

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GURNEE VILLAGE BOARD**

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
JUNE 17, 2024**

Call to Order

Mayor Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Other Officials in Attendance

Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; Heather Galan, Public Works Director; John Kavanagh, Fire Chief; David Douglass, Deputy Fire Chief; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Jeremy Gaughan, Deputy Police Chief.

Roll Call

PRESENT: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

ABSENT: 0-

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

B. CONSENT AGENDA / OMNIBUS VOTE

The Village Administrator read the consent agenda for an omnibus vote as follows:

1. Approval of minutes from the June 3, 2024 meeting.
2. Approval of Information System Division's recommendation to renew annual Opentext (Micro Focus) Maintenance Agreement with Matrix Systems Group, Inc. for a period of one year at a cost of \$25,086.05 (State of Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology contract holder).
3. Approval of setting a bid date of July 23, 2024 for the Lee Avenue Lift Station Standby Generator project.
4. Approval of setting a bid date of July 25, 2024 for the Public Work Outdoor Material Storage Bin project.
5. Approval of Payroll for period ending May 31, 2024 in the amount of \$1,172,029.02.
6. Approval of Bills for the period ending June 17, 2024 in the amount of \$2,403,465.24.

It was moved by Trustee Thorstenson, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve the Consent Agenda for an omnibus vote as read.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

C. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Approval of a Proclamation designating Wednesday, June 19, 2024 as Juneteenth Day.

Mayor Hood summarized the Proclamation.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of a Proclamation designating Wednesday, June 19, 2024 as Juneteenth Day.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

2. Presentation of Police Traffic Enforcement Awards for the calendar year 2023:

Chief Smith introduced Lisa Rogers, Director of Court Monitoring for the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists. Ms. Rogers briefly spoke about the importance of these awards and the devastating impact driving under the influence can have on people.

Chief Smith and Mayor Hood presented the awards to each recipient.

a. Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists D.U.I. Award:

Officer Rodolfo Flores	10th DUI Arrest
Officer Zackery Hrdlicka	10th DUI Arrest
Officer Brittany Tazzioli	10th DUI Arrest
Officer Christian Travis	10th DUI Arrest
Officer Zachary Tuszynski	10th DUI Arrest
Officer Patrick Koutris	25th DUI Arrest
Officer Tyler Schutt	50th DUI Arrest

b. Gurnee Police Department D.U.I Enforcement Award:

Officer Patrick Koutris	1st time recipient
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c. Gurnee Police Department Traffic Enforcement Award:

Officer Patrick Koutris	1st time recipient
Officer Joshua Silvernail	2nd time recipient

3. Presentation of Gurnee Police Officer of the Year Award to Officer Brandon Gullifor and Police Civilian of the Year Award to Communications Operator Elizabeth Daley.

Deputy Police Chief Gaughan spoke briefly about the achievements of each recipient and then presented each their award.

Officer Gullifor and Communications Operator Daley both introduced their families in attendance and thanked all that came out to the meeting in support.

4. Mayor Hood said that there were no discussion topics on the agenda for the June 24th Committee of the Whole meeting and he asked the Trustees if they would like to cancel the meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Ross to cancel the Committee of the Whole meeting for June 24, 2024.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

D. REPORTS

None.

E. OLD BUSINESS

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Ord. 2024 - 50 authorizing the execution of an Implementing Intergovernmental Agreement (Implementing IGA) to establish Lake Consolidated Emergency Communications (LakeComm).

Administrator Muetz said that at the April 29, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting staff provided the Village Board an update on consolidation and presented the Lake Consolidation Emergency Communications (LakeComm) Proposal. He stated Gurnee has participated in efforts related to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) consolidation for the past 10 years. The benefits of consolidation include reducing call transfers, improved interagency coordination, consistent service delivery, better data sharing among agencies, enhanced ability to handle large-scale events, elimination of duplicate technology systems and contracts, and economies of scale to name a few. Since 2018, the initiative has gained momentum with staff members from varying communities and departments serving on different working groups. He stated what really brought the initiative to reality was Lake County financing \$50 million to provide shared software and construction of the Regional Operations Center (ROC). Muetz stated, as was previously

shared, those wishing to be considered "founding members" must approve the LakeComm IGA prior to July 1st.

