

## **Village of Riverdale**

### **Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes held on**

**Tuesday January 14, 2020**

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#### **Call to Order**

Mayor Lawrence L. Jackson called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order in the Village Board Chambers at Village Hall, 157 W. 144<sup>th</sup> Street at 7:07 p.m.

#### **Roll Call**

Upon roll call, the following Trustees answered present:  
Rodrick Jefferson, Cassandra Riley-Pinkney, Gregory Lewis, Brenda Williams, Erik LeVere and Bradley Smith

Also, present;

Police Chief Dave DeMik, Fire Chief Mickil Smith, Supt of Public Works. Jerome Russell, Finance Director David Gonzalez Village Engineer Chuck Hodges, Village Attorney Matt Welch and Village Clerk Karen Holcomb

There being a quorum present the meeting was in order.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Jackson entertained a motion to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes dated November 12, 2019.

Motion made by Trustee Smith and second by Trustee LeVere

By: Voice Vote Motion Carries

#### **Village Administration**

##### **Budget Director – David Gonzalez**

He stated we're going to be working on the bond abatement ordinances. Will have those for next Board Meeting. There's a slight delay with the audit that was due 12/31. Hopefully it will be wrapped up within the next 2 weeks so it can be filed with the Comptroller's office.

##### **Fire Dept. / Bldg. & Zoning/Inspectional Services – Chief Mickil Smith**

Report Submitted: Year-end totals for the Fire Department/Inspectional Services: 3072 calls ran, 583 were fire related, 2210 EMS calls, 279 other calls. 7680 inspections were conducted. Several Medical Monday's were conducted. Annual Police and Department Holiday Food/Toy Drive were conducted. We are going to annually have citizens appreciation acknowledgement. 2020 goal is to diversify our department and increase our training and incorporate a Citizen's Fire Academy.

### **Superintendent of Public Works – Jerome Russell**

During the month of December 300 tons of road salt was ordered we are good for next couple of months. Public Works completed remedial work on water mains at 13808 S. Dearborn on 12/4, 137<sup>th</sup> and Atlantic on 12/7 and at 14437 S. LaSalle on 12/19. Excess debris was removed 14317 S. Lowe and 14503 fly dumping. Continuing to sample drinking water per IEPA standards. We responded to over 60 Julie locates.

Mayor Jackson indicated that there's problems with the Village's water system. It needs to be upgraded. Mayor Jackson stated Engineer Hodges in the past was working to get a loan from the IEPA. The cost of water main repair, overtime and water loss. The current system is inefficient.

### **Police Department – Chief David DeMik**

Report Submitted: Chief DeMik stated for 2019 the police officers went on about 15,000 calls for emergency service. 10 new police officers were hired. Currently working on the 2020 Hiring Grant to hopefully hire 5 officers. With this grant 75% of salary and benefits would be covered for 3 years. Some 2020 goals in the Police Department regarding Crime Free Housing – noncompliant landlords will be receiving tickets. Lt. Scharnhorst and Chief DeMik will be teaching Crime Free Housing Classes. New landlords have been contacted regarding Zero Tolerance. A few years ago, the Board and the Mayor approved a Tri-town task force, which included Riverdale, Dolton and South Holland. South Holland never brought the plan to their Board and Dolton didn't approve it. Chief DeMik said he met with both Chiefs and the towns are interested and we're working to get this up and running by May.

### **Village Clerk – Karen Holcomb**

Clerk Holcomb stressed the importance of responding to the Census and information was on the table. Census Day is 4/1. You can complete your census on-line and by mail. There's also job opportunities. Jobs can pay up to \$30hrly. The office will be closed for Martin Luther King Day.

### **Village Attorney – Matt Welch**

1. Discussion related to a 501c3 for Veterans Memorial. Attorney Welch stated there's a lot at the end of the block where the Village is looking to create a Veteran's Memorial. Some local businesses are looking to

work with the Mayor to underwrite the associated costs. The Mayor wants to explore obtaining a 501c3 to allow businesses tax benefits.

Trustee Jefferson asked when the project will begin. Mayor Jackson stated sometime in the spring.

Attorney Welch stated there will be business revocation hearings. The Code states the owners can request to appeal before the Board of Trustees. The hearing will probably be at January's meeting.

### **Hancock Engineering – Chuck Hodges**

There are 8 alleys which were recently improved. They were between 146<sup>th</sup> and Wentworth to 144<sup>th</sup> and Dearborn. Alleys at 42nd and 143rd between LaSalle and Wentworth alley are also being repaired. Riverdale Materials has donated materials for the work. For the 2020 Cook County CDBG funding application will be released on Monday. There's a workshop scheduled on 1/24 for this program. The Village must have a representative present at this workshop. CSX is doing improvement as part of their Green Program. There's a Dolton/Riverdale rail realignment project which is underway. This project must come down 138<sup>th</sup> Street from Dolton to Riverdale and veer around the CSX rail to the north.

Mayor Jackson went back to discuss of the Village's water system. Engineer Hodges mentioned a revolving loan with the State which requires proof of ability to repay. Budget Director Gonzalez says we would have to provide a 5-year cash flow projection to show we have 1.25% coverage which is doable.

### **Trustees**

None


### **Public Comments –**


Mayor Jackson entertained a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion by: Trustee Jefferson and second by Trustee LeVere

By: Voice Vote Motion Passed

There being no other business the Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

  
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Village Clerk

  
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Date Passed