



**VILLAGE OF WAUCONDA  
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
101 N. MAIN STREET, WAUCONDA, IL  
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Knight called the Regular Village Board Meeting to order at 6:00 PM. As a result of Governor Pritzker's Stay-At-Home order due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted remotely via WebEx. The agenda posted included WebEx instructions as follows: Join by phone: dial 1-408-418-9388 Meeting number (access code): 620 906 495

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Knight.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call by Clerk Falk-Novak, the following Trustees were present:  
Trustees Black, Howe, Schlick, Shaw, Sode

Absent: Trustee Morino

**QUORUM PRESENT**

Also present: Kevin Timony (Village Administrator), Brad Fink (Director of Public Works), Dave Wermes (Police Chief), Greg Anderson (Director of Community Development)

**4. PROCLAMATION**

A. Building Safety Month

Mayor Knight presented the Building Safety Month Proclamation

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comments were received.

The Public was invited to submit comments by 5:30 PM, Tuesday, April 21, 2020, so they could be read at the beginning of the meeting under Public Comment. Any comments received during the meeting were to be held until the end of the meeting. Public comments are limited to three minutes per person. It was requested that Public comments be emailed to [cfalknovak@Wauconda-il.gov](mailto:cfalknovak@Wauconda-il.gov) and contain the name, street address, and contact information followed by the public comment and agenda item, if applicable. The Public with no access to email was encouraged to leave a message with the Wauconda Village Hall by calling 847-526-9600.

**6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

(Last Ordinance No. was 2020-O-03) (Last Resolution No. was 2020-R-02)

Motion to Approve the Agenda made by Trustee Sode, second Trustee Shaw.

Ayes 5 Nays 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

**7. MOTION TO APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA BY OMNIBUS VOTE**

Motion to Approve Consideration of Consent Agenda by Omnibus Vote made by Trustee Shaw, second Trustee Schlick.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

**8. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Bills for Payment from March 28, 2020 to April 10, 2020 in the Amount of \$167,630.96.
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the April 7, 2020 Regular Village Board Meeting
- C. Approval of a Second Resolution Extending the Declaration of Local State of Emergency for the Village of Wauconda (*Resolution No. 2020-R-03*)

**9. MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS A THROUGH C ON THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to Approve Items A through C on the Consent Agenda made by Trustee Schlick, second Trustee Howe.

Ayes 5 Nays 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Approval of an Ordinance Accepting the Final Plat of Subdivision Morning Star Landings – Phase 2 (*Ordinance No. 2020-O-04*)

Greg Anderson (Director of Community Development):

Morning Star Holdings LLC is the Owner / Applicant for the property to be known as Morning Star Landings, which is a re-subdivision of Buena Vista subdivision originally proposed a seven (7) lot subdivision within two (2) phases of development. The applicant has submitted for the Final Plat of Subdivision and Final Engineering for Phase 2 to be reviewed and approved according to the approved Planned Unit Development and current zoning classifications of R-4 Single-family Residential District and Lot 7 which is fronting on Main Street in the Central Business District. The applicant has been diligently working towards the re-development of the property, formerly known as 406 N. Main Street, and

the proposed subdivision complies with the required sections for Final Plat of Subdivision and Final Engineering, Watershed Development, Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Code, Development Ordinance, and Comprehensive Plan. The applicant has met with the Village Staff to discuss the requirements of the final plat and final engineering (as listed above) with minor adjustments to the final plat. The Village Staff found Phase 2 to be in substantial compliance based upon the Village Staff recommendations and the confirmation of amendments to the plat and engineering documentation. The Plan Commission / Zoning Board of Appeals hereby sent a favorable recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees with regard to Zoning Case #20-01, Morning Star Landings Subdivision. Final Plat of Subdivision and Final Engineering for Phase 2 was found to be in substantial compliance with original preliminary filings for Preliminary Plat of Subdivision and Engineering.

