

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
DECEMBER 15, 2020**

**Call to Order**

President Bass called the Regular Meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 8:08 P.M. Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 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 stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

On roll call the following were:

Present: President Bass, Trustees Ikezoe-Halevi, Patel, Klatzco (Via GoToMeeting), Hlepas-Nickell (Via GoToMeeting), Sargon (Via GoToMeeting), Cope (Via GoToMeeting)

A quorum was present.

Also present: Anne Marie Gaura, Village Manager; Chuck Meyer, Assistant Village Manager; Heather McFarland, Assistant to the Village Manager; Jon Bogue, Management Analyst; Robert Merkel, Finance Director; Andrew Letson, Public Works Director; Jay Parrott, Police Chief; Doug Hammel, Development Manager; Steve Elrod, Village Attorney; Jake Litz, Management Analyst; and Nadim Badran, Assistant to the Public Works Director.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of November 17, 2020 Village Board meeting and the December 1, 2020 Village Board meeting were presented at the Village Board meeting for Village Board approval.

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated she had corrections for the December 1, 2020 Village Board meeting minutes.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she would like to table both sets of minutes.

Clerk Herman stated there were corrections in the minutes up for approval, but that the changes may not be in the Trustee's copy

Village Attorney Steven Elrod stated the corrections had been made and they are in the materials. Mr. Elrod also stated that there is a requirement under Illinois law that minutes be approved within 30 days of meetings

Trustee Hlepas Nickell made a motion to table both sets of minutes for approval at the Special Village Board meeting on December 22, 2020, Seconded by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi.

Upon roll call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Cope, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

NAYS: None

The motion passed

**Warrant Approval**

Trustee Klatzco presented the warrants in the amount of \$774,773.50 and moved to approve the warrants, seconded by Trustee Sargon.

Upon roll call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Cope, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

NAYS: None

The motion passed

**President's Report**

**1. Recognition of Retiring Finance Director Robert Merkel**

Mayor Bass spoke to his appreciation of Bob Merkel and wished him good health in his retirement.

This item was presented by Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura.

Ms. Gaura said the Village is going through changes, as are many of Lincolnwood's neighboring communities.

Finance Director Bob Merkel, who has been with the Village since April, 2003, is retiring at the end of this year. Bob has served the Village in this capacity for over a decade, after first serving as the Assistant Finance Director, ensuring the Village's finances remain strong now and in the future. We'll all miss Bob's wonderful sense of humor, leadership and dedication to Lincolnwood. While it will be difficult to lose him, I wish him the best as he begins his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Merkel gave a brief statement, stating that he was the first hire of the previous Village Manager Tim Wiberg and served under three Mayors. Mr. Merkel thanked Ms. Gaura for her mentorship and his colleagues who make Lincolnwood a great place to be, especially his fellow Finance Department employees.

Trustee Cope stated it was a pleasure working with Mr. Merkel, that he was very knowledgeable, easy to work with, and did an outstanding job.

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated that Mr. Merkel did a great job and did so much for the Village, and she will be forever grateful.

Trustee Sargon thanked Mr. Merkel for his time and wished him a happy and healthy retirement.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated Mr. Merkel always had a positive outlook and wished him all the best.

Trustee Klatzco stated that Mr. Merkel is one of the finest finance directors he has ever worked with in his public life and will miss him dearly.

Trustee Patel stated that Mr. Merkel would be sorely missed and look forwards to seeing him at the upcoming Finance Committee meeting.

Ms. Gaura stated she would be providing Mr. Merkel with a plaque in recognition of his service.

## **2. Recognition of Outgoing Public Works Director Andrew Letson**

This item was presented by Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura.

Andrew Letson, Lincolnwood's Public Works Director, has announced that he has accepted the position of County Administrator for Meeker County, Minnesota and will be leaving the Village on December 18, 2020. Andrew has been with the Village since 2015, first serving as the Assistant to the Public Works Director before being promoted to the Director role in 2016. His knowledge and positive attitude will be sorely missed. The residents of Meeker County are lucky to have Andrew as their next Administrator. I wish him and his family the best of luck as they continue their journey in Minnesota. Ms. Gaura stated she has presented Mr. Letson with a plaque thanking him for his service.

