

APPROVED MINUTES

VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
Village of Antioch, Lake County, Illinois
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL 60002
August 28, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gartner called the August 28, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:33 pm at the Antioch Municipal Building located at 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL and via Zoom.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor and Board of Trustees led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce*, Macek and Pedersen. Also present were Mayor Gartner, Administrator Guttschow, Attorney Vasselli and Clerk Romine.

**indicates attendance via Zoom*

IV. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely

There were no objections to Trustee Pierce attending remotely.

V. Mayoral Report

Payroll Week – Mayor Gartner recognized Payroll Week as the week in which Labor Day falls.

Mayor Gartner recognized Parks Director Mary Quilty on her pending retirement and thanked her for her 11 years of service to the Village.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Ms. Debbie Rentner thanked the Board for the 4th of July parade and discussed the barriers used this year. She thanked Chief Guttschow, Commander Garcia and Director Quilty for reserving a parking spot for their participant in the parade. She also thanked Director Heimbrodt and his department for their work. She acknowledged the work that Mary Quilty has done for the Village, and said Mary always had the citizens of Antioch in her mind and did the best that she could for the community. She presented Director Quilty with a challenge coin for her commitment and support to the Antioch community.

VI. Consent Agenda

Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Burman, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

1. Approval of the August 14, 2024 Village Board Meeting Regular Meeting Minutes as presented

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

VII. Regular Business

2. Consideration and approval of payment of accounts payable as prepared by staff in the amount of \$531,157.80 – Trustee McNeill moved, seconded by Trustee Macek, to approve payment of accounts payable in the amount of \$531,157.80.

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Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

3. Consideration and approval of a Resolution approving a site plan for real property located at the address commonly known as 710 Anita Avenue, in the Village of Antioch, Illinois – Director Garrigan reviewed the matter which came before the Board last year. The site plan was tabled upon request for a traffic study to be completed. A traffic study was completed by the applicant, and was received by staff yesterday. He reviewed the overall site, which consists of 8 acres and would store 48 trailers.

Attorney Vasselli commented on the order from Judge Smith related to the matter and asked the Board to have a hearing.

Mr. James Babowice, attorney representing the applicant and owner, said the traffic study was submitted August 1 to counsel for the Village. He said they should be entitled to a vote on the matter this evening. Attorney Vasselli clarified that it did not go to him, but went to trial counsel on August 1.

Mr. Glenn Christiansen, landscape architect for the project, provided a brief history. He reviewed the site, zoning, permitted uses, and the wetlands on the property which have been reviewed and approved by the Army Corps of Engineers. He reviewed access on the site, and the overall layout. He highlighted the photometric plan, and reviewed the landscape plan on the site and the proposed building. Mr. Christiansen discussed the next steps to clear the brush and do the final engineering, among other building requirements. The applicant feels that they have completed all requests made by the Village, and request approval for this site based on the fact that the use is zoned as a permitted use for the site, and that the petitioner has complied with all requests for additional plans. Additionally, a positive recommendation was made by the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mr. Steve Corcoran, traffic engineer with Eriksson Engineering Associates, discussed the traffic study prepared for the Village. He reviewed the components of the study that were completed, and discussed traffic counts in the morning and evening, which are considered light for a collector road. He reviewed the proposed businesses operations, and potential traffic resulting from the business. Under existing and future conditions, they believe the level of service is good. They agree with the recommended driveway as shown, and no additional improvements along Anita.

Trustee Bluthardt raised a point of order, asking if a motion is necessary to begin debate. Attorney Vasselli discussed the court order in this case, which would supersede Roberts Rules of Order, stating a hearing is necessary, and not a motion.

Mayor Garter asked if trailers would be moving from their existing location, or if this is an expansion of current operations. Mr. Corcoran believes this is based on existing operations. Mr. Christiansen said the trailers would come from trailers he already has, and this would consolidate the trucking portion of the business.

Trustee Bluthardt asked if the use of Centennial Park was considered, particularly when there are events or games at the park. Mr. Corcoran said there was some activity at the park when the traffic study was completed, but there were no baseball games at that time. He would assume the games are off-peak from business hours based on when the trucking operations would happen. Trustee Bluthardt commented on the potential improvements at Centennial Park, and asked if that was considered. Mr. Corcoran said general growth was considered, and it would depend on the improvements being made. Trustee Bluthardt asked if the study looked at the safety of trucks on the road, and not just capacity, for example when people are parked along Anita for an event at the park, and the safety of the children. Mr. Corcoran said no he was unaware that people were parking along the side of the street.

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Trustee Macek asked if trucks will be backing into facility from the road. Mr. Corcoran replied that they will not. Trustee Macek asked who would be responsible for road damage and commented on existing road conditions at their current facility. He also asked how many trucks in the morning would create sound that may be disruptive to neighbors. Mr. Christiansen said the trucks are already on that road.

Attorney Vasselli administered the oath to those wishing to testify, and who have testified.

Trustee Pedersen asked for the dates the traffic study was conducted. Mr. Corcoran responded that the dates were in Mid-July. Trustee Pedersen said the Board asked for the study to be done months ago, and the reason was that baseball season in Antioch ends right before the 4th of July and starts in March. She expressed concern that the study was not completed during that time, and added that there will also be more going on at that park once it's improved. Mr. Christiansen asked the average number of truck per hour based on the study. Mr. Corcoran responded that 10-15 trucks of all types were identified during the morning peak hours. Mr. Christiansen said this facility will not add traffic to that roadway, and stated that the petitioner has agreed to upgrade signage if necessary.

