

**MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
THE VILLAGE OF McCULLOM LAKE,
4811 W. ORCHARD DRIVE
McCULLOM LAKE, IL 60050
February 25, 2025
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 Village Clerk Messina

Present: President Shepit, Trustees Bogacz, Fritz, Walter, Zakrocky

Absent: Attorney Shaw, Trustee Thompson, Trustee Vick

Minutes: Trustee Bogacz made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Trustee Walter. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Walter, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Trustee Bogacz made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report; seconded by Trustee Zakrocky. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Walter, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

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

Finance: N/A

Building & Zoning: N/A

Parks: N/A

Roads: N/A

Blight: Trustee Walter mentioned the empty lot on Orchard where there are branches still piled up that have been there for awhile. President Shepit stated that someone needs to talk to him. Deputy Clerk Prehn mentioned that there is someone who wants to build there.

Police: Trustee Zakrocky read the monthly Police Report. He stated that there was Yearly Taser Training for all Officers, Yearly State Shooting Qualifications for all Officers and February Law Classes for all Officers.

Communications: President Shepit let the board know that our auditors GW & Associates yearly bill is going up from \$15,500.00 to \$17,000.00 for our fiscal year ending March 31, 2025.

Also our maintenance man Paul Vick will be retiring. President Shepit has two (2) individuals to call. Trustee Walter stated that one (1) of his brothers would probably be interested in the position as well.

Audience: Wonderwave – Deputy Clerk Prehn stated that to rebuild our website will be between \$2500.00 and \$3000.00 and when they did it back in 2017 it was \$2600.00. The board told her to move forward with it.

For Roads Jeff at HR Green put in an application for fiscal year funding for CDBG for Spring Road he sent an email today because there is a planning meeting April 8th, 2025. Jeff would like Deputy Clerk Prehn and Trustee Vick to attend the meeting with him.

Trustee Walter asked President Shepit about getting LED lights. Clerk Messina stated that she remembers that Com-Ed said that the Village would have to pay for them. President Shepit stated that it's not just putting in the lights the fixtures would have to be taken out as well. The Street lights Com-Ed has, has already replaced what they are going to replace and as the lights go out they will put new ones in.

John Picchiotti District of Operations for Senator Craig Wilcox addressed the board. The 104th Assembly is back in Session and he wanted to give the board an update on the Fiscal forecast for the 2026 State Budget. Senator Wilcox is concerned that to cover the spending and to address the budget deficit and there's a possibility that LDGF (Local Government Distribution Fund) funds could face further reductions. Senator Wilcox feels that Local Governments should not have to bear the consequences of Springfield's failure to regulate its spending. The LDGF funds is going to be a top concern for Senator Wilcox this year as he believes these funds are better spent at the local level. The Senator asked Mr. Picchiotti to ask the board if there are any projects in which we are seeking additional funds for and his office is always there to be a resource. He will give

Deputy Clerk Prehn his contact information before he leaves. We can send him an email with a more detailed write up about our roads within the Village and the problems with the roads and his office staff will be happy to check to see if there are grants out there and see if they can help us out. They won't know what funds are available until the State Budget is finalized which should be somewhere around May but it would help them if they had a list of projects if the money becomes available. Other projects could possibly go through OSLAD the (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant) and if we need a letter of support from the Senator's Office please reach out to him. The board asked Mr. Picchiotti to please let Senator Wilcox know that we appreciated his help in the past with our roads and to thank him looking out for our Village.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Discussion:

Trustee Fritz mentioned that on March 8, 2025 there will be a fundraiser to benefit the family of resident Kent Butler here at the Village Hall from 4:00 to 9:00 P.M. Kent was a long time resident here in our community. The Knoll will be down here to serve drinks and it will be a cash bar, 50/50 raffles and an all you can eat spaghetti dinner for \$15.00 a person. Trustee Zakrocky stated that we are a community that is always willing to step up and help out when someone needs it.

March 11, 2025 will be the next Neighbors Helping Neighbors meeting at the Cullom Knoll in the back room at 6:30 which is the second Tuesday of the Month.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is the 13th of April at 2:00 P.M. sharp and the Easter Bunny will be in attendance. Neighbors Helping Neighbors is planning on having a spring cleanup but they do not have a date set up for it yet. Deputy Clerk Prehn mentioned she will schedule an E-Scrap pickup at the end of March. The first week of May they are thinking about having another scrap drive. The Annual Poker Run will be May 31st and funds from that will be donated to the American Legion.

Kathy Zakrocky asked the board if anyone knows of any World War II Veterans that live in the Village because they would like to possibly put them on the Honorary Freedom Flight. They would like to know who our Veterans are on the day of the Poker Run so that they could put a flag in their front yards and this would be for any Veteran. Deputy Clerk Prehn will put something in the

newsletter to see if our Veterans will come forward. Trustee Zakrocky stated that the whole idea with the Veterans is without them, we wouldn't be free.

Trustee Bogacz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 P.M.; seconded by Trustee Zakrocky. Voice vote: Bogacz, Fritz, Walter, Zakrocky=ayes. All in favor, motion carried.

The next Village board meeting will be March 25, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

Marilyn Shepit
Village President

Sherri Messina
Village Clerk