to discontinue water/sewer base fees. President Shelton stated that this was not an option.

President Shelton reported that the Village Board meeting on June 14th will be cancelled, and the next Village Board meeting will be on Monday, June 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Trustee Drevalas made a motion to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.



Jean Attermeier,
Village Clerk



Robert W. Shelton
Village President