Mr. Letson provided a brief statement reflecting on his time with the Village and the many projects he was able to work on. Mr. Letson stated he is grateful for all who he has been able to work with and will miss the people and community.

Mayor Bass provided a brief statement, and stated that Mr. Letson was a special breed of a man and treated all staff with respect. Mayor Bass wished Mr. Letson the best of luck.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated Meeker County is lucky to have Mr. Letson and that he would be missed.

Trustee Sargon thanked Mr. Letson for all the small things, in addition to the large projects, that Mr. Letson contributed to the community.

Trustee Patel stated that it has been great getting to know Mr. Letson over the years and that he will be sorely missed.

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated it was a pleasure working with Mr. Letson and wished him luck.

Trustee Klatzco wished Mr. Letson good luck.

Trustee Cope stated Mr. Letson has had a trial by fire in Lincolnwood and experienced a lot. Trustee Cope thanked Andrew for his service and wished him luck.

## **3. Introduction of New Public Works Director Nadim Badran**

This item was presented by Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura.

Beginning December 19, 2020, Nadim Badran will be promoted to the Public Works Director role after serving as the department's Assistant to the Public Works Director since 2017. Nadim started his local government career originally serving the Village of Kenilworth in several positions, of which the last was Assistant to the Village Manager before coming to Lincolnwood. Nadim has a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration and a Master of Public Administration degree with a local government concentration, both from Northern Illinois University. Congratulations to Nadim on his well-earned promotion and I look forward to him quickly picking up where Andrew left off.

Mr. Badran provided a brief statement thanking Ms. Gaura and the Board for the opportunity. Mr. Badran stated he is excited to get started in his role and thanked Mr. Letson for his leadership, mentorship, and friendship, and wished him luck for his next chapter in Minnesota.

Mayor Bass stated that he is proud of Mr. Badran and that he has trust in confidence in his abilities.

#### **4. Introduction of Community Development Director Scott Mangum**

This item was presented by Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura.

Following Community Development Director Steve McNellis's retirement last month, I am excited to announce that the Village has hired Scott Mangum to serve in that role. Scott comes to the Village with an impressive record in planning, zoning and community engagement. Prior to coming to Lincolnwood, Scott worked for the cities of Evanston, Chicago, Des Plaines and Long Beach, CA. I look forward to working with Scott and learning from the management of his past projects.

Mr. Mangum stated he looks forward to working with the community.

Mayor Bass stated he wished Mr. Mangum the best of luck in the new role.

#### ***Items 5 through 9 Presented as Omnibus***

Mayor Bass asked the Village Board to consider items 5 through 9 as an Omnibus.

- 5. Appointment to the Plan Commission to a Two Year Term - Louis Mark DeAngeles**
- 6. Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals to a Two Year Term -Robert Jordan**
- 7. Appointment to the Park and Recreation Board to a Two Year Term – Erin Oleniczak**
- 8. Appointment to the Aging Well Ad-Hoc Committee – Sanhita Agnihotri**
- 9. Appointments to the Environmental Ad-Hoc Committee - Najia Ahmed, Dale Wickum, Nashra Mohammed, Richard Sloan, Tahassum Quadri, Johnathan Mark Powell**

Trustee Sargon moved to approve the Omnibus, the motion was seconded by Trustee Hlepas Nickell.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Klatzco, Patel, Ikezoe-Halevi, Cope, Hlepas Nickell, Sargon

NAYS: None

#### **10. Toys for Tots Reverse Parade Update**

Mayor Bass reviewed the first ever Toys for Tots Reverse Parade, brought to the community by the Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce and Lincolnwood Town Center, which was a huge success. On December 8 from 11 a - 1p, attendees were able to safely drive by and donate unwrapped toys. For each toy donated, people were given a stocking full over 25 items contributed by local businesses. Mayor Bass thanked Erin Lyons, the Chamber Director, and the supporting Chamber Board, the Lincolnwood Town Center team under Peter Abraham's leadership, Lincolnwood Fire, Police and Public works departments as well as the many volunteers who came out to help celebrate a good cause. Highlights of the event:

- Including all Lincolnwood locations and during the Reverse Parade, four truckloads of toys for less fortunate children were collected
- Over 25 local businesses were supported by profiling them in stockings and as sponsors. Special Thanks to title Sponsors Lincolnwood Town Center and Republic Bank.

