

TOWN OF CORTLAND
Town Hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Town Board Meeting
October 22, 2018
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call

Mayor Stokes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge was recited and roll call was taken by Deputy Clerk Rita Nielsen. Shown as present were Trustees Charmaine Fioretto, Brad Stone, Jim Walker, Mike Siewierski and Rick Robins. Shown as absent was Trustee Doug Corson. Quorum was present. Also present were Attorney Buick, Police Chief Lin Dargis, Public Works Director John Kocher, and Water Wastewater Director Joel Summerhill. Accountants Wes Levy and Jennifer Yaggie were also present.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Siewierski seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Public Wishing To Speak

No one was present.

Presentation of Police Commendations

Chief Dargis presented the following commendations:

Officer Brian Sawyer was recognized for his outstanding competence in police work that resulted in thirty drug arrests that included both civil and felony arrests.

Officer Martin Griffin was recognized for his outstanding competence in police work that resulted in the clearance of ten car burglaries and the recovery of stolen property.

Commander Pat Treacy was recognized for his outstanding investigative knowledge, persistence, and thoroughness, as he was able to procure charges of residential burglary and clear all four cases.

Officer Thomas Bellinger was recognized for his outstanding efforts in saving a life on September 2, 2018. Officer Bellinger confronted uncertainty with swift decisiveness and his actions directly resulted in saving a life.

Consent Agenda

Deputy Clerk Nielsen read the consent agenda into the record:

Approve the Town Board Minutes of October 9, 2018

Approve the Expenditures and Treasurer's Reports for August and September, 2018

Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Stone seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as read into the record. Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

Mr. Brian LeFevre, CPA with Sikich presented the FY18 Annual Audit Report and reviewed the Town's finances with the Board. He reported that the audit went very well and that staff was very cooperative. The purpose of this review was to give the Board a brief overview of the financial statements found in the FY18 Audit and of financial records, accuracy of records, and compliance with accounting methods and internal controls.

Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Fioretto seconded a motion to accept the FY18 Audit. Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

Presentation of First Draft of Proposed 2018 Tax Levy for Town and Library

Mr. Levy stated that the recommendation for the 2018 tax levy is to request 3.5% over last year's extension, staying consistent with the 2017 request. Without knowing the EAV of new construction, or knowing what the estimated 2018 EAV is, we cannot pinpoint what the maximum increase can be under PTELL. We know that the increase in CPI was 2.1%, which will be the maximum allowable increase over last year's levy for exiting property. The request for an additional 1.4% above CPI will allow us to capture the Town's tax rate on new property added to the Town.

If all variables remain the same and the town receives a maximum 2.1 % (CPI) increase over last year this will translate to \$14.87 decrease over last year's town taxes collected on a home having a value of \$180,000 and an EAV of \$74,000.

The suggested Town Levy for 2018 is \$672,000. The requested Library Levy for 2018 is \$237,900 for a total Levy of \$909,900.

Mr. Levy stated that he will be working with department heads on budgets and making recommendations; that vehicle rotations are back on track and they will be looking at capital expenses. He also noted that the Town has paid off debt. It is hard to predict additional sales tax, but with gaming and on-line purchasing being taxed and distributed to local municipalities, we will see an increase.

Mayor Stokes mentioned how monies over the last several years have been spent for building repairs and improvements to all public buildings.

Department Head Reports

The reports were included in the Board packet for board review.

Comments/Concerns

Trustee Stone commented on how nice it was to “watch” the parade after being in charge for so long.

Trustees Fioretto remarked that drivers are blowing stop signs on Stonegate at the Longmeadow Ave. intersection. Trustee Robins said the same about Klein Ave. Chief Dargis said he will look into this.

Presidents Report

Mayor Stokes reported that he met with staff on Friday and has given a directive that all inquiries or expressed interest regarding new business or land development goes directly to Zoning Administrator, Anna Kurtzman. Anna will report directly to Mayor Stokes. Mayor Stokes also explained that he is expecting a recommendation from the Planning Commission at the November 13, board meeting. He appreciates the work that the Planning Commission is doing as it's been a long time since we have had an active commission. Mayor Stokes said that he believes that as business opportunities arise, the Town needs to adapt to the times and look at our codes to make sure we are not discouraging new business and development by regulations adopted when building was booming.

Adjournment

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Robins seconded a motion for adjournment. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Deputy Clerk
Rita Nielsen**