## PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, June 17, 2020

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

#### **Roll Call**

Roll Call was answered by Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner and President Sweet McDonnell.

Also present were Village Administrator Shannon Andrews, Village Treasurer Chris Michaud, Village Attorney Bryan Winter and members of the public.

Administrator Andrews explained that in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order #2020-07, in person attendance requirements under the Open Meetings Act have been suspended and relaxed. Therefore, some members of the Board will be participating remotely.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Sweet McDonnell.

#### **Public Comment**

Administrator Andrews read the following comments into the record as they were received from Village resident Doug Ramsdale, 475 E. Oxford Rd.: "At the last meeting, members of the ownership and management team of Wandering Trees made an impassioned and reasoned plea to the Board to enable them to offer new dates to couples whose wedding plans have been impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic. Wandering Trees is one of the few businesses in the Village, and deserves our support. Failure to take action will result in hardship to the wedding families and guests and to a respected local business. Will this Board take the necessary and timely action to help?"

Administrator Andrews then read the attached letter dated June 17, 2020 into the record from Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) Executive Director, Janet Agnoletti.

Village resident James Zakos, 67 Coventry Ln., expressed concerns regarding Wandering Tree Estate continuing into next year. He said that the events impact the life and tranquility of homes in Wynstone. The neighbors have dealt with this for five years. The neighbors understood the decree and never asked for it to be cut short, so Wandering Tree shouldn't ask for an extension. He also suggested that the Village consider implementing a noise ordinance.

Laura Ramirez, 133 N. Wynstone Dr., General Manager of the Wynstone Property Owners' Association, spoke on behalf of Wynstone residents. In relation to the solid waste and recycling service proposals, she said that Wynstone residents need to have back door service available to them. Food scrap service is not necessary.

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Village resident Jay Murphy, 514 Signal Hill Rd., spoke in support of Wandering Tree Estates, being one of only 4-5 businesses in the community. He considers it part of being a member of the community to allow businesses to operate productively. He had the opportunity to tour the property and believes the Village needs to be more supportive. He also said that BACOG should have been dropped a long time ago. Finally, he said that his tax increase was high in comparison with a number of Board members and that it was an outrageous total increase across taxing districts.

Village resident John Walker lives adjacent to Wandering Tree. He purchased his home for the peacefulness and space. He never wanted to be near a wedding venue, with events every single weekend over the summer. He feels that a deal is a deal and has been counting the days until the consent decree was over. He requested that the Village not provide an extension.

Janet Agnoletti read a letter from Barrington Hills Village President Martin McLaughlin in support of BACOG.

Village resident Lynda Aylward, 249 Kimberly Rd., spoke as the Chair of the Environmental and Health Commission. She acknowledged the hard work Administrator Andrews did to analyze the results of the waste hauler responses. She shared that the Commission voted unanimously to accept Prairieland Disposal Inc.'s (Prairieland) proposal. She also shared that the Commission recommended food scrap recycling for the additional \$1.75 per household instead of the subscription-based plan. If the service is already included, more residents may be willing to try the service. She also said that many of the BACOG programs are applicable to the Commission due to their well and stream sampling and analysis.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Michaud provided a brief overview of the Treasurer's Report for the 1st month of Fiscal Year 20/21.

#### Agenda Items for Discussion

#### Approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2020 Village Board Meeting

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2020 Village Board Meeting was made by Trustee Rogus and seconded by Trustee Sauer. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

#### Approve the Treasurer's Report for the 1st month of Fiscal Year 20/21

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the 1st month of Fiscal Year 20/21 was made by Trustee Andrew and seconded by Trustee Kalinowski. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

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Approve Resolution No. 2020-08, A Resolution to Authorize the Village to Send Withdraw Notice and Withdrawal Payment to Withdraw the Village's Membership from the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG)

A motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-08, A Resolution to Authorize the Village to Send Withdraw Notice and Withdrawal Payment to Withdraw the Village's Membership from the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) was made by Trustee Kalinowski and seconded by Trustee Andrew.

Trustee Andrew felt that the Village's dues have been extremely high for years considering there are no financial businesses in the Village. In comparison to the other Villages, we should have had lower dues. There is a lot of repetition and redundancy in the services provided by BACOG versus the County.

Trustee Kalinowski shared that she and President McDonnell have been to every BACOG meeting over the last year. To her it comes down to cost. She would like to hear from BACOG after this meeting.

