

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 A.M. ON AUGUST 10, 2022 AT THE HILTON GARDEN INN SAVANNA ROOM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Urlacher called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The mayor indicated today's meeting is to discuss the listed agenda items and no votes will be taken.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll, the following were:

Present: Trustees Armstrong, Clark, Maier, Towne and Mayor Urlacher

Absent: Trustee Bohm and Pink

Mayor Urlacher declared a quorum present.

In Attendance: Village Administrator, Mandi Florip; Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Mettawa Public Safety, representative Rick Eckensthaler and Antonio Soto

C. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Trucks on Bradley Road
2. Speeding Within the Village
3. Traffic Violations
4. Lake County Sheriff Contract

Mayor Urlacher stated the village has been actively working on addressing safety and speeding. In addition, the Village Administrator Florip has been exploring with the Lake County Sheriff Department and Lincolnshire Police Department the different levels of service they could provide Mettawa. Howe Security's contract will not be cancelled if we enter into an additional security provider. Mayor Urlacher stated the service contracts we have received thus far for a year's commitment range from \$350,000 to \$1.2M. No voting will be taken at this meeting. In addition, if the village utilized Lake County Sheriff's department, the contract would not commence until January or February due to the staff shortage.

Mayor Urlacher opened the meeting to hear resident's feedback.

Forest Haven resident Ray Wicklander indicated the crosswalk outside Forest Haven subdivision is a great concern as cars do not stop at the sign. He indicated his biggest concern were the children riding their bikes and walkers crossing the corner.

Resident, Larry Falbe (13948 W Trail Drive) indicated if the speed limit was increased, drivers will continue to exceed the new speed limit and it will not address the issue at hand.

Resident, Peter Liphardt (705 Bradley Road) stated the stop sign outside his home is not being adhered. He witnesses this issue daily. Mr. Liphardt suggested cameras be considered to reduce speeders. Mr. Liphardt indicated the hours between 4:00-6:00 pm are the worse, as the number of cars driving along Bradley Road are at their highest.

Resident, Amy Weiland (14805 W Old School Road) indicated the area around her home has an excessive number of cars speeding after the train track STOP sign.

Mayor Urlacher indicated a few areas within the Village have already been identified as problematic. He asked if any additional locations should be flagged for Lake County Sheriff. The three-way STOP at Meadowoods Lane. Mayor Urlacher added if the Board did decide to hire Lake County, the village would be selecting the patrol officer. The goal is to hire an experience officer to provide the level of security necessary to address the reoccurring safety matters in Mettawa. Tickets would be issued. The village would also receive the revenue from the issued tickets. If the village contracted the Lincolnshire Police Department any calls made to 911 would need to be rerouted to Lincolnshire to service Mettawa. As a result, all the factors are being considered in order for the Board to make a decision.

Ms. Weiland stated the Board should consider a flashing STOP sign and adding speed bumps in the problematic areas. Ms. Weiland asked what was the variable for the contracts large cost range. Mayor Urlacher replied the various shifts. Village Administrator Florip confirmed the number of shifts determined the price point.

Mayor Urlacher added we currently have a unique contract with Lake County Sheriff's department as the village only pays per call received. If the village decided to enter into a new contract, the existing terms would no longer be a viable option.

Resident, Pam Fantus (14253 W Riteway Road) added she agreed with the idea of a flashing STOP sign to help reduce speeders. Dr. Richard Fantus asked if speed cameras could be installed.

Resident, Sue Deters (27351 N Meadowoods Lane) asked if the revenue received from the issued tickets defray the cost of the additional security. Mayor Urlacher said no numbers have been considered. The mayor added if one truck driver receives a ticket, they will communicate the new patrol and avoid using Mettawa's roads.

Ms. Fantus recommended the village consider Lake County Sheriff to be contracted.

Mayor Urlacher added the Board approved an additional contract with Lake County Sheriff for set hours and locations to target speeding cars. However, this special detail contract has been ineffective as Lake County Sheriff currently is experiencing low staffing numbers and are unable to fulfill the contract.

Howe Security representative Rick Eckensthaler commented the village will need a judicial process to hear cases on the tickets issued. Mr. Eckensthaler confirmed Lake County Sheriff is experiencing a low count of applicants for officers. Mr. Eckensthaler cautioned the village in

placing speed bump as drivers can sue the village for car damage. Ms. Weiland indicated a speed bump would impact a driver instantly. Mr. Eckensthaler added once the Mettawa logo has been set on a sheriff's car, that visual will deter speeders. In addition, once a Mettawa sheriff officer begins to issue tickets to semi-truck drivers that too will be shared with other drivers. Mr. Eckensthaler stated Mettawa is a unique village that requires an officer who is willing to serve the residents.

Resident, Deb Pelech (15565 W Old School Road) said she is in favor of speed bumps being placed throughout the village. Mrs. Pelech asked if cameras could be placed at STOP signs. Mayor Urlacher replied Trustee Armstrong will need to explore the details behind cameras.

Mr. Liphardt indicated during his resolution of a ticket received; he was directed to an outside company to discuss the process. Mr. Liphardt stated would the village consider a third party to handle the judicial piece of tickets. Mr. Eckensthaler said the village can hire a third party to handle the judicial process but this would be an additional expense.

Mettawa Public Safety, Antonio Soto added he has followed speeders and pulled them over to make them aware of their speed. Mr. Soto reminded residents that they should call them directly and not the village office. This will delay investigating suspicious cars. Mayor Urlacher reminded all of the residents to add Mettawa Public Safety phone number as one of their contacts. Trustee Clark commented a parked sheriff's car in the trouble areas might also deter speeders.

Mr. Liphardt asked if the village would consider streamlining meetings to enable other residents to attend meetings. Mayor Urlacher replied the Board has discussed this matter in the past and without a village hall to have audio set-up its rather difficult. The idea has been explored and it was estimated to be very costly.

Mr. Wicklander asked if Mettawa would enter into a contractual agreement with Green Oaks to defer costs. Mr. Eckensthaler replied Mettawa would not benefit from such a contract as Green Oaks has 3,500 residents and Mettawa has 500. Green Oaks has greater activity. Mayor Urlacher replied the village would enter into the agreement solely.

Mayor Urlacher commented this matter will be further discussed at the September Board meeting.

D. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned by Ayes.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:

Aye: Trustees Armstrong, Clark, Maier and Towne

Nay: None

Absent: Trustees Bohm and Pink

Mayor Urlacher declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk