TOWN OF CORTLAND
Town Hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Town Board Meeting
Monday
November 9, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call
Mayor Stokes called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Clerk Cheryl Aldis. Shown as present were Mayor Russ Stokes, Trustees Charmaine Fioretto, Ben Haier, Brad Stone and Chuck Lanning. Trustees Mike Siewierski and Doug Corson were absent. A quorum was present. Attorney Kevin Buick was also present.

Approval of Agenda
Trustee Fioretto moved and Trustee Lanning seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The amendment moved DeKalb County Building and Development Association to Public Wishing to Speak.

Public Wishing to Speak
DeKalb County Homebuilders Association – Impact Fee Discussion
Ken Andersen addressed the Board as the Executive Officer for the DeKalb County Building and Development Association. The subject was impact fees and how they are evaluated. He stated impact fees are generally based on new home construction. Impact fees are generally based on land values. At this time those values are low. Some communities have taken steps to see if they are willing to change the amounts they charge. How might we be able to work with Cortland?
Mayor Stokes reminded the Association that when they were here two years ago they were asked to bring back a proposal to see if the Town could do this. Currently, Cortland charges $100 Park Development Fee (since 1980) for construction outside of an annexed subdivision. Other impact fees are tied to annexation agreements.

Mayor Stokes asked Mr. Andersen to come back with information regarding how other communities are approaching this subject. He stated it does not need to be at a meeting, something in writing would be fine and that would be passed on to the Board.

New Business-Discussion and Possible Action
Zapadinsky request consideration of Nuisance Ordinance Amendment
Interpreter for the Zapadinsky's is Dale Izenstark.

When asked if our ordinance was out of date attorney Kevin Buick stated he believes the Zapadinsky's have been thorough in their approach. The subject is up to the board's discretion in terms of how to amend its ordinance. The town's ordinance is not out of date. That said, there

are always opportunities to look at ways to amend the code. The question becomes, is this proposed amendment going to resolve the circumstance that is occurring in their neighborhood? Mr. Buick said the effort with governance is to vest some ability in the law enforcement to determine on a case by case basis the situation. Currently, we do have that.

Mr. Buick encouraged the Board to take a close look at how the ordinance could help resolve the issues.

The amendment would need to be equitably applied town-wide, should there be one.
Is this a situation where the complaints are being received because the dogs are outside barking? If they are outside, they do bark. We go to extreme measures, put a privacy fence and video surveillance. Not continued barking, we check the video when a complaint has been made. It has not been excessive as shown on the video.
They have checked the code, they train the dog to bark and let the residents know that something is occurring. We stop the barking once we see it. The dogs live in the house, they are not outside dogs. This is a 12 year ongoing issue.

Mayor Stokes suggested that we place, through the clerk's office, a request to see if there are other municipalities that have these types of circumstances and perhaps what we could use as a model. When we have something in hand we will let the Zapadinsky's know and make plans to come back.

Renewal of Group Health Insurance
Mr. Levy of Lauterbach & Amen reviewed a meeting held with the broker Brian Jablonski of Cbiz last week. Mr. Jablonski shopped the insurance to three other vendors. The ACA (Affordable Care Act) is the reason for the increase in cost. For the Town the insurance renewal date is December 1, 2015. The Humana rate, the Town's current provider, increased by 24.09%. The other vendors were either a higher deductible or a higher premium than Humana.
Mayor Stokes is suggesting that no changes be made to the insurance and asked for a motion of approval as submitted in the packet.
Trustee Lanning moved and Trustee Fioretto seconded a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Roll call vote:
Yeas: Trustees Lanning, Fioretto and Haier
Nays: Trustee Stone
Absent: Trustees Siewierski and Corson. Motion passed.

Richland Trails – Approval of Street Light Equipment Purchase and Conversion to LED
Public Works Director John Kocher is asking the Board's consideration in purchasing the remainder of the lights and fixtures for Richland Trails Subdivision and converting the existing lights to LED. The monies for this project would come from the funds from the subdivision settlement agreement. The shipping cost is an unknown figure at this time.
Trustee Lanning moved Trustee Stone seconded a motion to purchase the requested lights, fixtures and conversion equipment for a cost of $12, 612 plus shipping from HCI Lighting.
Roll call vote:
Yeas: Trustees Lanning, Stone, Fioretto and Haier
Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Siewierski and Corson. Motion passed.

Resolution Urging Illinois State Leaders to Release Non-General Fund Revenues Payable to Local Governments
The resolution was read into the record by the mayor.
Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. **Res 2015-03**

Unfinished Business-Discussion and Possible Action
Proposed Tax Levy 2015
Wes Levy of Lauterbach & Amen reviewed the levy and process with the Board. The Illinois Department of Revenue sent a letter stating that the CPI for 2015 is .8%.
Mr. Levy is suggesting a 4% increase in the levy amount over the 2014 as we do not know what the EAV for 2015 will be. This will give the town a buffer to capture all available revenues. $643,000 is the total levy recommended based on information provided.
The tax levy and public hearing will be scheduled for Monday, December 14.

Comments/Concerns
Trustee Lanning stated he is concerned regarding the hearing impaired issue, however, he has not heard the other side of issue.
Trustee Stone reported that he had received several comments regarding leaf pick up, all were good comments. He stated that he has used the service himself.

President Report
No report provided.

Adjournment
Trustee Haier moved and Trustee Fioretto seconded a motion for adjournment. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Aldis
Town Clerk

Approved: _____
Attest: _____