### **11. Parks and Recreation Take Home Activities and Shoebox Float Parade**

There's a lot happening with the Parks and Recreation Department this month. Visit [recreation.lwd.org](http://recreation.lwd.org) to learn more about the many take-home activity kits including: winter wreaths, cookie cabins, make-a-flake lawn snowflakes, North Pole to go, and the New Year party pack.

Lincolnwood's first-ever Shoebox Float Parade, featuring "It's a Wonderful World" theme, is scheduled to take place December 31st at 10am! A shoebox float parade consists of handmade floats constructed out of boxes, trinkets, crafts, paint, and more. On parade day, the shoebox floats will be lined up for a virtual parade and commentators will announce the floats as they "roll" on by for viewers. We invite you to join us in getting crafty this winter season by creating your very own shoebox float for this year's virtual parade! Learn more about the float and virtual parade requirements at [recreation.lwd.org](http://recreation.lwd.org). All floats and accompanying float submission forms are due by December 18.

### **12. Larry Froman Blood Drive**

Mayor Bass reminded residents that the Larry Froman Blood Drive will take place on Thursday, December 17 from 2-7 P.M. in the Community Center located right next to Village Hall.

### **13. Alternate Side Street Parking Holiday Light Recycling**

Mayor Bass informed residents that as the Village enters into the winter season, to be mindful that alternate side parking regulations go into effect when the Village receives more than two inches of snowfall. During this time, cars should park on the even side of the street on even days of the month and on the odd side of the street during odd days of the month. These regulations are in effect between 8:30 and 3:30, Monday through Friday, but not on weekends or major holidays. Parking on Pratt Avenue is always prohibited when snowfall reaches two inches of accumulation. A message will be placed on the Village's website and cable channel when a snow emergency is declared.

The Public Works Department is again collecting holiday lights for recycling through the end of January. Residents can drop off holiday lights between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Public Works Facility, located at 7001 N. Lawndale Avenue.

### **14. Lincolnwood in Bloom Contest Winners**

Mayor Bass announced that at the November 9, 2020 Beautification Commission meeting, the Commission reviewed applications submitted for the Lincolnwood in Bloom Competition. The competition is geared toward recognizing those who help beautify their neighborhoods and homes, and also inspire others to do so as well. I am pleased to recognize this year's winners. Mayor Bass read aloud the names of the winners as pictures of their gardens are scrolled across the screen:

First place: Art Lovering; there was a tie for second place: Kristina Lee and Neena Dave; and third place: Rebecca Lonen.

Mayor Bass thanked all contestants for participating and congratulations to the winners. Winners have been mailed gift cards to a Village business in the hopes it can be used to continue enhancing their gardens. And thank you to the Lincolnwood Beautification Commission for their work in administering the competition. The 2021 competition will begin again in the spring.

### **15. COVID 19 Update**

There have been 15,315 residents tested for the virus with 1380 residents with confirmed cases, 33 residents that have lost their lives to the virus since the virus began.

Mayor Bass reminded residents to wear their face covering, social distance, call the Village if assistance is needed, and call your elderly neighbors.

### **Consent Agenda**

If anyone wishes to speak to any matter on the Consent Agenda, a Speaker's Request Form must be completed, presented to the Village Clerk, and the matter will be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to Regular Business.

1. **Approval of a Resolution Approving the Village Board, Boards and Commissions Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2021**
2. **Approval of a Recommendation by the Plan Commission to Approve an Ordinance Granting a Special Use and Variations Related to a Drive-Through Facility at 6734 North Lincoln Avenue**
3. **Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of One 2020 Ford Police Utility Interceptor Vehicle from Currie Motors, 9423 W. Lincoln Highway, Frankfort, Illinois in the Amount of \$35,256.00**

Trustee Cope asked for clarification on Agenda item 2. Mr. Hammel stated that the drive-through would be located on the southwest facing of the Meatheads façade. Mr. Hammel stated there would be some reconfiguration on the interior of the building and that it has been reviewed and approved by the Village engineer. Trustee Cope said he understood.

Trustee Nickell asked if the site modification would be transferrable as a drive-through. Village Attorney Steven Elrod stated the use would be specific to the user.

Trustee Klatzco moved to approve the Consent Agenda, the motion was seconded by Trustee Sargon

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Cope, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

NAYS: None

The motion passed

### **Regular Business**

4. **Consideration of a Resolution Adopting the Lincolnwood NEID TIF Conceptual Development Plan**

Mayor Bass stepped out and asked Trustee Patel to take over until he returned.

This item was presented by Doug Hammel, Development Manager, using PowerPoint. He stated that three members of Houseal Lavigne were also present.

Mr. Hammel provided a presentation on the progress of the plan for the NEID TIF (Northeastern Industrial District Tax Incentive Financing) area and its surrounding properties. Mr. Hammel stated that plan deliverables include a market assessment, conceptual plan development and a strategic implementation plan. Mr. Hammel continued that the plan identifies areas that are likely to change and other areas that are likely to remain as they are currently. Other fundamental framework, such as the local transportation network, mixed use, multi-family, residential, entertainment and commercial uses are also considered by the plan. Mr. Hammel noted that the Lincolnwood Town Center is included within the plan area, but that it is intended to be viewed as a partner. Mr. Hammel provided a review of the plan design, however shared that it is not intended to be a rigid plan that is followed, however an instrument for what the Village is looking for in the area. There are also different subareas within

the plan for the Village to consider different regulatory tools, financial mechanisms, or other implementation tools.

Mr. Hammel discussed the different subareas: Subarea 1 on Main Street including entertainment and an experiential corridor; Subarea 2 on North Capital Drive would include multi-family housing and commercial uses; Subarea 3 on South Capital Drive would envision structured and managed parking, as well as other entertainment or athletic complex uses; and Subarea 4 encompassed by commercial outlots would enforce the current fabric of Touhy Avenue and incorporate transition.

Mr. Hammel reviewed the plan's implementation, which would involve groups beyond Village staff. As part of the review, Mr. Hammel stated that components would include zoning review, cooperation of partners and other projects, marketing, and identifying funding sources. Mr. Hammel concluded his presentation and requested approval of the NEID TIF Conceptual Plan.

Mayor Bass stated that the Plan was initially thought of two years and a half years ago as the next area to redevelop after District 1860 began, and that the Plan would serve as a good roadmap.

Trustee Klatzco thanked Committee members for working on the Plan and stated it would be great for the Village.

Trustee Sargon concurred with Trustee Klatzco, and stated she supported the Concept Plan.

Trustee Nickell shared the consultants were impressed with the Committee's work on providing input in the Plan. Trustee Nickell stated that this Plan should have been developed sooner, and believes that the area will generate additional revenue. Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked if Attorney Steven Elrod could review an item regarding the TIF on page 35 of the Plan, and asked if language could be adjusted, stating that should the idea of a TIF ever be considered, it is only done so with weigh in from other taxing bodies and the community.

Attorney Elrod stated he could adjust the language, but would like to make sure that it is clear to the audience that the TIF expires at the end of the year, and that the Village has no current plans to create a new TIF. Attorney Elrod explained that if the Village chose to move forward with creating a new TIF, the process would be governed by Illinois law, and would include the requirement of gathering input from the other taxing bodies through the Joint Review Board.

Trustee Nickell requested the Board have a discussion to consider the language.