Motion to Approve Ordinance Accepting the Final Plat of Subdivision Morning Star Landings – Phase 2 made by Trustee Howe, second Trustee Black.

Ayes 5 Nays 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

B. Discussion (*continued*): Special Use Permit – Trio Pylon Sign (512 W. Liberty Street)

Greg Anderson (Director of Community Development):

An updated matrix was distributed to the board (Exhibit A) titled "Wauconda BP Trio Mid Sign Improvement" for their review. A day and night version was included as requested by the board along with a superimposed proposed sign at the location where the sign would be placed.

The Mayor stated that we have our Ordinances in place for a reason, and this proposed sign is more than double what is currently existing. He feels that the sign is too large and asked if it could be shortened as well as a reduction in the size of the triangle. He also asked for the vacated sign in the back of the property to be removed as well. He opened comments up to the Trustees as follows:

**Trustee Black:**

He thanked BP for setting up shop in Wauconda and stated that they improved that corner remarkably over the years. He likes the design of the new sign; however, he is concerned with the size. He mentioned that we have Ordinances in place, but he does feel that there is a time and a place for variances. He would consider a variance on this sign, but this would mean a compromise as the proposed sign is over two times the size as permitted in the Ordinance. He would be more than willing to consider a downsized proposal of 50% or so. He stated if he were to make a decision today, he would be leaning towards a no, but he is more than willing to listen to a compromise down the line.

**Trustee Howe:**

He understands that they want to be visible coming eastbound on 176 to traffic, so the bridge doesn't obscure it, but there aren't any gas stations coming into town before you get to the BP, so it's easily visible. He stated that it is a nice-looking sign and there is no question about that, but it is significantly larger than what is permitted. A variance is not a complete abandonment of the regulations that we have in place. He mentioned that he was not thrilled with the way this was presented to them in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour seemingly. It feels that they now have their backs against the wall. As it stands right now, he leans towards a no, and his decision is not against the business or the esthetics of the sign; it's the size as it's too big.

**Trustee Schlick:**

He stated he is coming at this from a different perspective, but he does echo Trustee Howe's sentiment as he did not appreciate the way that it was presented in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour and was not a last-minute decision as plans for this sign have been going on for an extended period of time. He understands their desire to have a larger sign in that area to capture the eastbound traffic on 176 and the southbound traffic on Rt. 12. He does not count the brickwork as signage and feels the addition of the decorative brick enhances and brings it up to a higher quality. He would like to see the sign a little shorter but believes there is a science going into why that height is being used to capture traffic flow. He would be leaning more towards yes conditionally with the removal of the abandoned sign in the back of the property.

**Trustee Morino:**

Absent

**Trustee Shaw:**

He loves the way the sign looks and the design of the sign but doesn't feel it needs to include "Welcome to Wauconda." Possibly replace with the touchless car wash and reduce the Trio resulting in a shorter sign along with the removal of the rusting sign that is no longer used in the back of the property. He is leaning towards no but willing to consider if the sign is shortened.

**Trustee Sode:**

He feels the sign should be a little smaller and would prefer not to have the "Welcome to Wauconda" on the sign as the Village has it's branding that they have put a lot of effort and time into and would like it to remain consistent. If the sign was reduced after removing the "Welcome to Wauconda" and made the Trio a little smaller and try to bring closer to Ordinance, he would consider.

The Mayor and Administrator Timony asked Director Anderson to summarize and share the board's comments with BP, and the consensus of the board is that they would reconsider if the sign was smaller specifically to the height and the size of the triangle, however, they

would allow for a variance from the Village Ordinance. It was also discussed that this would include the removal of the "Welcome to Wauconda" on the sign and removal of the unused sign on the back of the property.