President Sweet McDonnell said that the decision was not an easy one and involved a very comprehensive amount of research of past history and an analysis of other supportive community organizations and their fees relative to the value they provide North Barrington. At this time, she believes the decision to withdraw is the right decision for the Village of North Barrington, however this does not mean that they cannot revisit going back to BACOG in the future. Until BACOG reassesses and remarkets themselves as they plan to do, relative to her fiduciary responsibilities, she believes this is the right decision until those changes are made.

She appreciated the letters that were read from Janet Agnoletti and President McLaughlin, however the things that were shared in that letter have never been shared with the Village before. No retirement impacts and no COVID-19 considerations were taken into consideration in the budget. Without revised budget numbers, she doesn't feel comfortable moving forward with the dues as presented. She looks forward to having dialogue down the line on the future of the Village and BACOG.

Trustee Weiner has always supported BACOG and feels it is a wonderful organization. He supports moving forward with some relationship. He will not vote in favor, but abstain in the hopes that they can come to a more equitable distribution. He feels the Village is paying more than our fair share. He will eagerly await what happens after there is more dialogue.

Trustee Smith had no further comments.

Trustee Rogus concurred with comments by President Sweet McDonnell and Trustee Kalinowski and referenced the discussions from the previous Board meeting.

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Trustee Sauer had no comments.

On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, and Smith voted Aye. Trustee Sauer voted Nay. Trustee Weiner Abstained. Motion Carried.

Accept the proposal submitted by Prairieland Disposal, Inc., as recommended by the Environmental and Health Commission for Village solid waste and recycling services and direct staff to negotiate an agreement to be submitted for Board approval

A motion to accept the proposal submitted by Prairieland Disposal Inc., as recommended by the Environmental and Health Commission for Village solid waste and recycling services and direct staff to negotiate an agreement to be submitted for Board approval was made by Trustee Andrew and seconded by Trustee Kalinowski.

Trustee Kalinowski asked that the rates be provided to the residents before the vote. Administrator Andrews gave a brief overview of the request for proposal process and its results. The base price for Prairieland was \$16.98 per month for a 45 or 65 gallon tote. For a 95 gallon tote, the minimum monthly fee is \$17.48. Prairieland presented the most affordable base prices, giving residents the ability to select for themselves the additional services they are willing to pay for, instead of being forced to pay the higher base price with all the services included.

Administrator Andrews reviewed the recommendations of the Environmental and Health Commission and then explained the next steps of the process, which would include the negotiation of an agreement for consideration at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Smith asked for clarification regarding the Commission's recommendation for approval of food scraps. Administrator Andrews explained that there were two separate recommendations: the first was to move forward with the acceptance of the Prairieland proposal, and the second recommendation was to include food scrap recycling services Village wide, increasing the base cost by \$1.75 per household. All residents would receive a 32 gallon tote for food scrap recycling, it would be their choice whether to utilize the service.

Trustee Kalinowski has been pleased with Prairieland's services over the past five years. She is supportive of seeing them as our waste hauler contractor. She thanked them for their stewardship of the environment and all they do as far as recycling, composting, landscape waste and trash collection.

Trustees Sauer, Rogus and Weiner all agreed with Trustee Kalinowski's comments and support moving forward with Prairieland.

On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

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Discussion regarding the Environmental and Health Commission's recommendation to include food scrap recycling services for all residents at an additional cost of \$1.75 per household Village Attorney Winter explained that this is an agenda item to provide direction to staff as we negotiate the terms of the contract.

Trustee Andrew felt that food scraps should continue to be an optional choice. She doesn't agree with forcing the whole community to do a program that only 35 households currently participate in.

Trustee Kalinowski feels that the containers are too large and is just another tote to store. A 5 gallon bucket would be easier to manage. She shared that SWALCO has a drop off site for food scrap collection at Prairieland at no additional cost. She is an advocate for recycling, but agrees with Trustee Andrew that we can't expect all residents to pay for a service being utilized by only 35 residents.

Trustee Rogus agreed with both Trustees Andrew and Kalinowski. He added that there are a large number of people who eat out a lot and don't necessarily generate that much in food scraps. He is in favor of leaving the service as optional.