Trustee Patel asked for clarification on Trustee Nickell's request. Trustee Nickell stated she felt the language regarding the TIF in the Plan could mislead potential developers as it references extending a TIF that is expiring.

Attorney Elrod stated the language in the Report references multiple options regarding the TIF, despite the only option being to establish a new TIF that goes through a formal process as the TIF closes on December 31, 2020. Trustee Nickell stated the Board could consider removing the entire section.

Trustee Patel stated that a TIFs can serve as an economic incentive tool and that one of the most frequent questions from developers is whether there is a TIF or if a TIF would be considered. Trustee Patel stated maintaining language would be beneficial.

Trustee Cope stated the area would likely attract a sophisticated developer, and that a TIF makes a difference if a developer is considering multiple communities. Trustee Cope suggested that developers

be shown the area, and a sophisticated developer will request the necessary economic tools. Trustee Cope stated he felt comfortable with the language, but was also okay with removing it.

Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura provided clarification that the area in question includes property that was not a part of the TIF.

Trustee Klatzco stated he is in support of the Plan and recommends removing the last sentence regarding extending the TIF as it is now moot, but would not remove language that considers a TIF as an option.

Trustee Sargon stated she agreed with Trustee Klatzco.

Trustee Nickell stated that developers know a TIF is an option and that out of the gate the Village should not be offering it, therefore it should not be included in the language. Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she is uncomfortable approving the Plan with the TIF language.

Trustee Patel stated he appreciated the time put into the plan and believes TIFs are essential tools for governments to use. Trustee Patel continued that laying the groundwork for a TIF now is important for moving forward, and supports leaving the current language in with the exception of extending the TIF.

Trustee Cope said he is fine with the Plan and is supportive of Trustees Patel and Klatzco's thoughts on removing the last sentence, however he does not have the Plan in front of him.

Trustee Halevi thanked all involved in the plan, and agreed to remove the outdated verbiage and leave the remaining language in.

Trustee Patel asked if Houseal Lavigne could update the language to something that states the Board could consider a TIF in the future.

Mr. Hammel offered new language, stating, "The Village may consider a TIF in the future where it accomplishes key goals or leads to the desired type of development."

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked if the language could be adjusted to reference only a part of the area. Mr. Hammel repeated the language in question.

Trustee Cope supported Mr. Hammel's recommended language.

Trustee Cope made a motion to approve the Resolution with Mr. Hammel's recommended language, motion to second by Trustee Nickell.

Upon Roll Call the Results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Cope, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco.

NAYS: None

The motion passed

##### **5. Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Section 6-1-6 of the Municipal Code of Lincolnwood Regarding the Removal of Snow from Driveway Approaches**

This item was presented by Mr. Hammel.

Mr. Hammel provided a brief background to the Village Board on removal of snow from driveway



approaches, with the most recent Board direction in October, 2020 being that regulations should apply to snow artificially placed in piles that blocks sidewalks, but should not require the clearing of aprons.

Mr. Hammel stated he was bringing forward a culmination of Board feedback on the matter with a new proposed Text Amendment.

Trustee Klatzco stated that there are different regulations for businesses and residents regarding snow removal, where businesses are required and residents are not. Trustee Klatzco asked what the purpose of the Text Amendment was.

Trustee Patel responded to Trustee Klatzco stating that the language only refers to situations where the snow is moved, not to situations where it has organically fallen in a specific location.

Mr. Hammel confirmed Trustee Patel's understanding of the Text Amendment was accurate and clarified that it was only in reference to non-residential properties.

Trustee Cope opined that it would be difficult to identify who moved snow and hold them responsible. Trustee Cope stated he is not in support of the proposed Text Amendment.

Trustee Patel stated the proposed language spoke specifically to a situation that the Board has been working to address.

Trustee Sargon stated she supported the proposed Text Amendment and utilizing the word "alternatively" in the Amendment, which was a provided option by Mr. Hammel.

Trustee Nickell stated that this Text Amendment may not always function well, but is working to address hazards. Trustee Nickell voiced support for the Amendment with the inclusion of the word "alternatively."

