TOWN OF CORTLAND
Town Hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Town Board Meeting
December 9, 2019
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 Nielsen. Shown as present were Trustees Jim Walker, Rick Robins, Doug Corson, Charmaine Fioretto, and Brad Stone. Trustee Mike Siewierski was absent. Quorum was present. Also present were Clerk Cheryl Aldis, Attorney Kevin Buick, Zoning Consultant Anna Kurtzman, and Accountant Wes Levy.

Approval of Agenda
Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. A unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Public Wishing to Speak
There was no one present wishing to speak.

New Business
Insurance Renewals;
Assurance Agency Brent Haubenriser presented Assurance's Insurance Proposal Program for Liability, Workman's Comp; Property/Inland Marine, Automobile, and Crime. Option #1 was for current carriers $84,242 with a $6,500 Assurance service fee for a total proposal of $90,742. Option #2 was with ICMRT for a total of $84,103 with a $6,500 Assurance free with a total proposal of $90,603.

Trustee Corson moved and Trustee Robins seconded a motion to accept Option #2 from ICMRT for a total package of $84,103 and $6,500 service fee for a total of $90,603. Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

An Ordinance Approving the 2019 Tax Levy Ordinance for the Town of Cortland and Cortland Community Library
Mr. Levy was available to answer any question, he stated that there are no changes since the proposed levy was presented.

Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Walker seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Approving the 2019 Tax Levy Ordinance for the Town of Cortland and Cortland Community Library. Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

An Ordinance Abating Special Service Taxes for Special Service Area Number One and Approving the Amended Special Tax Roll (NeuCort Lakes)
Mr. Levy presented.

Trustee Corson moved and Trustee Robins seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Abating Special Service Taxes for Special Service Area Number One and Approving the Amended Special Tax Roll (NeuCort Lakes). Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

An Ordinance Abating Special Service Area Taxes for Special Service Area Number 9 and Approving Amended Special Tax Roll
Mr. Levy presented.

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance Abating Special Service Area Taxes for Special Service Area Number 9 and Approving Amended Special Tax Roll. Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

Accept FY19 Audit Report as Presented November 25, 2019
The FY19 Audit Report was presented by Brian LeFevre from Sikich on November 25.

Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion to accept the FY 19 Audit Report as presented. Unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.

Discussion regarding DeKalb County Community Foundation Economic Development Planning Grant Project
Mayor Stokes met with Mr. Templin, Executive Director of the DeKalb County Community Foundation to discuss future Economic Development Grant Planning and that there are $20,000 grants are available through the foundation. Attorney Buick presented information regarding the grant application process and how the Town would implement it. DeKalb County Community Foundation developed the Community Economic Development Grant Program is available to provide an opportunity for communities in DeKalb County to apply for funding to support economic planning or to implement projects that support local community economic development plans.

$20,000 grants are available through the foundation. There is a mandated community contribution of 10% that must be set aside. There is no specific deadline due date for the grant.

Mrs. Kurtzman participated in the discussion reporting that the Town of Cortland is seeking to update its Comprehensive Plan, which was last up dated in 2007. In recent years the Town has entertained several requests for development however these have not materialized due, in part, to barriers found in the Comprehensive Plan. Many of the assumptions and policies found in this plan have proven to be invalid or ineffective due to the changes brought about by the Great Recession. The Town feels that to attract economic growth the Comprehensive Plan needs to be re-examined and updated.

The update to the Comprehensive Plan should include: data collection and analysis, a future land use map and policies, and an implementation scheme. She stated that this is work that she can do in-house, but the Town would have to seek an outside consultant to facilitate public hearings and having mapping capabilities work and there is a mandated community contribution of 10% that must be set-aside in the budget. Mrs. Kurtzman suggested a cost of approximately $30,000.

Attorney Buick reminded everyone that the purpose of the grant is economic development.

All Trustees present agreed that the Town should move forward an apply for this grant.

Cancellation of Regularly Scheduled Meeting, Monday, December 23, 2019
Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion to cancel regular meeting of Monday, December 23, 2019. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Comments and Concerns
Trustee Robins reported that he has met with Mayor Stokes, has researched, and is ready to report on legalized cannabis dispensaries. Trustee Robins stated that his research was not all negative or positive, he would just like to make certain points; all workers are vetted by the State, mandated 8-12 week training, medical marijuana is cost prohibitive, to purchase for self or loved one, purchaser must show current State I.D., disorderly and theft crimes are down, purchaser must enter through series of locked doors.

Attorney Buick reminded everyone that laws are changing daily. By doing nothing, you are not prohibiting, He sees no reason to change zoning at this time that would allows for it. There are a few ordinances that you can adopt that address prosecution of violations and tax revenue.

Mayor Stokes said that this is the reality of what is going on, he does not want a reputation that can come with allowing dispensaries, and he would like to see a consensus as to how Trustees feel about the issue of allowing dispensaries or not.

With the exception of Trustee Walker saying no, Trustees were open to the idea and are willing to wait and see what happens.

Attorney Buick will prepare ordinances for consideration at next Town Board meeting.

President's Report
Nothing to report at this time

Adjournment
Trustee Robins moved and Trustee Stone seconded a motion to adjourn. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Nielsen
Deputy Clerk