

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MARCH 5, 2019**

Call to Order

President Bass called the regular meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 7:30 P.M. Tuesday, March 5, 2019, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex at 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue, Village of Lincolnwood, County of Cook, and State of Illinois.

Pledge to the Flag

The Corporate Authorities and all persons in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

On roll call by Village Clerk Beryl Herman the following were:

PRESENT: President Bass, Trustees Cope, Ikezoe-Halevi, Patel, Spino, Sugarman

ABSENT: Trustee Hlepas Nickell

A quorum was present.

Also present: Village Manager, Anne Marie Gaura, Assistant Village Manager Charles Meyer; Management Analyst, Heather McFarland; Village Attorney, Steven Elrod

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 19, 2019 Village Board meeting were presented to the Village Board. Trustee Sugarman moved to approve, seconded by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi.

The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Warrant Approval

President Bass presented the warrants for approval in the amount of \$722,549.52. Trustee Sugarman moved to approve the warrants, seconded by Trustee Spino.

Upon roll call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Sugarman, Spino, Ikezoe-Halevi, Cope, Patel

NAYS: None

The motion passed.

Village President's Report

1. Touhy Avenue Overpass

The American Council of Engineering Companies has selected the Touhy Avenue Overpass for a Merit Award in its structures category. Merit Awards are given to those projects that are worthy of special recognition for the engineer and owner.

Representatives from the Village and Stanley Consultants were on hand to accept this prestigious award on the evening of Friday, March 1st. Congratulations to everyone involved in this phenomenal project.

2. Proesel Park Playground Equipment Update

The current playground equipment at Proesel Park is scheduled to be removed by Kids Around the World on Monday, March 11. Many families have enjoyed this playground over the past 22 years and we welcome everyone to play on the equipment this upcoming weekend before it is removed and donated on March 11. Construction will begin after the equipment donation is complete, and the playground will reopen at the beginning of May.

3. Spring Break Camp

Looking for fun activities for your elementary school age children during Spring Break? Check out Lincolnwood's very own Spring Break Camp, which will be held at the Community Center March 25-29. This camp features daily field trips, arts and crafts and recreational games. Registration is available through Parks and Recreation.

4. Proesel Park Shelter Rental

If you are a Lincolnwood Resident interested in renting the Proesel Park Shelter for a gathering this summer, please contact the Parks and Recreation department for your Picnic Permit at 847/677-9740

Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of a Resolution Approving an Agreement with Sentinel Technologies, of Downers Grove, Illinois for the Upgrade of the Village's Storage Area Network**
- 2. Approval of a Recommendation by the Plan Commission to Adopt an Ordinance Approving a Trade School as a Special Use at 7301 North Lincoln Avenue**
- 3. Approval of a Recommendation by the Economic Development Commission to Adopt a Resolution Supporting and Consenting to Approval of a Class 7C Property Tax Abatement Incentive with Loeber Motors, Inc. for the Proposed Expanded Porsche Dealership at 7125 North Lincoln Avenue**

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Trustee Spino.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Ikezoe-Halevi, Spino, Patel, Cope, Sugarman

NAYS: None

The motion passed

Regular Business

- 4. Consideration of 1) an Ordinance Approving a Variation for Side Yard Setbacks, and 2) an Ordinance Denying a Variation for Building Coverage for a Single-Family Addition at 6510 North Monticello Avenue**

This item was presented by Mr. Hammel using PowerPoint.

Mr. Elrod noted that he was directed to bring these two to this meeting.

Case #ZB-08-18
Side Yard Setback and Building Coverage
For front and rear additions to a single-family residence at 6510 North Monticello

Existing Property

6510 North Monticello

- Zoning: R3 Residential
- Lot area: 8,720 sq. ft.
- Existing single-story, single-family residence (2,570 sq. ft.)