Trustees Sauer, Smith and Weiner agreed that it should be an option for residents, not included in the base price. President Sweet McDonnell likes the idea of residents having a choice of the services that they want to buy.

## Approve the driveway expansion within existing easement over unimproved right-of-way adjacent to 483 E. Oxford Road as depicted

Administrator Andrews explained that the homeowner asked that the item be removed from the agenda so that it can be considered at a future Village Board meeting when the homeowner could be present. Attorney Winter said that the item can simply be withdrawn. Trustee Kalinowski suggested that it could just be tabled.

A motion to table the driveway expansion within existing easement over unimproved right-of-way adjacent to 483 E. Oxford Road as depicted was made by Trustee Kalinowski and seconded by Trustee Andrew. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

## Approve Ordinance No. 2020-21, An Ordinance Adding Title 6, Chapter 4, Fireworks, to the North Barrington Municipal Code

Administrator Andrews updated the Board that there is currently no permitting or verification process to allow fireworks displays within the Village. In the past, entities wishing to host such displays would request permission from the Board by letter. Administrator Andrews worked with local Fire Protection Districts to develop the proposed Ordinance before the Board. Administrator Andrews also discovered

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that some municipalities have indicated much lower application fees for fireworks display permits than initially reported. A motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-21, An Ordinance Adding Title 6, Chapter 4, Fireworks, to the North Barrington Municipal Code was made by Trustee Rogus and seconded by Trustee Kalinowski.

Trustee Andrew compared the amount of noise at one of the Silets' [residents Mrs. Elaine Silets and Mr. H.L. Silets, and operators of Wandering Tree Estate] events compared to Biltmore [Country Club] and Wynstone [Country Club] with the fireworks.

Trustee Kalinowski appreciated the collaboration between staff and the fire departments, but felt the \$100 fee was too high and suggested it be lowered.

Trustee Rogus was supportive of retaining the \$100 fee to cover the staff cost of processing the application.

Trustee Smith concurred with Trustee Rogus regarding the \$100 application fee.

Trustee Weiner asked about the process and Administrator Andrews clarified the documents that are reviewed prior to approvals.

President Sweet McDonnell supports the Ordinance and the \$100 fee. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

## Approve an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$8,500 for an emergency road repair by Ela Township

Administrator Andrews explained the roles of both Ela Township and Cuba Township for the road repairs at both Rainbow and Scott Roads. A motion to approve an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$8,500 for an emergency road repair by Ela Township was made by Trustee Andrew and seconded by Trustee Sauer.

Trustee Rogus stated he was struggling to understand the scope of the project that would incur \$3,400 work of work on Rainbow Road. He then asked how many linear feet were affected. Administrator Andrews reviewed the scope of work and clarified the linear feet affected.

Trustee Smith asked whether the engineers called this an emergency situation. Administrator Andrews clarified that this work was considered an emergency in order to prevent further damage and larger expenditures down the line.

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Trustee Kalinowski expressed concern in moving forward with this project when it doesn't appear to be a road hazard, especially in comparison to other areas of the Village that have similar or worse issues, she doesn't understand why we would proceed with this as an emergency, unbudgeted expenditure.

President Sweet McDonnell expressed her support for moving forward with the project. Administrator Andrews clarified that we do have funds available under public works services, however we do need to manage expenses throughout the remainder of the year to keep on budget.

Trustee Sauer clarified that the Village would not want water getting underneath the surface, as this would further compromise the roadway. This is especially true for Scott Road which was just recently resurfaced. She agreed that the repairs are necessary to avoid undermining the new surface.

On roll call vote Trustees Sauer, Smith and Weiner and President McDonnell voted Aye. Trustees Kalinowski and Rogus voted Nay. Trustee Andrew abstained. Motion Carried.

#### Approve an expenditure for an emergency road repair by Cuba Township

A motion to approve an expenditure for an emergency road repair by Cuba Township was made by Trustee Andrew and seconded by Trustee Rogus. Trustee Kalinowski had the same concerns as previously discussed under the previous item. Trustee Sauer clarified that the first item voted on was for the prep work, this item is for the surface - the two items go together. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. Trustees Kalinowski and Rogus voted Nay. Motion Carried.