Administrator Muetz said the Implementing IGA is largely unchanged from what was reviewed at the Committee of the Whole meeting in April. It establishes LakeComm, provide definitions, outlines membership, describes the governing structure, creates advisory committees and provides for withdrawal from the entity. The total budget is estimated at \$17.6 million and will be offset by \$7.5 million in surcharge revenue, resulting in \$9.1 million to be spread amongst the partners based on a cost allocation model. The current annual cost to run the Gurnee Communications Center is approximately \$2.8 million net of partner revenue. Assuming all partners remain party to LakeComm, Gurnee's new share would be \$1.3 million in year one increasing to \$1.5 million by year five. Administrator Muetz reiterated savings is not the driving factor behind the effort, rather it is reducing call transfers and getting right resources/information and public safety personnel to the right location in the shortest amount of time. He then reviewed when other partner agencies are expected to vote on the matter. He concluded by stating this agreement is the formal Intergovernmental Agreement committing Gurnee to joining LakeComm and transitioning its dispatching services to the new entity once the ROC is completed and outfitted.

Mayor Hood stated this a rare opportunity for communities to come together towards the greater good. He recognized staff and thanked staff for its efforts to date. He also thanked Lake County for its financial contribution. Mayor Hood stated reducing call transfers will improve service levels and response times. He stated giving up control is never easy, but it will be worth it and it is the right thing to do.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve of Ord. 2024 - 50 authorizing the execution of an Implementing Intergovernmental Agreement (Implementing IGA) to establish Lake Consolidated Emergency Communications (LakeComm).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Ord. 2024 - 51 authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement to establish the Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (JETSBS) of Lake County, Illinois.

Administrator Muetz said following approval of the IGA to establish LakeComm, participating Emergency Telephone System Boards (ETSB) are required to dissolve and join the newly formed Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (JETSBS) of Lake County. This is due to state legislation that states there shall be no more than one ETSB per Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). This IGA creates the new JETSBS, establishes board composition and outlines powers of the board. The area covered by the new JETSBS includes the majority of Lake County. The IGA is effective upon adoption by partner corporate authorities and approval by the State 9-1-1 Administrator. The current Northeast Lake County JETSBS will remain in place supporting the Gurnee 9-1-1 center until the IGA takes full effect. 911-surcharge funding that currently is distributed to individual ETSBs will be sent to the new JETSBS of Lake County. As has been discussed, it is anticipated that \$7.5 million of this funding will be used to offset LakeComm expenses, thereby reducing annual member contributions.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of Ord. 2024 - 51 authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement to establish the Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (JETSBS) of Lake County, Illinois.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Ord. 2024 - 52 appointing a Director and an Alternate Director for Lake Consolidated Emergency Communications (LakeComm).

Administrator Muetz said through its membership in the LakeComm, the Village is afforded the right to appoint a Director and Alternate Director to the Member Board of Directors. The Member Board of Directors is an oversight board that is expected to meet only a few times a year. The LakeComm By-laws outline the responsibilities of the Member Board. Due to the Village Administrator's involvement in the effort to date staff is recommending the Village Administrator be appointed as the Primary Director and Mayor Hood be appointed Alternate Director. Administrator Muetz stated it is important to note the Chair and Vice Chair of the Membership Board will also serve as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will provide oversight and guidance to the Executive Director related to LakeComm policies and resources. The Executive Committee will be meeting frequently and its decisions will directly impact daily operations. He stated while the Chair and Vice Chair have yet to be determined, it would be beneficial that these positions be held by individuals with an intimate understanding of the efforts and challenges thus far.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Woodside to approve of Ord. 2024 - 52 appointing a Director and an Alternate Director for Lake Consolidated Emergency Communications (LakeComm).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

4. Approval of request from Public Works Department to purchase a 2023 Morbark 2131-TA Chipper from Alexander Equipment Company at a cost of \$130,933.66 (Public Works Unit #291).