Trustee Cope stated he would be a "no" vote on the subject.

Trustee Halevi provided support for the Text Amendment with the word "alternatively".

Trustee Nickell made a motion to approve the Resolution with the added word "alternatively", motion to second by Trustee Sargon.

Upon Roll Call the Results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

NAYS: Trustee Cope

**6. Consideration of a Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding Snow Removal Personnel to Respond to Snow Emergencies During the COVID-19 Emergency**

This item was presented by Andrew Letson, Public Works Director.

Mr. Letson stated the purpose of the Intergovernmental Agreement was to provide a contingency plan in the event that COVID-19 reduced staffing during a snow emergency. Mr. Letson explained that the Agreement would allow participating communities to utilize one another's staff during a snow event for the purposes of snow plowing should a COVID-19 outbreak occur. Mr. Letson continued that the

Village would reimburse other communities for their staff's time rather than the Village compensating staff directly. The Agreement would extend through the 2020-2021 winter season and would be available for approval the following year.

Trustee Sargon made a motion to approve the Resolution, motion to second by Trustee Klatzco.

Upon Roll Call the Results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Cope, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

NAYS: None

The motion passed

#### **7. Consideration of an Extension of the Emergency Declaration Entered by Mayor Bass on March 18, 2020**

This item was presented by the Village Attorney, Steve Elrod.

Mr. Elrod stated that it is recommended by Village staff that the Emergency Declaration be extended to the next regular meeting of the Village Board on January 5, 2020.

Trustee Patel made a motion to approve the Resolution, motion to second by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi.

Upon Roll Call the Results were:

AYES: Trustees Halevi, Cope, Patel, Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

NAYS: None

The motion passed

#### **Manager's Report**

Ms. Gaura provided information on two pedestrian accidents that occurred in the same crosswalk on Devon Avenue at McCormick Boulevard within a short timeframe.

Police Chief Jason Parrott stated that it is good practice to begin an inquiry when two accidents occur in the same location, within seven days. Chief Parrott stated the investigation revealed that the drivers were at fault in both accidents.

Ms. Gaura provided a reminder about a Special Village Board Meeting to be held on December 22, 2020.

Ms. Gaura wished the Mayor, Board, staff and community a happy holiday and safe New Year.

#### **Board and Commissions Report**

Trustee Patel stated that there is an Economic Development Commission meeting at 8:00 a.m. on December 16, 2020 and a Finance Committee meeting at 8:30 a.m. on December 17, 2020.

Trustee Klatzco stated there is a Traffic Commission meeting on December 17, 2020.

#### **Trustees Reports**

Trustee Sargon wished all a happy holiday and New Year, and thanked Ms. Gaura, staff and community members for their hard work for the Village.

Trustee Klatzco made a statement about the previous Village Board meeting on December 1, 2020. Trustee Klatzco continued that he was upset about the discussion regarding a proposed car wash. Trustee Klatzco stated that the conversation reflected poorly on the Board's integrity and voiced concern about a statement that Trustee Hlepas Nickell made regarding possible conflict of interest, and an allegation made about a Trustee showing the Petitioner the site. Trustee Klatzco stated that he believes an apology is owed by Trustee Hlepas Nickell to the other members of the Village Board.

Mayor Bass stated he and other Trustees have had similar statements made to them previously in other contexts, but that the Board meeting was not the correct forum for the discussion.

Trustee Nickell stated that if there was a conflict of interest, it should be investigated as indicated at the December 1, 2020 meeting.

Trustee Nickell asked the Mayor and Village Manager if thank you notes to members working on the NEID Conceptual Plan be also provided a copy of the Plan.

Trustee Halevi stated at the December 14, 2020 Human Relations Commission (HRC) meeting that the group showed interest in learning more about taking on the Lincolnwood Fest. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi continued that a presentation by Lincolnwood Together at the HRC meeting was cut off by a Commissioner who felt the presentation was political in nature. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated that she stepped in repeatedly asking the Commissioner to let the presentation continue during the meeting.

Mayor Bass responded to Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi that he felt she took over the meeting, rather than observe and report to the Board.

Trustee Halevi stated that the presentation to the HRC was Board directed, therefore she felt it was important that she help ensure it continued on. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi asked if she and Mayor Bass could discuss the meeting at a later time. Mayor Bass responded that they could meet, and Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi said she would be in touch with him regarding a good time.

#### **Clerk's Report**

Ms. Herman stated this week she is awaiting petitions for people to be on the upcoming election ballot. The deadline is December 21, 2020.

#### **Public Forum**

Deputy Clerk Charles Meyer read emailed public comments from Mr. David Weiss into the record (the full text of the email is attached to these minutes):

#### **Adjournment**

At 10:51 P.M. Trustee Sargon moved to adjourn the Village Board meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of approving Closed Session Minutes Per Section 2(c)(21), seconded by Trustee Hlepas Nickell.

Upon roll call the results were:

AYES: Trustee Klatzco, Trustee Patel, Trustee Hlepas Nickell, Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi, Trustee Sargon

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Cope

The motion passes

#### **Reconvention**

At 11:02 P.M. President Bass reconvened the Regular Meeting.

**Adjournment**

At 11:03 P.M. Trustee Cope moved to adjourn the Village Board meeting, seconded by Trustee Patel.

The motion passed by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted



Beryl Herman  
Village Clerk

(Attachment: Comments from Mr. David Weiss)

The Mayor asked Lincolnwood Together to present its plan for consideration to HRC to write a values statement or identity for our Village that would reflect the diversity of Lincolnwood, including respect for all.

Before our presenter finished a sentence, a member of HRC rudely interrupted and accused us of being "a political organization that had no business presenting in front of HRC." When politely asked if she could just listen to the presentation, and her questions would be answered, she remained adamant and rude. No resident of Lincolnwood should be treated like that.

This is exactly what Lincolnwood Together wants to address. How sad that someone on a Human Relations Committee needs a lesson in human relations. - Susan Ginsburg

I have had the opportunity to read the Village President's letter to the Governor and its contents while not surprising are extremely concerning as it purports to represent the views of the Village of Lincolnwood and its Trustees in addition to those of the President in his official capacity. I was unaware that the office of Village President endowed its occupant with the powers of a supreme leader who is entitled to disregard enforcement of state and any other regulations at his own whim.

Putting aside the Junk science referenced in his letter, the overriding issue is that the Village like its citizens need to respect and adhere to the rule of law including with regard to Covid mitigation requirements as set forth by the State and its empowered agencies. I am happy to have a discussion of the distortions that are referenced in the Village President's letter but would suggest that the following cannot be in dispute:

- 1) The Village has for quite a number of weeks evidenced significant and ongoing community transmission of Covid as documented by new cases and positivity rates in the Village even subtracting out cases from the Village's nursing homes and residential senior facilities
- 2) Covid spreads where people engage in congregate settings especially indoors and in the absence of masks which is indeed the case in restaurants as opposed to shorter durations of exposure in other indoor settings where people are masked
- 3) Area Healthcare facilities are taxed because of significant numbers of Covid patients which has impacted care for both Covid non-Covid patients
- 4) Ongoing congregate activities in areas where there is significant community transmission is not advised by most authorities including the NIH (A. Fauci) and others

Given what would appear to be the Village president exceeding the authority as afforded him by his position as President, I would urge the Trustees to take the following immediate action:

- 1) Strip the Village President of any and all emergency powers
- 2) Act to insure that the Village complies with all applicable state, county and governmental statutes and as a matter of policy agree to adhere to the rule of law that everyone including its citizens should be abiding by

Should the Board choose not to pursue those actions, we have instructed our attorneys to investigate filing an appropriate writ of Mandamus to enforce compliance with relevant statutes. I and others will also be monitoring businesses for any deviation from required regulations and will be filing daily complaints with all applicable entities including but not limited to the Cook County Board of Health and the Illinois Liquor Control Commission regarding non-compliant entities.

Respectfully:

David I. Weiss MD