### Approve an expenditure of \$2,300 to Bob's Landscaping for playground mulch and weeding at Eton Park

A motion to approve an expenditure of \$2,300 to Bob's Landscaping for playground mulch and weeding at Eton Park was made by Trustee Andrew and seconded by Trustee Kalinowski. Administrator Andrews explained that we had held off on improving the park during COVID-19 restrictions, however as we move into Phase 4, the park needs attention. Trustee Kalinowski asked whether the weeds would be herbicided or hand pulled, but Administrator Andrews didn't have an immediate answer. Trustee Kalinowski asked that they flag the area if it is herbicided.

Trustee Andrew questioned why this was not included on the landscaping bid. Administrator Andrews explained that the cleanup was limited to Village Hall. Trustee Kalinowski questioned why this purchase was being brought in front of the Board to begin with. President Sweet McDonnell explained that the spending limit of the Administrator is \$1,000, but will be researched and discussed at a future meeting.

On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

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### Approve the June 17, 2020 Scheduled Vouchers

A motion to Approve the June 17, 2020 Scheduled Vouchers was made by Trustee Kalinowski and seconded by Trustee Andrew. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

#### Approve the June 2020 Manual Vouchers

A motion to Approve the June 2020 Manual Vouchers was made by Trustee Kalinowski and seconded by Trustee Andrew. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

### Village Administrator's Report

Nothing to report.

### **Board of Trustee's Reports**

**Trustee Jackie Andrew** – Trustee Andrew reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission didn't meet last month, but she saw the request in the newsletter asking for volunteers. Trustee Andrew attended BACOG's Water Resources Committee meeting on water testing, which she felt covered the same thing as the County. They weren't sure if they would be offering water testing this year due to COVID-19. They also talked about salt on pavements. BACOG is looking for a treasurer at \$400 a year.

Lastly, she asked what the legality is of redirecting water from one property to another. She was told to approach the Village President regarding drainage on her property. President Sweet McDonnell offered to provide her with a copy of the Illinois Drainage Law. Trustee Andrew indicated that drainage issues have been going on for years now without resolution. President Sweet McDonnell suggested that they talk outside of the meeting. Trustee Kalinowski clarified that you cannot redirect surface water.

Trustee Patricia Kalinowski – Trustee Kalinowski attended the BACOG Policy and Long Range Committee meeting on May 24. They discussed rolling back some of their programs. No new program ideas were discussed, but they talked about ways to engage additional members. Deer Park's Mayor Dale Sands will be retiring, so the next BACOG meeting will acknowledge his contributions to the organization. She also participated in a SWALCO meeting via Zoom and they discussed the need to better educate the residents on recycling.

Trustee Kalinowski encouraged residents to contact the Village directly with their concerns so that they can be tracked and responded to.

**Trustee Greg Rogus** – Trustee Rogus assisted the Village President in securing photos of the community that could be used in an upcoming publication about the Village.

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**Trustee Janice Sauer** – Trustee Sauer noted the need to plan a meeting in the fall to discuss the Village's road construction plans for 2021.

**Trustee Todd Smith** – Trustee Smith noted that there was no ZBA meeting this month, but from the Finance Committee, he thanked Treasurer Michaud for his work on the budget.

**Trustee Lawrence Weiner** – Trustee Weiner had nothing to report.

#### Village President's Report

A motion was made by Trustee Kalinowski and seconded by Trustee Andrew to approve the Village President's Appointments as follows:

- Chris Michaud as the Village Treasurer for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021
- Natalie Karney as the Health Officer for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021
- Kelly Rafferty as the Building and Zoning Officer for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021
- Janice Sauer to the Finance Committee for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021
- Patricia Kalinowski to the Finance Committee for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021
- Todd Smith to the Finance Committee for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021
- Lawrence Weiner to the Finance Committee for a one year term expiring 6/30/2021

Trustee Kalinowski questioned the compensation in these roles. Administrator Andrews confirmed that communications were received in writing from independent contractors Ms. Karney and Mr. Rafferty confirming that their rates would not change for the next fiscal year. There is no compensation given to Trustees serving on the Finance Committee. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

President Sweet McDonnell thanked Trustee Rogus for his assistance in taking photos for the publication.

#### **Closed Session**

There was no closed session.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business

#### **Old Business**

Trustee Andrew took issue with the increase in taxes and read the increases of each Board member. She also questioned the massive tax increase related to the passage of the school referendum.

