

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023 VIA ZOOM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Clark and Members Armstrong and Pink

Absent: None

Chairman Clark declared a quorum present.

Attendees: Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Administrator, Mandi Florip; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson

C. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY

Meeting minutes of February 8, 2023 were reviewed. It was moved by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Pink that the regular meeting minutes be approved and be placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. DISCUSS THE DAVEY TREE EXPERTS PROPOSAL FOR WHIPPOORWILL PARK TREE TREATMENTS

Chairman Clark indicated last year Davey Tree Experts completed an inventory of the trees at Whippoorwill Park. After the inventory, the trees were treated with phosphonate and later with a granular humate application. This year the same treatment is necessary to be effective. The proposal was received for this year's treatment in the amount of \$6,142.

A motion was made to approve the Davey Tree Experts treatments in the amount of \$6,142. The motion was made by Member Pink and seconded by Member Armstrong. Chairman Clark abstained from the vote. The motion was carried.

E. DISCUSS THE DUNLAP LAWN SERVICE PROPOSAL FOR WHIPPOORWILL PARK MAINTENANCE

Chairman Clark indicated the one change to the maintenance program from last year is the removal of cleaning out the pollinator gardens under the spring tasks. The pollinator gardens bed cleaning is being performed by Pizzo and Associates Inc. Chairman Clark added she will walk the gardens with Nick Pizzo when they are ready to clear the pollinator gardens to ensure no plants are removed.

A motion was made to approve the Dunlap Lawn Service proposal for the Whippoorwill Park annual maintenance in the amount \$16,780. The motion was made by Member Pink and seconded by Member Armstrong. The motion was carried.

F. DISCUSS THE SIGNARAMA PROPOSAL TO REPLACE WHIPPOORWILL PARK TRAIL SIGN

Chairman Clark indicated she received a call from Member Armstrong that the Whippoorwill Park trail sign at the corner of Bradley Road and Riverwoods Boulevard had fallen. The sign post was unrepairable as the animals chewed the base. Village Clerk Gallo obtained a proposal from Signarama to replace the trail sign in the amount of \$815.

A motion was made to approve the Signarama proposal for a trail sign in the amount of \$815. The motion was made by Chairman Clark and seconded by Member Armstrong. The motion was carried.

G. DISCUSS THE THREE PROPOSALS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF VILLAGE LOT LOCATED AT 27570 OAK HILL LANE

Chairman Clark stated she obtained three proposals to clear the buckthorn along the village property on Oak Hill Lane. Chairman Clark added she also met with the two residents along Oak Hill Lane and explained to them the village's plans. Member Armstrong expressed her preference of the three contractors to be environmentally friendly. The three proposals included Davey Tree Experts in the amount of \$11,500. Davey Tree Experts would be clearing the buckthorn utilizing machinery followed-up with a herbicide treatment. Member Armstrong asked if any fallen trees or dead wood was going to be removed. Chairman Clark replied anything that is appears to be a natural habitat will be left behind. Eubanks Environmental proposal was priced at \$5,575 per acre. This lot is 1.92 acres totaling \$10,704. Chairman Clark added Eubanks Environmental would be removing the buckthorn by hand and will be burning on site. All burning onsite will be confirmed with the fire department per protocol. Stumps and stems will be treated with a herbicide. Leaning dead trees will be dropped for safety. The last proposal was received from Pizzo & Associates Inc. in the amount of \$28,915.85. Member Armstrong asked if the area was indeed 1.92 acres. Chairman Clark added she did reference the plat to survey to get the lot size. The northern part of the lot is the wettest area. This clean-up will take 5-7 days to be completed. Chairman Clark added Dave Eubanks recommends seeding to occur 12-18 months after the buckthorn has been removed. Mr. Eubanks added a grace period should be allowed to see what new growth comes out of clearing the area.

A motion was made to approve the Eubanks Environmental proposal in the amount of \$10,704. The motion was moved by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

Chairman Clark added she would like to recommend trees to be planted on this lot this year too. Member Armstrong agreed. Chairman Clark added both residents along Oak Hill Lane addressed their concern of their screening being removed with the cleanout of the village lot. As a result, Chairman Clark is proposing planting eight trees at the entrance of road once the lot has been cleared. Mariani Landscaping provided a quote for eight Norway spruce trees in the amount of \$19,000. Davey Tree Experts recommended eight Eastern Red Cedar trees in the amount of \$4,800. Eubanks Environmental submitted their tree planting recommendation for Canadian hemlock or white pine trees in the amount \$5,070. Chairman Clark responded her only concern was that the Canadian hemlock trees were not deer resistant. Member Pink asked if the planting should be native. Chairman Clark said the village has planted Norway spruce in other locations.

A motion was made to approve Davey Tree Experts for the eight Eastern Red Cedar trees in the amount of \$4,800. The motion was made by Member Pink and seconded by Member Armstrong. Chairman Clark abstained from the vote. The motion was carried.

H. DISCUSS MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ITEMS FOR FY2023-2024 BUDGET

Village Administrator Florip indicated she buffered the budget to include additional funding to remove buckthorn from one or two village lots. Chairman Clark added she anticipates the berm currently being built on Route 60 and St. Marys Road will require some additional maintenance even though the agreement was set to removal all the buckthorn from this location. Member Armstrong asked what type of seeding will be spread at the berm. Village Engineer Scott Anderson replied the finalized seeding is the IDOT class nature seed mix. The seed mix was determined by the Committee during the berm agreement details. Village Engineer Scott Anderson added this seed mix was determined to have low maintenance. The contract does indicate Altounian is required to guarantee the berm's grass is growing accordingly. Chairman Clark stated she will follow-up with David Johansson to better understand the seed mix that was determined for the berm.

I. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ADJOURNMENT

- J.** It was moved by Chairman Clark and seconded by Member Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo,
Village Clerk