ZBA and Village Board Meeting

ZBA recommended:

- Approval of side yard setback variation
- Denial of building coverage variation

Petitioner submitted revised plans reducing building coverage variation request from 51% to 48.7%

- Village Board directed drafting of Ordinance and Resolution reflecting ZBA's recommendations with revised building coverage request
- A revised plan was presented. Variation request was reduced to 44.6%

Recommended Motions

*Move to approve an Ordinance approving a Variation allowing side yard set-backs of 5'2" from the south lot line and 4'8 1/2" from the north lot line

*Move to approve a Resolution denying a Variation allowing a total building coverage in excess of 35%

ZBA Hearing

Discussion regarding building coverage Variation

- Recognized Staff's finding regarding the need for additional stormwater management systems
- Felt these were the result of preference, not hardship
- Noted that precedent approvals were much closer to the permitted maximum building coverage
- Felt several Variation standards had not been met

Mr. Hammel provided information requested by Trustee Cope.

The owner of the house addressed the Board and provided a history of the property, which has been vacant for 15 years.

Mr. Weinschneider, a neighbor has purchased the property. He provided a summary of his plan.

Additional discussion ensued.

Trustee Cope moved to deny the Ordinance for side yard setbacks, seconded by Trustee Patel.

Trustee Sugarman removed from omnibus.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Cope, Patel, Ikezoe-Halevi, Spino

NAY: Trustee Sugarman

The motion passed

Trustee Cope moved to approve the Ordinance regarding denying the Variation for Building Coverage, seconded by Trustee Patel.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Cope, Patel, Ikezoe-Halevi Spino, Sugarman

NAYS: None

The motion passed

5. Consideration of a Recommendation by the Plan Commission to Adopt an Ordinance Amending Table 4.01.1 of the Zoning Ordinance to Permit “Banquet Facility/Banquet Hall” as a Special Use in the M-B Manufacturing and Business Zoning District

This item was presented by Mr. Hammel using PowerPoint.

Proposed Zoning Text Amendment

Banquet facilities in the M-B Manufacturing and Business Zoning District

Renderings of the Devon-Lincoln Triangle and the Northeast Industrial Area were exhibited.

“Banquet Facility” or “Banquet Hall”

*Zoning Ordinance includes:

- Use definition for “banquet facility/banquet hall”
- Parking requirements for this use

*Not specifically addressed in Table 4.01.1 – Permitted and Special uses in all Zoning Districts

Petitioner Request

*Amend Table 4.01.1 Permitted and Special Uses in All Zoning Districts to permit “banquet facility/banquet hall” in the M-B Zoning District

Public Process

*January 15th Committee of the Whole Referral

- Suggested that the Plan Commission consider permissibility of subject use in all non-residential zoning districts
- Stated concerns regarding the impact on residential properties

*March 21 Plan Commission Public Hearing

- Determine it was appropriate to only consider permissibility of subject use in the M-B Zoning District
- Expressed concerns regarding the appropriateness of the subject use in other non-residential zoning districts
- Stated the subject use is appropriate in the M-B Zoning District
- Recommended approval of the text Amendment to permit the subject use as a Special Use in the M-B Zoning District

Recommended Motions

- Move to approve an Ordinance approving a Text Amendment to Table 4.01.1 of the Zoning Ordinance permitting “banquet facility/banquet hall” as a Special Use in the M-B Zoning

District

- If deemed appropriate, refer the matter of the permissibility of “banquet facility/banquet hall” as a Special Use in the B-1,B-2,B-3 and O Zoning Districts to the Plan Commission for further consideration

Discussion ensued.

No action was taken on Districts other than M-B for banquet facilities/banquet halls.

Issues regarding other districts may go back to the Plan Commission.

Trustee Patel disclosed that the location being discussed is in the district where his office is located. He is not recusing himself, but simply offering this for information.

Trustee Patel moved to approve the Ordinance, seconded by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Patel, Cope, Ikezoe-Halevi, Spino, Sugarman

NAYS: None The motion passed

There was further discussion regarding banquet halls.

Trustee Patel moved to send the item to the Plan Commission for discussion regarding B1, B2, B3 and O, seconded by Trustee Spino.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Sugarman, Spino, Ikezoe-Halevi, Cope, Patel

NAYS: None

6. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with DCG Roofing Solutions, Inc. of Melrose Park, Illinois for the Replacement of the Community Center Roof in the Amount of \$183,100

This item was presented by Mr. Letson.

President Bass noted that this price was below budget.

Trustee Sugarman asked if there was a bidding process.

Mr. Letson stated that they went through the usual process and six bids were received.

It was discovered that the one roof which is sloped would need materials not anticipated, changes were necessary and additional bidding was necessary. DCG was selected.

Trustee Sugarman was satisfied with this process.

Trustee Spino moved to approve the Resolution, seconded by Trustee Sugarman.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Spino, Ikezoe- Halevi, Cope, Sugarman, Patel

NAYS: None

The motion passed

Manager's Report

Ms. Gaura spoke of the Employee Appreciation Day luncheon. She was happy to be part of this so early in her tenure. She also spoke of today's tour with the Public Works Director and the Assistant Public Works director. She is getting different views of the community

Trustees Reports

Trustee Halevi read a prepared statement, a complete copy of which is attached at the end of the minutes.

Trustee Sugarman requested the opportunity to speak.

The following is a professional transcript with some resident conversation omitted.

Trustee Sugarman : Yeah, I am absolutely appalled and shocked at what was just read there, which is absolutely and totally false, misleading and again...I guess the only thing we could...I could understand from it was an attempt to try to undermine my attempt to be elected as Trustee of the Village. I can't even believe that she read that or stated any of that. It's all totally false and not true and people who know me know I don't go bullying other people, so the only possible motive for doing that is to try and undermine my campaign to continue and represent this Village and then, like...And even more than that, what this really shows is how no good deed goes unpunished. What Mrs. Halevi Trustee Halevi didn't tell you was a couple of months into my term as a Trustee, her husband went into my brother-in-law's shop and said, "I need to speak to you".

Resident interruption.

President Bass stated that no one in the crowd should interrupt or they will be asked to leave.

Trustee Sugarman continued: "Trustee Halevi's husband walked into my brother-in-law's shop and said "I really need to speak to you. It's very important. Can we go into your office? My brother-in-law's mechanic went into the office and Mr. Halevi said "You need to speak to your brother-in-law. You need to tell him he needs to change the way he votes, and you need to tell him that he needs to get in line with what's important in the Village and not support the mayor'. Now...and I'm not sure what his intentions were, but of course my brother-in-law called and told me that. Subsequently I found out that her husband, Mr. Halevi, called my other brother-in-law. I have two brother-in-laws that both live in the Village...Unsolicitedly called my other brother-in-law and told him the same thing. Well they both reported this to me. Now what did I do? Did I go and file a complaint with Police Department? Did I go and write a letter? Did I go and do all these other things? No, I called up...I called up...I called up"

Resident Interruption.

Mr. Sugarman continued: "I called up Trustee Halevi and I spoke to her privately and I told her what had happened and I said 'I really think this is inappropriate. You should speak to your husband. It's not proper for him to be speaking to my brothers-in-law and trying to encourage them to influence how I vote in the Village.' And I wanted her to know. I didn't tell anybody else. I never discussed it with anyone. I just talked to her because that's the way I function.

Thereafter, Next Door, there was a post that was put on a... Trustee Halevi's name, but I didn't think she would have done or thought it would be appropriate. I called her on the phone and said 'Jean, did you know that this is on the NextDoor website with your name? And she was appalled and she goes

No, I didn't know that, but I didn't post it. My husband must've used my name and he posted it under my name. I said I was just letting her know and trying to protect her. Did I go and make a police report? Did I go and tell everybody about it? Did I do any of those things? No. All I did was let her know privately. Last...Or two weeks ago, whenever it was, her husband had posted on NextDoor that voting for our party was like buying a pig in a poke. *Resident interruption.* So again, as I had done the first two times" *Resident interruption*

President Bass stated that if the audience was going to be disruptive, they should please go home.

Trustee Sugarman restated "As I had done the first two times..." *Resident Interruption*

Trustee Sugarman continued: "I spoke with Trustee Halevi privately in a room with nobody else around...No bullying or anything of that sort, and I, again suggested to Jean, you know...you're a Trustee in the Village...I don't know if it's appropriate for her husband...Again, 'cause you ...Represented...He's speaking and somewhere it could be looked at on your behalf calling people a pig in a poke. That's all I told her. The third time I didn't tell anybody else."

Resident Interruption.

Trustee Sugarman continued: "I didn't discuss it with anybody else. I didn't file a complaint. I didn't do any of those things.

So the point is very simple: No good deed goes unpunished. I tried to do something nice. I tried to...Three different times I spoke to her to explain to her what was going on; that maybe she should correct it or deal with it or address it as she wanted to, and what did I get in return for that is this statement here, uh...About her being bullied and so on which is just all complete...Farce. It's completely false. It's not true and I deny every, all of those statements of trying to file a complaint against me...She certainly has the right to do whatever she wants, but that's the truth...What I just said."

Mayor Bass: Thank you Trustee Sugarman. I appreciate your feelings as well and thank you, thank you for... *Resident Interruption*

Trustee Halevi stated: "I have stayed out of the way while in this election. I have done nothing to deserve this. If Trustee Sugarman doesn't understand what he was saying in the way of which he was saying, then he needs to correct himself. This was, he definitely needs anger management."

Conversation ensued: Trustees Halevi, Sugarman and Resident Interruption.

President Bass banging the gavel, stating, "I have never used this all year".

Trustee Patel stated that he had a Trustee Report as well.

Trustee Patel stated "I would like to say, I applaud Trustee Halevi for having the courage to make the statement that she did. I would like to say that I was a victim in this similar instance right here in Council Chambers on November 30, 2017, when we had an infrastructure meeting. Trustee Spino was present and witnessed and had a direct view of an actual assault and battery. Uh, I sent an email the next day to the Village Manager and Village Attorney, and that was back on December 1st at 10:16AM and now I'll read that email to corroborate that this is a pattern. And I...I regret not having come forward, and ...

Trustee Cope exited the meeting at this time.

Trustee Sugarman began: *Resident Interruption* If we're gonna go into that, I can reveal all the texts that I have gotten from Jerry Turry, yourself and everything but. I choose to be a bigger person.

Resident interruption

Mayor Bass asked Trustee Patel to continue.

Trustee Patel yielded his time to Trustee Halevi.

President Bass asked Trustee Halevi to finish up so the meeting can go to the next agenda item.

Trustee Halevi stated that she is more religious than most people think. "I don't talk about religion. I don't discuss it. It's a private thing for me. When Trustee Sugarman says it's a 'he said, she said thing. No, it's not. You were in that room. I was in that room. You are always saying that you are a religious person and you wear a kippah. Well you wear a kippah because there's one above you, and we were not alone in that room. If you lie you're not lying just to me, you're lying to God. So, I'm sorry, I told the truth. I did everything I could. You started this, but I will finish it. I did nothing to deserve this."

President Bass then moved to the next agenda item.

Clerk's Report

Early voting will begin on March 18 and end on April 1st. The closest locations are Skokie Village Hall on Oakton Street and Skokie Courthouse on Old Orchard Road. They will be open 7 days a week until April 1st. For more information contact the office of the Cook County Clerk by phone or on line.

Public Forum

Resident Edie Kaminsky addressed the Board and provided a definition of "Pig in a Poke". She defined the term, and stated that it is not derogatory, but rather indicates buying an item which has not been seen. She thanked Trustee Halevi for her courage in speaking out.

Resident Pam Lefkowitz addressed the Board. She thanked both Trustee Halevi and Trustee Patel for their statements.

Adjournment

At 8:30PM Trustee Patel moved to adjourn the Village Board Meeting, seconded by Trustee Spino
The motion passed by Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beryl Herman
Village Clerk

Here is the complete text of the written statement read by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi:

This is the email I sent to Mayor Barry Bass, Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura, Village Attorney Steven Elrod and Police Chief Jay Parrot.

“This email is to inform you about an incident that happened prior to our Budget Meeting tonight, 2/26/19.

While hanging my coat up I happened to see Trustees Ron Cope and Renan Sugarman sitting in the conference room. I said “hi” to them and mentioned to Trustee Sugarman that a movie my husband had told him about was back in the Lincolnwood Library. He acknowledged my comment then asked if he could speak to me in private, and I agreed. We went out into the offices and since none of them were open, Trustee Sugarman asked Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura, who was passing by, if we could use her office. She said we could and unlocked the door for us.

Once inside, Trustee Sugarman angrily proceeded to tell me he was upset about comments my husband, Charles Halevi, had written on the Lincolnwood Together Now thread on the Next Door Lincolnwood website. This particular issue was about why Lincolnwood Together Now cancelled a meet and greet in March for the candidates for Lincolnwood Trustee. There are currently more than 30 replies to that, with my husband adding two comments, neither of which specifically mentioned Trustee Sugarman by name.

Trustee Sugarman said that I should control my husband and that he didn’t think it was appropriate that he was writing comments on the thread. I told him to calm down and that I can’t control what my husband writes. We actually had a similar conversation last year at Village Hall, in which he told me I should control my husband about things he had commented on the blog back then.

Trustee Sugarman then went on to say that he didn’t know if I had any political aspirations for the next election, but if I didn’t get my husband to stop, he would tell everyone not to vote for me and work to make sure I was not re-elected. At that point I asked him what he expected me to do, tie my husband down so he couldn’t write? Before we left for the meeting, I said I would talk to my husband, but could not guarantee that he would stop writing comments.

Because my husband and I are both journalists, we don't always see eye to eye on what the other writes, but I think Trustee Sugarman was out of line to tell me repeatedly to control my husband and make threats about the next election.

I don't think one trustee should be treating another trustee in this manner. While I understand Trustee Sugarman is up for re-election in what could be a tight race, I don't appreciate being spoken to in this way at Village Hall.

As a Village of Lincolnwood official, I respect the office Trustee Sugarman holds, but I will not be bullied or spoken to in this manner for something I did not do."

Mrs. Halevi went on to add:

If Trustee Sugarman had said after the Budget Meeting that he was sorry and that he got carried away, we probably would not be at this point. But he had Tuesday evening, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday after Shabbat, Sunday, Monday and today and he has not said a word.

Trustee Sugarman told me to control my husband once before, about a year to a year and a half ago in Village Chambers. Once I can let pass, as I did, but twice becomes a pattern. I will not allow there to be a third time.

This type of behavior is not allowed in any business or workplace. It's unacceptable and should not be tolerated. If Trustee Sugarman expected me to be silent about this, he was wrong. He displaced his anger at my husband, at me, he yelled, demanded and threatened that I do what he wanted or there would be consequences. What kind of person does that?

And trying to tell a journalist that he or she shouldn't write is a violation of the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America.

No one wants to be a victim, I certainly didn't, but I feel like I get punished twice, once for listening to Trustee Sugarman last week and now having to defend myself in a situation that I didn't create.

Finally, the saddest part is that my husband has had a life-long relationship with Trustee Sugarman's extended family. In his early twenties my husband worked for Trustee Sugarman's father-in-law pumping gas at his gas station. His late father-in-law was always nice to me. My husband still refers customers to Trustee Sugarman's brothers-in-law's businesses. We purchased a car for my daughter from one of them in July to drive to Seattle because it would be a safe car.

Now because of Trustee Sugarman's actions we may no longer have that relationship.

I went to the Lincolnwood Police Station to file charges. This is listed as a "Matter of Record" on a Victim/Complaint Information Notice. The number is (20)19-2881. A copy of this will be available in a few days if you fill out a FOIA form.