

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Whitefish Bay was held via GoToMeeting on July 13, 2020

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the press and posted on the public bulletin boards.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Siegel called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Trustees Serebin, Fuda, Buckley, Demet, Davis, Saunders and President Siegel

Also Present: Village Manager Paul Boening
Village Attorney Chris Jaekels
Police Chief Michael Young
Assistant Village Manager Tim Blakeslee
Finance Director/Village Clerk Jaimie Krueger
Director of Public Works John Edlebeck
Director of Building Services Joel Oestreich
Deputy Clerk Caren Brustmann

II. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Trustee Saunders, seconded by Trustee Davis and unanimously carried by the Village Board to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on June 1, 2020.
2. Claims for May, 2020.
3. Claims for June, 2020.
4. Investment Report for May, 2020.
5. Investment Report for June, 2020.
6. Temporary Beer/Wine License for the Whitefish Bay BID's Sidewalk Sale on July 17th and 18th.
7. Resolution No. 3074 – Approving the Cooperation Agreement for Participation in the Urban County CDBG Program with Milwaukee County.
8. Resolution No. 3075 – Acknowledging the 2019 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report.
9. Ordinance No. 1864 – Pertaining to Conditional Uses in the Business District.
10. Ordinance No. 1865 – Pertaining to Conditional Use Procedure.
11. Ordinance No. 1868 – Repealing and Recreating Section 16-31 of the Municipal Code with regard to maintaining or eliminating nonconforming or substandard lots.
12. Acceptance of Memorial Bench Donation from Frank Daily for placement at Buckley Park.
13. Referral of PDD Petition (proposed seven home residential subdivision – 721 E. Silver Spring Dr.) from WiRED Properties to the Architectural Review Commission and Plan Commission.

III. Report of Village Officers

1. Village Attorney

Village Attorney Chris Jaekels noted he is tracking all of the adopted mask ordinances around the State and will prepare a Village Ordinance accordingly per the direction of tonight's discussion.

2. Village Manager

Village Manager Paul Boening introduced Jaimie Krueger as the Finance Director/Village Clerk and noted she is attending a virtual WI Municipal Clerks Institute this week.

3. Village President

Village President Julie Siegel noted there is an ICC (Intergovernmental Cooperation Council) virtual meeting today, and will plan to attend the in-person meeting scheduled in September.

4. Miscellaneous Trustees - None

IV. Petitions and Communications

Email correspondence was received regarding a potential face covering ordinance.

V. General Business

1. Discussion/action on Village of Whitefish Bay Racial Equity Statement.

Village President Julie Siegel introduced the Racial Equity Statement, and asked the Board for a motion followed by public comment and board discussion. An amendment was made to sentence 3 of the statement to read “We are committed to continuing to make Whitefish Bay an inclusive, accepting Village, where all are welcomed regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, mental/physical ability or socio-economic status”. It was moved by Trustee Serebin and seconded by Trustee Davis to approve the Village of Whitefish Bay Racial Equity Statement as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Esther Carriere, 825 E. Henry Clay St; Was disappointed in the statement and in her opinion, the statement should address issues directly related to the Village and not the country. Ms. Carriere also noted presently, history that is being taught in schools, is white history.

Bryna Goeckner, 5842 N. Bay Ridge Ave; Would like to see more of an action plan with definite ways. Suggested that the words “we believe” should be changed to “we want or we desire” as it is more compassionate.

Brenda Szumski, 806 E. Glen Ave; Is in support of Ms. Carriere’s opinion and thanks staff for placing this item on the agenda. Suggested that the words “striving or intending” could be used to convey a more meaningful intention.

Anne O’Connor, 5838 N. Shore Dr; Thanked staff for placing this item on the agenda. Added Bay Bridge, a Whitefish Bay based nonpartisan group, works to build bridges within & between communities in support of racial & cultural diversity, equity & justice and should be reflected within the statement.

Board discussion followed thanking staff and board members for their time and effort into the Village’s Racial Equity Statement. It was moved by Trustee Serebin, seconded by Trustee Davis, and unanimously carried by the Village Board to approve the Village of Whitefish Bay Racial Equity Statement as amended.

2. Discussion/action on Village Hall/Library Parking Lot Biofilter Installation Project.

Director of Public Works John Edlebeck introduced the biofilter installation project, which includes improving this area for both aesthetics purposes as well as stormwater quantity and quality purposes. Funding is coming from the MMSD Green Solutions Fund, totaling \$89,000.00. The proposed project would begin in 2021.

It was moved by Trustee Davis, seconded by Trustee Buckley, and unanimously carried by the Village Board to approve the Village Hall/Library Parking Lot Biofilter Installation Project (estimated at \$89,000.00) pending MMSD GS funding approval.

2. Discussion/action on request from LaLonde Construction to work during the overnight hours to install high friction surface treatment on the pavement as part of the Lake Drive HSIP Safety Project.

Director of Public Works John Edlebeck stated LaLonde Contractors has requested road closure of Lake Drive at three locations per an approved traffic control plan the week of July 27th from 7:00pm to 6:00am to apply a high friction surface treatment.

It was moved by Trustee Serebin, seconded by Trustee Buckley, and unanimously carried by the Village Board to approve LaLonde Construction’s request to allow for the road closure of Lake Drive at the three (3) locations (on memo dated July 1, 2020) per an approved traffic control plan the week of July 27th, 2020 (weather permitting) from 7:00pm to 6:00am the following day and allow a variance from the Village construction noise ordinance for the same time frame to allow for this work to proceed.

4. Discussion/action regarding potential extension of the Declared Public Health Emergency.

Village Manager Paul Boening recommended the declaration remain in place due to the availability of CARES Act grant funding. The current declaration expires July 13th. Trustee Buckley inquired about possible actions that have taken place under the current declaration and if a log of activity is being kept.

It was moved by Trustee Saunders, seconded by Trustee Davis, and unanimously carried by the Village Board to extend the Public Health Emergency in the Village of Whitefish Bay through October 1, 2020 unless revoked sooner by the Village Board.

5. Discussion/direction to staff regarding a potential face covering ordinance (Tr. Saunders).

Trustee Saunders introduced the item, expressing his support for a mask mandate of individuals over the age of 5, adding that more than 20 states currently have mask mandates in place. Trustee Saunders also suggested setting up a self reporting program for offenders. Also, the Village of Shorewood adopted a mask ordinance on July 8th and the City of Milwaukee is reviewing a potential ordinance as well. Discussion followed regarding the use of masks outdoors and the impact on businesses should an ordinance not be followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Moshe Katz, Whitefish Bay resident and owner of Yellow Wood, is in support of face covering ordinance. Mr. Katz requires masks upon entry of his business and would like the right to refuse business should an individual not comply.

Jeff Commer, BID President, is in support of the Village's decision regardless and that most business owners are in support of a mask mandate.

Bryna Goeckner, 5842 N. Bay Ridge Ave; Stated the State or County is not in a position to provide protection to residents, however, the Village is. She said that dealing with offenders may however be tricky.

Kevin Rorabeck, North Shore Health Department staff member, shared that the NSHD is in support of a face covering ordinance, however, they do not have staff to enforce it. The Board directed staff to prepare a face covering ordinance and will provide feedback once drafted. Trustee Saunders requested a special board meeting be held as time is of the essence.

VI. Adjourn

There being no further business, it was moved by Trustee Fuda, seconded by Trustee Davis, and unanimously carried by the Village Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Caren Brustmann
Deputy Clerk