Administrator Muetz said on May 17, 2024, the chipper was being used on Almaden Lane and Woodbury Circle when it made a loud noise and filled the area with smoke causing staff to immediately shut down the equipment. It was sent to Interstate Power Systems in Carol Stream to diagnosis the issue. What initially was thought to be a cracked cylinder head that was quoted at \$18,000 to repair turned out to be a catastrophic engine failure when the head was removed. The engine dropped a valve that caused severe damage to the pistons and lower engine block. The estimate to repair it was \$50,000. Administrator Muetz stated the chipper is a 2016 and pre-certain emission requirements. As a result, the motor is no longer manufactured and a replacement could not be located. The original price of the chipper was \$84,000. Staff does not think it makes sense to spend \$50,000 on it at this point as it is scheduled for replacement in the next few years. The price for a new chipper that meets the latest emissions and safety standards is \$140,933.66. Muetz stated Alexander Equipment has only one chipper of this make and model in their inventory as they prepare to retool their manufacturing for the 2024 models. Given the importance of the chipper to Public Works operations, staff is proposing to delay the purchase on one 1-ton plow truck in this year's budget to cover the cost. Alexander quoted the Village \$10,000 for its current chipper, bringing the total cost to \$130,933.66.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of request from Public Works Department to purchase a 2023 Morbark 2131-TA Chipper from Alexander Equipment Company at a cost of \$130,933.66 (Public Works Unit #291).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Balmes, Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Jessica Albers
4125 Charles Ave.
Gurnee, IL**

Ms. Albers stated she is a bus driver for the Gurnee Park District and Gurnee School District 56. She stated she has seen inappropriate behavior at the Fairbridge Inn and is concerned that locating a PADS

shelter there will not improve the situation. She expressed concerns about property values, taxes going up, safety, nearby daycares and the elementary school. She stated this is not the right location for a shelter and expressed concerns about why this is not being proposed on the west side of Gurnee.

Jorie Stuckwisch
987 Belle Plaine
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Stuckwisch stated she was the spokesperson for the group opposed to locating a PADS shelter at the Fairbridge location. She then asked those in attendance that are opposed to a PADS shelter to raise their hand. She stated she opposes this specific site and the proposed shelter type, which is a low barrier shelter. She expressed concerns about the lack of mandatory program attendance, drug testing, police drop-offs and nearby daycares among other items. She stated she was told by an employee of the Lake County Housing Authority that this is not a good location. She stated one of the other 50 sites should be selected. She also expressed concerns about the purchase price of the property.

Lori Isaacson
1418 Deer Run
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Isaacson stated locating a PADS shelter in Gurnee is not a positive. She stated PADS already has people at the Fairbridge, they are overpaying for the property, have not improved it and the information provided in the PADS FAQ is not supported by cited sources. She stated there are many unanswered questions and believes the community cannot trust PADS' promises.

Candace Stone
988 Belle Plaine
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Stone stated community safety should be the main priority. She stated if the proposed shelter is approved, people would move. She stated she is very compassionate about the neighborhood. Ms. Stone stated there are enough issues already, more should not be added.

Jerry Laux
797 Waveland Ave
Gurnee, IL

Mr. Laux stated he operates Gurnee Garden Center and this proposal has the greatest impact on him. He stated he has 53 employees, 23 are young people and 27 are women of various ages. He stated if this were approved, he would lose employees. He concluded by stating the proposal is not good for East Grand Avenue.

Kat Reznik
912 Tralee Ct
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Reznik stated that in the last two years she feels the area has declined due to the Fairbridge and PADS. She stated there are homeless in the area that have gone through people's trash. She is concerned about her personal information being stolen. She stated she has had to contact the Police Department four times in the last year. Ms. Reznik also expressed concerns about property values being impacted.

Linas Tomaitis
1029 Magnolia Ave
Gurnee, IL

Mr. Tomaitis stated he believes crime will increase in the area if a shelter is approved. He stated he feels there are already issues in the area and they will only become worse. He stated he believes there are between ten and twenty PADS residents already at the Fairbridge. If this is increased to ninety, it will be much worse.

