

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES,  
THE VILLAGE OF McCULLOM LAKE,  
4811 W. ORCHARD DRIVE  
McCULLOM LAKE, IL 60050  
October 24, 2023  
All Village Board meetings will be tape recorded.**

President Shepit called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** By the Village Clerk, Sherri L. Messina

**Present:** President Shepit, Trustees Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky

**Absent:** Trustee Walter, Attorney Shaw

**Minutes:** Trustee Bogacz made a motion to approve the minutes with added verbiage; seconded by Trustee Vick. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

**Executive Session Minutes of 09/26/23:** Trustee Fritz made a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of 09/26/23; seconded by Trustee Vick. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor motion carried.

**Bills Read and Approved:** Trustee Bogacz made a motion to pay the bills; seconded by Trustee Vick. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

**Finance:** N/A

**Building & Zoning:** N/A

**Parks:** Trustee Thompson has recently seen some pictures from Paul on trees on the beach that are falling apart and hollow and he believes it's a hazard. May he get some pricing to assess the damage of the trees and if they should go down or not and possibly replant if we are taking any down. President Shepit: Yes, and there is something out there that she was reading about grants for

trees. Trustee Thompson: Maybe there's something out there for subsidizing. The one picture he saw that they recently cut down or fell, one of them is right next to the hall. He doesn't know what our deductible is for the Village but he's been through this with his own yard. President Shepit told him to go ahead and get some prices. Trustee Vick stated that we should start with the three (3) by the playground which is the biggest risk.

Trustee Thompson mentioned that the little store used to have In and Out signs and the West side was In and the East side was Out he's heard there's been a few accidents there, and when he comes out the East side with their flags and trees there's no visibility. President Shepit asked Officer Beatty if he just heard what Trustee Thompson brought up. Trustee Vick said it's about entering and exiting the Liquor store, the gambling signs that they have out there, the flags that they have out by the road. President Shepit: If you come out the East exit and you look to the left those flags are out towards the road and it's hard to see. Trustee Thompson: Not only that but the trees, the trees need to be trimmed and the flags because you're leaning and trying to see and someone's going to get T-boned. President Shepit: And the Exit and Enter signs are gone. Officer Beatty stated that no one pays attention to those signs and unfortunately we can't enforce that unless they agree to an intergovernmental agreement with us then we could enforce it. Trustee Thompson: But the trees and the floppy signs I believe you need visibility to the West. Sergeant Beatty will talk to them. President Shepit: Maybe bring up moving the flags back and trimming the trees there. President Shepit: We can't do an intergovernmental agreement with a business. Sergeant Beatty stated that we could do an agreement with them like Woodstock does with Wal-Mart which allows them to write tickets in Wal-Mart's parking lot. President Shepit: If you could ask them to put them signs back up because people have forgotten over the years. Sergeant Beatty will talk to them.

**Roads:** Trustee Vick: The sewer lids are going to get patched which is going to be happening soon in the next week or two. The grant that we applied for through HR Green got denied the first time. He talked to HR Green and it usually takes about two (2) rounds for something to happen if it is going to get approved he is going to be freshening up the application and re-submitting it. The due date is January 4, 2024. There is no charge from HR Green to re-submit our application. There is another one ITEP that deals with bike paths and sidewalks may be available for the Village that he's going to take a look at and if we get the Community Block grant we might be able to tap into the ITEP stuff for sidewalks or bike paths and what not. Trustee Vick and Deputy Clerk Prehn are working closely with Jeff from HR Green to get all the funding we can possible get.

**Blight:** N/A

**Police:** Trustee Zakrocky: Frank is going to give a dissertation about Taser's. President Shepit told him to wait because what he's going to talk about is in new business.

**Communications:** N/A

**Audience:** Cindy – The Community Garden has been cleaned up and shut down for the season by her and Shirley. She reached out to Officer Greg McCulloch and they went through the storage bins for their outreach and sources and consolidated everything. She would like to do another Pizza Party with the Police maybe they'll start up after the holidays. Youth Group we had an ad in the newsletter and no one is responding to it. She thought that instead of starting off with programs maybe we should host some events to get the community together and have some fun and get people volunteering again. She had a meeting this afternoon with Mary Flores and she's from Illinois Extension College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Extension is an extension of the government Link where they are into education and nutrition and fitness for communities getting involved and participating and collaborating in starting these programs. They talked about things we could do in the future. These services are free to us and our community. There's a couple things we could do like free cooking classes where they come in with educators and chefs where they provide everything and teach them how to cook and eat together at the end. So they have kid chef classes, canning and storing classes, fitness classes. In her computer she has us as qualifying but it would be up to the Village to provide proof that we have residents on Linked and Snap accessing those resources Mary Flores can get you what you need. President Shepit believes we do have residents on that but she's not sure how to get that. Cindy: If we held these free classes 50% would have to be from Linked/Snap. Miss Flores could come to a meeting and answer any questions and maybe go into depth on whatever it is you want to know. She had some suggestions with how to get people to come to some events and offered to work the events like have a booth and ask what are your needs and what can we help you with. She's going to bring a poster that has a QR code on it and it can locate any food pantry in Illinois.

Deputy Clerk Prehn has an invoice that she couldn't enter because she doesn't have the information yet but it's for roads for the manhole cover repair for \$160.85 and once she gets the information can she pay it. President Shepit: Yes. Sergeant Beatty will go out next week and take some pictures of homes with Halloween decorations up and try and get it in the newsletter for November.

**Old Business:** N/A

**New Business:** Purchase New Tasers for the Police Department – The Police Department had three (3) tasers that they've been using. Two (2) of them don't

work at all. The one they have doesn't work properly. They are planning on replacing three (3) tasers. Sergeant Beatty would like to purchase the two (2) in yellow because it's safer with two cartridges for two (2) shots for \$1957.98. Sean O'Brien from Drake Inc. is going to give us a check to purchase two (2) of the tasers so the two (2) will be free and they need a third one. Sergeant Beatty sent two (2) of the tasers back to the manufacturer and they are giving us \$300.00 buy back so we are looking at a \$400.00 dollar cost to the Village to get that third taser. All the officers are qualified to use the tasers. Trustee Zakrocky made a motion to purchase the tasers; seconded by Trustee Bogacz. Voice Vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

Approve Illinois Municipal League Risk Association bill for \$31150.00 Deputy Clerk Prehn stated that we have the money to pay it all at once which would give us a slight discount. Trustee Vick made a motion to pay the entire bill of \$31150.00; seconded by Trustee Zakrocky. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

**Discussion:** Neighbors Helping Neighbors had their bonfire. It was cold and damp and they still had it. About eleven (11) people showed up, it was a bust but they still had a good time.

Both of the dumpsters that Neighbors Helping Neighbors had brought in were filled up in the two (2) days that it ran.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors on December 2<sup>nd</sup> the Trolley will be going around with the Christmas Carolers at 5:00. The Children's Christmas Party will be December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Village Hall.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors will again be giving out Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to those in need. Please contact Froggie if you know of someone who is in need of this.

Trustee Vick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 P.M.; seconded by Trustee Bogacz. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Thompson, Vick, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

The next Village board meeting will be November 28, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Marilyn Shepit  
Village President

Sherri L. Messina  
Village Clerk