Trustee Pierce asked where the crosswalk currently exists. Mr. Christiansen said it is approximately 100 feet south of proposed driveway. Trustee Pierce discussed the recent road improvements on Anita and impact of the trucks on that roadway. He expressed concern with the impact on wetlands, and would ask that there is no northbound traffic and no impact to the wetlands.

Attorney Babowice said it is apparent that the Trustees have looked at the traffic study and believes the applicant is entitled to a vote. He read aloud the last paragraph of the court order.

Trustee Pierce moved, seconded by Trustee Bluthardt, to deny **Resolution No. 24-72** approving a site plan for real property located at the address commonly known as 710 Anita Avenue, in the Village of Antioch, Illinois, based upon the impact to roads, wetlands and safety of the park, and granting a reimbursement of permit fees provided to the Village.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. Consideration and approval of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the standard terms of engagement for legal services with Swanson, Martin and Bell, LLP – Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Burman, to approve **Resolution No. 24-73** authorizing the Mayor to execute the standard terms of engagement for legal services with Swanson, Martin and Bell, LLP.

Administrator Guttschow discussed the process for the selection of a prosecuting attorney which was previously vacated when Attorney DeMartini was appointed as a judge. He discussed the qualifications of Brett Henne, who provided an overview of his qualifications and knowledge of Antioch.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

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5. Consideration and approval of a Resolution approving a modified site plan for real property located at the address commonly known as 650 East North Avenue, Antioch, Illinois (Solar Farm) - Trustee Bluthardt moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to approve **Resolution No. 24-74** approving a modified site plan for real property located at the address commonly known as 650 East North Avenue, Antioch, Illinois (Solar Farm).

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

6. Consideration and approval of an Ordinance amending sections of Chapter 4 of Title 8 of the Antioch Village Code regarding rules for public parks located within the Village of Antioch, Illinois – Trustee Macek moved, seconded by Trustee Burman, to approve **Ordinance No. 24-08-50**, amending sections of Chapter 4 of Title 8 of the Antioch Village Code regarding rules for public parks located within the Village of Antioch, Illinois, waiving the second reading.

Administrator Guttschow reviewed the proposed rules for Sequoit Creek Park, which were recommended for approval by the Park Commission. Changes and adjustments can be made without Village Board approval based on the recommendation of the Administration.

Trustee Pedersen would like to add that item #21 related to standing on bridge was include standing and sitting on bridge walls.

Trustee McNeill asked that the rule for regular parks related to cooking with open flames/propane be included.

Those present discussed placing age restrictions on playground equipment, taking into consideration older siblings or children with special needs. They discussed the potential of an increased uniformed presence in the park, enforcement of the rules, and the design of the park as fully inclusive.

Trustee Bluthardt discussed alcohol in the park and the intention when the park was designed. Administrator Guttschow stated there may be concerns over open containers in violation of another section of the code, and the potential for conflict at events where alcohol is offered. Trustee Bluthardt commented on alcohol being allowed at bandshell, and thinks the Board should consider allowing it at this park, stating he understands some form of rules would be necessary. He also thinks signage is necessary. Administrator Guttschow said the Board can decide to strike certain language from the rules, and staff can report back if issues arise.

Trustee Pierce commented on the age limit, and said the biggest issue is enforcement and how to handle people violating the rules. He believes they need a way to ban kids or adults from the park who are breaking the rules, and charge them with trespassing if they return. Chief Guttschow commented on similar problems at other Village properties. Attorney Vasselli discussed language regarding trespassing. Those present discussed banning processes and consequences.

Trustee Bluthardt recommended setting examples from those breaking the rules by showing they are being caught and punished, to serve as a deterrent for future violators. He also suggested that they publicize that the park is covered with cameras, and we will see you and fine you.

Upon roll call on the motion to approve **Ordinance No. 24-08-50**, amending sections of Chapter 4 of Title 8 of the Antioch Village Code regarding rules for public parks located within the Village of Antioch, Illinois, waiving the second reading, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

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ABSENT: 0.
THE MOTION CARRIED.

7. Consideration and approval of a Resolution Authorizing the application for Open Space Land Acquisition and Development Program Funds for Outdoor Recreational Improvements at Centennial Park - Trustee Macek moved, seconded by Trustee Bluthardt, to approve **Resolution No. 24-75** Authorizing the application for Open Space Land Acquisition and Development Program Funds for Outdoor Recreational Improvements at Centennial Park.

Assistant Village Administrator Moran provided an overview of the engagement with Hitchcock design group and pursuit of an OSLAD grant to offset costs associated with the improvements at Centennial Park. He added that this approval doesn't obligate the Board to a financial commitment, but supports the application for the grant.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Burman, Bluthardt, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Guttschow discussed the opening of Sequoit Creek Park and highlighted the operations of the park. He recognized staff for the successful grand opening, particularly Public Works for their work, members of the Police Department for addressing a flood of complaints coming in, and Community Service Officers working additional duties for patrolling the area. Staff continues to receive training on the equipment in the park, and he discussed program adjustments planned for the splash pad, and timers installed on the fire pits.

Administrator Guttschow said staff has taken pride in the park and is working hard to keep it that way. He announced that the new Business Liaison Specialist position has been accepted by Kim Biederman who is scheduled to begin next week. Finally, he discussed a recently held pre-con meeting for the annual road program and Woods of Antioch projects.

IX. Village Clerk's Report

No report.

X. Trustee Reports

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees regular meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Romine, RMC/CMC
Village Clerk