

# APPROVED MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING  
Village of Antioch, Lake County, Illinois  
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL 60002  
February 12, 2025**

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gartner called the February 12, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:39pm at the Antioch Municipal Building located at 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL and via Zoom.

## **II. ROLL CALL**

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

## **III. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely**

There were no Trustees wishing to attend remotely.

## **IV. Mayoral Report**

No report.

## **Citizens Wishing to Address the Board**

None.

## **V. Consent Agenda**

Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

- 1. Approval of the January 29, 2025 Village Board Meeting Regular Meeting Minutes as presented**
- 2. Approval of a Resolution authorizing the Annual Easter Parade to be held on Saturday, April 19, 2025 – Resolution No. 25-05**

Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## **VI. Regular Business**

**3. Consideration and approval of payment of accounts payable as prepared by staff in the amount of \$417,213.04** – Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill, to approve payment of accounts payable in the amount of \$417,213.04. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Consideration and approval of a Resolution approving the 2025 Special Events sponsored by the Antioch Chamber of Commerce** - Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill, to approve **Resolution No. 25-06** approving the 2025 Special Events Sponsored by the Antioch Chamber of Commerce.

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Mayor Gartner said further discussion is necessary for the location of the carnival. Administrator Guttschow relayed that the concern is the need to close the Orchard Street extension. He said using Depot as a detour comes with challenges resulting from the recent narrowing of Depot and additional parking spaces to accommodate Sequoit Creek Park. He asked for the Board's input on how to work with the Chamber in this request. His recommendation is to not allow the closure of the Orchard Street extension.

Trustee Pedersen asked where the carnival will be, and if there will be a lot of people crossing Route 83 to get to the Park. Administrator Guttschow said they were able to hold it in the Skidmore parking lot previously. He said the benefit of the crossing at Route 83 is that it's a controlled intersection with signals. Historically, there hasn't been a problem with pedestrian safety when people use a designated crossing. Trustee Pedersen asked if there is a crossing from the new park to Skidmore, to which Administrator Guttschow responded there is.

Trustee Macek discussed the proposed event, "The Wall that Heals" and asked if it will require additional security. Administrator Guttschow said they appear to be a fairly sophisticated operation, and they may travel with security. Staff will look into the required security for that event.

Those present discussed temporary signage at the crosswalk from Skidmore to the new park to bring attention to the crossing.

Those present agreed to approve the dates and the programs tonight, but staff will need to work with the Chamber on locations. They will also need to make sure Antioch Township is on board with the wall event.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. Consideration and approval of an Ordinance adding one Class "B" and "C" Tobacco license for Tobacco Hub which is located at 320 E IL Route 173** - Trustee McNeill moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen to approve **Ordinance No. 25-02-06** adding one Class "B" and "C" Tobacco License for Tobacco Hub which is located at 320 E IL Route 173, waiving the second reading. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 0.**

**NO: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION FAILED.**

**6. Consideration and approval of an Ordinance granting a variance for an electronic message board at 1133 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois** - Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill, to approve **Ordinance No. 25-02-07** granting a variance for an electronic message board at 1133 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois, waiving the second reading.

Trustee Pierce discussed the recommendation, and said that if it is approved it should be just for school events and activities and not for messaging.

Trustee Macek agrees with the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Board and thinks that the Village Board is unable to regulate or control the messages. He expressed concern with the light produced by the sign.

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Trustees agreed with the recommendation, stating the Board should not veer from its ordinance, that it is not appropriate for the location, and that in the interest of safety it should not be approved.

Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill, to approve **Ordinance No. 25-02-07** granting a variance for an electronic message board at 1133 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois, waiving the second reading. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 0.**

**NO: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION FAILED.**

**7. Consideration and approval of a Resolution accepting and approving a proposal with SB Friedman Development Advisors, LLC for Tax Increment Financing Consulting Services for the Village of Antioch, Illinois** – Trustee Pedersen moved, seconded by Trustee Burman, to approve **Resolution No. 25-07** accepting and approving a proposal with SB Friedman Development Advisors, LLC for Tax Increment Financing Consulting Services for the Village of Antioch, Illinois. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**8. Consideration and approval of a Resolution authorizing and approving the refund payments on behalf of the Village of Antioch, Illinois** – Trustee Pierce moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to approve **Resolution No. 25-08** authorizing and approving the refund payments on behalf of the Village of Antioch, Illinois.

Those present clarified that the proposal is for a full-year refund payment, and no charges moving forward. In order to get the refund, applicants must complete a request form and sign a waiver.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### **VII. Administrator's Report**

Administrator Guttschow said staff has concluded the final interviews for the Parks & Recreation Director position, and hope to make a decision and have an offer out by the end of this week. Staff is requesting guidance from the Board on how to move forward with programming. He relayed that staff is unsure how to proceed, and if the partnership with Lindenhurst should be pursued. The Parks Department recently had to cancel 6 out of 10 upcoming programs due to facility conflicts with School District 34. There were no objections to moving forward with discussions with Lindenhurst. Administrator Guttschow announced the bid opening is scheduled for February 18 for the new Village Hall, and staff is meeting tomorrow regarding the build of the new Public Works facility, which is at 95% design development. He acknowledged the Public Works Department for their hard work recently, Grace Ford at the Parks Department for her continued dedication, and the Camp Crayon teachers for sticking through a difficult situation. He added that he expects the results of the salary study to come to the board later this month for discussion.

### **VIII. Village Clerk's Report**

None.

### **IX. Trustee Reports**

None.

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### **X. Department Reports –**

**Community Development:** Director Coppari discussed his first month in the position. He discussed meetings regarding the St. Peter School concept plan, including density and parking. He has introduced himself to the commissions (Planning and Zoning Board & Historic Preservation Commission) and had meetings with staff. He is working on a sign for the new Village Hall and necessary variances and text amendments for the new Public Works facility. He discussed conversations with the Mayor and Administrator regarding rental registration, business licensing and updated adoption of the IBC. Director Coppari concluded that he is working with code enforcement on commercial and residential violations.

**Finance:** Director Peterson discussed his recent onboarding and thanked staff for their support and patience during the process. He is making the budget his primary priority, and will eliminate the program ClearGov. He recognized Jim Moran for his assistance closing the program. His new budget program is will use Excel, and contains both history and projections. Director Peterson said he will import data from each department and meet with department directors. He discussed personnel and staffing updates for the department, and the need for updated software by the end of this calendar year.

**Police:** Commander Smith reported on the recruitment testing, which included over 40 applicants. He discussed the Antioch Area Clergy meeting that was recently held to discuss partnership in the community to provide elder support, transportation assistance, and collaboration with the Open Arms Mission. He announced the Polar Plunge team this year will be the “Antioch Icebreakers” and will include team members from School District 34 staff as well. The Antioch Area Outreach meeting is scheduled for this Friday at 9:30. Commander Smith concluded stating that the Village Board will be honoring 2 officers for exemplary actions at the next meeting.

Trustee Macek discussed the testing over the weekend. Mayor Gartner thanked the police department for the response to a recent situation. He commented that last week was difficult, and commended staff for stepping up during the challenges.

### **XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

Trustee Pierce moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to enter into executive session at 8:20 pm to discuss Personnel and real estate. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Trustee Pierce moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to return from executive session at 8:40 pm with **no action taken**. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Trustee Pierce moved, seconded by Trustee Pedersen, to amend the Motion to go into executive session to include pending litigation. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 5:** Burman, McNeill, Pierce, Macek and Pedersen.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 1:** Bluthardt.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

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### **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees regular meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lori K. Romine, RMC/CMC  
Village Clerk