

Village of Romeoville

1050 W Romeo Rd



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

6:00 PM

**Village Hall Board Room
1050 W. Romeo Rd.**

Village Board - Workshop Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER-Roll Call

Present 7 - Trustee Jose Chavez, Trustee Dave Richards, Trustee Brian A. Clancy Sr., Mayor John Noak, Trustee Ken Griffin, Trustee Linda Palmiter, and Trustee Lourdes Aguirre

2. POSTING OF COLORS-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[23-3241](#)

A Presentation on the Fire Fighter Pension Report and the Police Pension Report

Sponsors: Christi Jacobson

Finance Director, Christi Jacobson, explained that the annual report of the Romeoville Fire Pension Fund contains information pertaining to assets in the fund, estimated revenue, levy requirements, investment earnings and plan demographics. A brief summary of those funds were discussed.

Ms. Jacobson also shared an update on the annual report of the Romeoville Police Pension Fund.

Mayor Noak commented that we continue to be one of the highest funded in the State.

[ORD23-1873](#)

An Ordinance for the Levying and Collection of Taxes for the Village of Romeoville, Will County, Illinois, for the Fiscal Year Commencing the First Day of May, 2023 and Ending the 30th Day of April, 2024

Sponsors: Christi Jacobson

Ms. Jacobson explained that the proposed levy amount is estimated based on multiple factors which includes the prior year property tax extension and the 2023 equalized assessed valuation of property. A brief presentation was given on the Village wide EAV. For next year, the Village Tax rate is estimated to be lowered from .9764 to .9695 and the total tax rate is estimated to be lowered from 1.1811 to 1.1742. A graph was shown depicting how taxes are allocated for the average property owner in Romeoville.

Mayor Noak commented that this is a place holder because we do our budget in May but Will county processes it each calendar year. We have time to adjust accordingly. This will be the 9th year in a row that the tax rate has gone down.

[ORD23-1872](#)

An Ordinance Amending Section 81.10 of the Village Code of Ordinances-Towing Fees

Sponsors: Rich Vogel

Village Attorney, Rich Vogel, explained that this ordinance is increasing and adding fees associated with existing tow fees the Village already has in place.

ORD23-1882 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 129 (Food Trucks and Food Truck Operators) of the Village Code of Ordinances

Sponsors: Rich Vogel

Mr. Vogel explained that this ordinance restates Chapter 129 regarding Food Trucks. The revised ordinance allows for food truck licensing and approvals to be linked to a special event. Food truck operators must file an application for a license to enable the Village to verify compliance with applicable food safety regulations, code requirements and insurance requirements.

ORD23-1886 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 37 of the Romeoville Code of Ordinances- Personnel Manual

Sponsors: Dawn Caldwell

Village Manager, Dawn Caldwell, explained that three changes to the employee handbook are being proposed. These include changes regarding paid time off, clarification on sick time use, and sick time on retirement.

ORD23-1884 An Ordinance Regarding the Illinois Paid Leave For All Workers Act for the Village Of Romeoville

Sponsors: Dawn Caldwell

Mrs. Caldwell explained that this ordinance allows for the Village to opt out of the requirements of the State adopted Paid Leave for All Workers Act. This allows us to retain the Village's existing paid leave policies.

ORD23-1885 An Ordinance Adopting Successor Collective Bargaining Agreements between the Village of Romeoville and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 31 (Clerical and Public Works)

Sponsors: Dawn Caldwell

Mrs. Caldwell announced the successful completion of the AFSCME contract for both Public Works and Clerical. The finished contract highlights the dedication to fairness, respect for our workforce, and reaffirms our commitment to being an employer who values its workforce.

Mayor Noak thanked everyone involved in this effort. We have an

outstanding group of people who work for us.

[RES23-3712](#) **A Resolution Approving an Agreement with Thriveworks Administrative Services LLC (Counseling Services Availability to Village Residents)**

Sponsors: Kent Adams

Fire Chief, Kent Adams, explained that as a part of the communities risk reduction effort and participation in 9-8-8, we identified an initiative what would help benefit mental health needs. The Fire Department receives many calls for mental health concerns and needs and the only course of action is to transport them to the hospital. Thriveworks is a nationwide provider of mental health services with access to thousands of clinicians. Thriveworks would bill users insurance for its services, or bill users a flat fee of \$109 per counseling service session. This allows the Fire Department to refer people to additional resources, which will provide residents with the help they need without the continuous ambulance rides to the hospital.

Mayor Noak commented that this is a very important program. Trustee Griffin asked how this will be rolled out to the citizens and Chief Adams and Mrs. Caldwell commented that it will be on our website along with a press release and this will be provided directly to residents when the fire department and police department social worker goes out on calls.

[RES23-3720](#) **A Resolution Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village and the Braidwood Fire Protection District**

Sponsors: Kent Adams

Chief Adams explained that the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Braidwood Fire Protection District allows for the trade of an apparatus in exchange for a credit to our Fire Academy.

[RES23-3721](#) **A Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Orland Park Fire Protection District**

Sponsors: Kent Adams

Chief Adams explained that we competitively bid to allow us to teach additional classes at our academy and we were awarded 6 different classes that we can provide. A grant was awarded and stipulated that 80% of our classes be comprised of students in surrounding counties, which will equate to roughly \$150,000 of free tuition for firefighters which will go to the academy.

[RES23-3714](#) **A Resolution to Approve a Proposal from Spohn Ranch Inc. for Schematic Design, Construction Phase Services & Engineering**

Services for Volunteer Park Pipeline Skate Park Redevelopment.

Sponsors: Kelly Rajzer

Parks and Recreation Director, Kelly Rajzer, explained that they are seeking approval to enter into a contract with Spohn Ranch for schematic design, construction phase services and engineering services for Volunteer Park Skate Park. This park was originally constructed in 2005. The Village has received a contribution from the Lockport Township Park District for this project.

4. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Clancy, seconded by Trustee Aguirre, that this Meeting be Adjourned at 6:26 PM. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.