Maria Gomez-Machuca
3867 Drexel Ave
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Gomez-Machura stated she is worried about child safety. She stated she worked for social service organizations for over seven years and PADS was the last choice. She stated PADS is unorganized and cannot guarantee the safety of its clients or the community. She stated that if it is approved, plans need to be in place to address the anticipated issues.

Danielle Florence
3864 Grand Ave
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Florence stated she wants to feel safe. She stated she was startled to see a homeless person in the area. She stated if she does not feel safe, she might sell her home. She requested the Village Board not approve the request.

Becky Kotsinis
907 Belle Plaine
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Kotsinis thanked a myriad of individuals. She shared a story of an encounter she had with a DUI driver. She then stated PADS does not check for driver's licenses and expressed concerns about Waveland being the only entry point to the property. She also mentioned concerns related to nearby daycares, traffic and police drop-offs. She stated PADS serves all of Lake County and urged the Village Board to focus on Gurnee.

Cari Wagner
4357 Eagle Ct
Gurnee, IL

Ms. Wagner stated she thought east of Gurnee was part of Waukegan when she moved to Gurnee. She stated she gets a lot of her information from social media. She stated she is afraid to go east of Route 41 and is confused why another shelter is needed. She shared her experience working next to a homeless shelter in Evanston. She stated clients of PADS come from all over Lake County. She then referred a fire at the

	Ramada Inn in Waukegan and stated the information PADS has provided is not supported.
Debbie Hoselton 1601 Belle Plaine Gurnee, IL	Ms. Hoselton shared a story about the daughter of her best friend. She stated the family moved out of state. In 2000, a delivery driver murdered the daughter. She stated the driver's employer did not conduct a background check. She stated PADS also does not conduct background checks and that is concerning.
Ariadna Vasquez 974 Magnolia Ave Gurnee, IL	Ms. Vasquez stated she learned of the shelter application from her neighbors. She stated she moved from Waukegan to Gurnee for safety reasons. She stated she is now concerned about safety in Gurnee. She stated PADS will make the situation worse and if it is approved, she will sell her home. She stated it would impact young children in the area.
Greg Hurlbutt 588 N. Greenleaf St Gurnee, IL	Mr. Hurlbutt stated the Village Board needs to consider the impact the proposal will have on the Police and Fire Departments. He urged the Village Board to give more consideration to resident concerns.
John Hamlin 1180 Magnolia Ave Gurnee, IL	Mr. Hamlin stated it is up to the Village Board to keep residents safe. He stated residents are afraid.
Mary Barrera 1575 Belle Plaine Gurnee, IL	Ms. Barrera stated she agreed with all the previous speakers. She then thanked the Police Department for increased traffic enforcement on Belle Plaine Avenue by the park.
Keith Owens 6464 Doral Dr Gurnee, IL	Mr. Owens stated the process requires the Planning & Zoning Board and Village Board review the proposal. He stated he is concerned about the health and welfare of the entire Village. He then referenced his concerns with Casey's Fuel Station and a FOIA request he submitted in the past. He stated the property has been a problem before PADS and will be a problem after PADS. He provided what he believes are options to address the issue. He then proposed a working group be established. He stated PADS will probably improve the current situation, but the current situation is a very low bar.
Fernanda Solis-Bashore 5856 Hancock Ln Gurnee, IL	Ms. Solis-Bashore stated this project would impact her by increasing her commute time.
Nahid Khumawala 1169 Waveland Ave Gurnee, IL	Mr. Khumawala stated he does not need to repeat what has been said but actions speak louder than words. He stated now is the time to make a difference on the eastside. He stated there has been increased Police presence at the property. He suggested the area residents within two miles should be to ones who make the decision on this issue.
Andy Thieme 1046 Waveland Ave Gurnee, IL	Mr. Thieme referenced past crime at the Fairbridge Inn. He stated the current situation is not good. He stated child safety should be the main priority.
Closing Comments	None.
Adjournment	It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Garner to adjourn the meeting. <u>Voice Vote:</u> ALL AYE: Motion Carried. Mayor Hood adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.
Andrew Harris, Village Clerk	