## **11. MAYOR'S REPORT**

He mentioned that we are into another week of COVID-19 and wanted to thank the residents for adhering to the new normal with social distancing and staying at home. He also wanted to thank our businesses for adjusting as best they can and asked the residents to continue to support them. He said this is definitely a new way of living, but with the information being given to us, we are moving in the right direction. He, along with Administrator Timony, has continued to participate in several conference calls per week with the Governor, County, and the White House. He has also been in contact with mayors around the county almost daily as they are trying to learn from each other. They will keep everyone updated as information changes, which maybe soon. As everyone is aware, the Village waived late payment fees and disconnections for water services for March and April and will continue this for May as well. This is one small way the Village can help the residents, and they will do what they can to help. Administrator Timony and Finance Director, Tom Lyons, has been working steadily on the budget, and this too has taken quite a bit of adjusting as there are many moving parts, one of which is revenue. He stated that the board would be hearing more about this in the near future. The Mayor will be providing names to the Trustees in the next week or so regarding upcoming appointments that will need to be made in May. He said if they have any questions to reach out to him. He also stated that he appreciated the Trustees, Staff, and Clerk for all they are doing during these uncertain times.

## **12. COMMITTEE REPORTS & TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

### **Trustee Black**

He thanked the Mayor and Administrator Timony for all the time they have spent participating in countless calls with regards to COVID-19. He commented that although we still have COVID-19, he does feel like we are flattening the curve based on what he sees out of the Health Department, but we have a long way to go. If and when some of the restrictions are lifted, we all need to remember that it doesn't mean the virus is gone, and we have won. It only means that we have all worked hard enough to get to the point that we might be winning. We will still have to wear our masks, wash our hands and try to keep some space between us until we really have beat this thing. He mentioned that he really misses the meetings in the boardroom. He misses sitting there with the Mayor, the Board, Kevin, Brad and anyone else that would have been in there as well tonight. He also misses going out afterward for cold beverages and talking about "stuff" like our families and what our plans are for the weekend. He also misses steak night at the Moose. In closing, he is asking that we all remember what this is all about and that we are in this together. We also all want the same thing. Once we are moving around more freely, use common sense, and think about what you are about to do and if it's necessary. If it is necessary, then use common sense and make good choices. The faster everyone is on board, the quicker we are back to "normal."

### **Trustee Howe**

He stated that we are making progress, and he understands that it is frustrating no less for him than it is for others. He is aware that it is aggravating, but people are doing a great job, and 90% of the community is fully 100% behind this, and that's pretty good. We all must continue to be vigilant. We need to keep up the good work as we are making an impact. That doesn't mean full success, but we are having an effect, and that is why we are all doing this and making a sacrifice. He said, keep up the good work and stay strong as Wauconda is a very good community and a very strong community. There has been a lot of support for local business, and he hopes to see that continue. They will have to continue to figure out from a Village standpoint how to come out of this on the other side with as little economic damage not only to the Village but also to the residents and businesses. He also wanted to give a shout-out to our first responders, police, and fire as they are on the front lines and do not have the luxury of staying home as we have along with the healthcare workers who continually work under difficult circumstances. He thanked them all.

### **Trustee Schlick**

He asked everyone to be safe out there and said hopefully everything would return to normal soon.

### **Trustee Morino**

Absent

### **Trustee Shaw**

Although it's a difficult time, everyone needs to stay strong. He thanked everyone for all they are doing along with all the volunteers as we just have to get through this, and he knows we can do it. He is looking forward to the other side.

### **Trustee Sode**

He gave his special thanks to the essential and protective services, Fire, Police, Public Works, and the Village staff for keeping everything working during these uncertain times. They are all doing an outstanding job. He also wanted to offer a shout-out to Police Chief Wermes, DC Botterman, Sgt. Combs and Sgt. Burke for doing an outstanding job with the arbitration case.

## **13. PUBLIC COMMENT (If Needed)**

No public comments received.

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leave a message with the Wauconda Village Hall by calling 847-526-9600.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Black, second Trustee Sode, all in favor.

Ayes 5 Nays 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Adjourn Time 6:32 PM

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Cheryl Falk-Novak, Village Clerk