#### Adjournment

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There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Weiner and seconded by Trustee Kalinowski. On roll call vote Trustees Andrew, Kalinowski, Rogus, Sauer, Smith and Weiner voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The meeting of the North Barrington Board of Trustees was adjourned at 9:16 pm.
Submitted by,
Shannon Andrews, Village Clerk



June 17, 2020

Dear President Sweet McDonnell and Members of the North Barrington Board,

I was alerted yesterday afternoon that the North Barrington Board agenda on your website contained a resolution to withdraw from BACOG. Speaking on behalf of the other members, we were disappointed to learn of this proposed action, especially at this late date with no prior mention of your board's concerns about BACOG membership. I would like to offer a few thoughts for your consideration.

You were probably informed about the changes being made by the BACOG Board as we transition to 2021. You also may know that I plan to retire at the end of this year, which presents an opportunity for BACOG to re-organize. A planning process was begun in early 2020 and is currently underway to narrow and focus BACOG's programs, restructure, and reduce costs. This is summarized below.

- First, we will downsize the work program to core components, based on our members' priorities. All the board members were polled about their interests. The Policy and Long-Range Committee is meeting regularly to discuss options and structure the organization's new work program. This should be approved by the Board in a few months.
- Second, we are planning a significant reduction in costs and member dues. The new, downsized work program will result in reduced hours and staffing. These decisions will be made this fall.
- Additionally, the Board agreed that concerns about the proportional allocation of dues to member governments can be evaluated as part of the budget discussion later this year.

We assume that dues and finances are a factor in your consideration of membership. As you will recall, a year ago President Sweet McDonnell asked BACOG to reduce the North Barrington membership dues owing to the village's financial situation at the time; a reduction of almost 30% was given for one year. There was no similar request to the BACOG Board this year, and thus our members were surprised by the proposed withdrawal action.

President Sweet McDonnell asked questions, however, during the budget discussion at the BACOG meetings, so I will provide information to make sure the North Barrington Board is aware of the plan for implementing the 2020-21 budget.

While the BACOG Board just approved a 12-month budget, it will be in effect for only 6 months, from July to December 2020 or thereabouts. The new work program and staffing will be decided in the fall, and the budget will be revised toward the end of the year to accommodate changes in the second 6 months. We anticipate a significant decrease in costs and dues in 2021.

I also would like to share some of the BACOG Board's revised priorities for the 2021 work program. Per the poll, the environmental and groundwater work was rated as the highest priority because every one of our communities is groundwater dependent. Nothing could be more important to residents than protecting the supply and quality of their drinking water -- and their property values.

We expect the groundwater science and monitoring to be retained. The data produced by BACOG programs to date will be used to track water level changes and water quality trends (such as chloride levels and emerging contaminants). It will also be used to integrate groundwater recharge with stormwater management. None of these environmental functions is carried out by, nor a priority of, other entities or councils of government.

BACOG member governments want to retain regular communications, to share their best ideas, learn from each other, and collaborate on new projects. They added a new project to the work priorities that emerged in committee discussions: BACOG will investigate marketing the BACOG region with messaging designed to attract new residents and businesses. This is the type of work that has high value to members but is hard to quantify in return-on-investment calculations.

Development challenges come and go, and they are not predictable as to where or when they will occur. In response to any one community's problem, other members will always come together in support of local and regional planning. This will remain as a foundation of BACOG.

The legislative program is being narrowed to focus on the unique needs of BACOG communities, such as zoning challenges, novel agricultural uses, "affordable" housing, and environmental protection. While the Illinois Municipal League and other councils of government are certainly good organizations, they do not share the unique concerns of the BACOG area and do not work for our interests *in this regard*. In the re-organization, BACOG will eliminate a good amount of the legislative work and encourage our communities to use their other memberships for that purpose, thus reducing redundancy.

It is important for all our members to recognize that each COG has its own distinct programs in addition to activities that are common to all COGs. Some COGs have created group purchasing cooperatives while others offer economic development programs. BACOG's unique focus on environmental matters has evolved from the 1970s' focus on challenging undesirable development to study and protection of the area's critical natural resources including groundwater. Environmental work is a foundation of BACOG's mission today, and it contributes a value not provided by any other entity.

It would be beneficial for North Barrington to be part of BACOG, to have a seat at the table, as we go through the transition to a restructured organization in 2021.

Sincerely yours,

Janet Agnoletti, Executive Director

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On behalf of the BACOG Executive Board