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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF CICERO

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The Board of Trustees of the Town of Cicero met Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 9:54 A.M., in the Town Hall Council Chambers, Town of Cicero.

On roll call there were present:

President: Dominick  
Clerk: Punzo-Arias  
Trustees: Cava, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Virruso.  
Absent: Trustee Cava – Excused, Trustee Reitz  
Via Conference Call: Trustee Banks

Thereupon, President Dominick declared a quorum present and the meeting duly convened and requested that all present in attendance stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On motion of Trustee Porod seconded by Trustee Garcia, the minutes of the Regular Meeting held Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., were approved, the reading being dispensed with, each member having received a copy.

Trustee Reitz entered the meeting at 9:55 A.M.

## ***APPROVAL OF BILLS***

**(21-21)**

On motion of Trustee Virruso seconded by Trustee Garcia, the list of bills itemized in Warrant #5, dated March 4, 2021, in the total amount of \$2,642,465.67, were accepted, placed on file and approved for payment; action taken by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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**(22-21)**

On motion of Trustee Garcia seconded by Trustee Porod, payroll (*Estimated Corporate \$1,544,406.29 & Library \$26,881.45*) was approved for the active employees listed on the printout dated 03-04-21; action taken by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

## ***PERMITS***

**(23-21)**

On motion of Trustee Porod seconded by Trustee Garcia, permission was granted St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish to conduct an indoor/outdoor flea market on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00AM to 4:00PM; approval contingent to adhering to the CDC guidelines.

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**(24-21)**

On motion of Trustee Porod seconded by Trustee Garcia, permission was granted Seguin Services to host their outdoor Seguin Flea Market in the parking lot located at Central/Ogden & 31st Street and the warehouse at 3150 S. Central Avenue on (35) Saturdays and (34) Sunday from 9 AM to 3 PM from March 13<sup>th</sup> through November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021; approval contingent to adhering to the CDC guidelines and the proposed guidelines as specified by their request.

## ***REPORT***

**(25-21)**

On motion of Trustee Virruso seconded by Trustee Garcia, the Collector's Office Report (*\$2,295,988.21*) and the Revenue Summary Report (*\$570,399.81*) for the month of February/2021, submitted by Fran Reitz, Collector, was accepted and placed on file; action taken by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

## ***ORDINANCES***

**("O" 6-21)**

On motion of Trustee Virruso seconded by Trustee Reitz, the Ordinance amending Chapter 98, entitled "Utilities", Section 98-266, entitled "Adjustments; Amounts; Penalty for Late Payment" of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Cicero, Illinois regarding sewer

rates in the Town, was accepted, placed on file and approved for passage by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

*(Purpose of Ordinance)*

*(The purpose of this ordinance is amend sewer rates to ensure the proper operation and maintenance of the combined waterworks and sewage system.)*

Section 98-266: Adjustments; Amounts; Penalty for Late Payment.

There shall be established rates and charges for the use and service of the sewer system of the Town as follows:

- (1) *Residential Service.* The bimonthly rate for residential service per residential dwelling unit shall be \$26.59. Charges for residential sewer service shall be made bimonthly. All bills shall be payable within ten days after rendition thereof. All bills not paid within ten days of the date of billing shall have a penalty charge of ten percent added thereto. When the tenth day of any month shall be a Sunday or legal holiday, such bills for service shall be paid on the next succeeding secular day without penalty.
- (2) *Commercial and Industrial Service.* Rates for commercial and industrial service for all water consumed, shall be \$56.06, minimum charge per month, for an allowance of 3,000 cubic feet per month. For each additional 1,000 cubic feet per month there shall be a charge of \$18.69. Charges for commercial and industrial sewer service shall be made monthly based upon the rates set out in this Subsection. All bills for such service shall be rendered as of the first of each month following the month for which sewer service has been rendered and shall be payable within ten days after rendition thereof. All bills not paid within 25 days of the date of billing shall have a penalty charge of 20 percent added thereto. When the 25th day of any month shall be a Sunday or a legal holiday, such bills for service shall be paid on the next succeeding secular day without penalty.
- (3) *Railroad Yards and Rights-of-Way.* Railroads shall be charged for the use and service of the sewer system at the rate of \$27.42 per month per acre of railroad yard and right-of-way. Charges for sewer service shall be made monthly based upon the rates set out in this Subsection. All bills for such service shall be rendered as of the first of each month following the month for which sewer service has been rendered and shall be payable within ten days after rendition thereof. All bills not paid within 25 days of the date of billing shall have a penalty charge of 20 percent added thereto. When the 25th day of any month shall be a Sunday or a legal holiday, such bill for service shall be paid on the next succeeding secular day without penalty.
- (4) *Commercial and Industrial Sewer Service for Property Located Outside of the Town Municipal Border.* Commercial and industrial property located outside the Town municipal border shall be charged for the use of the sewer system at the rate of \$350.00 per month per acre of property serviced by Town sewers. The Town will issue a monthly bill for the calculated sewer service fee amount. All bills for such service shall be rendered as of the first of each month following the month for which sewer service has been rendered and shall be payable within ten days after rendition thereof. All bills not paid within 25 days of the date of billing shall have a penalty charge of 20 percent added thereto. When the 25<sup>th</sup> day of any month shall be a Sunday or a legal holiday, such bill for service shall be paid on the next succeeding secular day without penalty. ~~This rate structure is applicable to the uses ongoing on the date of adoption, any material renovation of the site, building or expanded uses, such as table or slot gaming, will result in the Town amending the rates. The Town shall adjust the rates in proportion to which the City of Chicago increases its sewer rates assessed against the Town at any given time.~~

- (5) *Reduction for Senior Citizens.* For residential property owners 62 years of age and older, the monthly fee shall be reduced by 35 percent. To qualify for the reduction, the senior citizen must reside at the property for which the reduction is sought and provide proof of age and ownership on a form as required by the Water Department.
- (6) *Reduction for Persons with Disabilities.* For residential property owners who are disabled, the monthly fee shall be reduced by 35 percent. For purposes of this Section, "disabled" shall mean, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 1382c, a person who is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. The physical or mental impairment must be of such severity that the person is both unable to engage in his or her previous work and unable to engage in any other kind of gainful employment. To qualify for the reduction the disabled person must reside at the property for which the reduction is sought and provide proof of his or her disability and ownership on a form as required by the Water Department.
- (7) *Adjustments.* Notwithstanding the foregoing, customers may seek adjustments to their sewer bills in accordance with the provisions of Section 98-269 of this Code.
- (8) ~~this rate structure is applicable to the uses ongoing on the date of adoption, any material renovation of the site, building or expanded uses, such as table or slot gaming, will result in the Town amending the rates.~~

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The following ordinances granting Zoning are based on recommendations by the Zoning Board of Appeals and leave was given to take the following five ordinances on one roll call:

**ORDINANCES GRANTING ZONING AS LISTED ON THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES:**

- (“O” 7-21)** 1) 5840 W 16<sup>th</sup> Street – Special Use Permit & Lot Coverage / Setback Variance for an Existing Restaurant
- (“O” 8-21)** 2) 5439 W Cermak Rd – Special Use Permit & Parking Variance for an Automobile Repair Services with (5) Stalls
- (“O” 9-21)** 3) 2625 S Cicero Ave – Sign Variance for a T-Mobile/Sprint Store
- (“O” 10-21)** 4) 3312 S Cicero Ave – Sign Variance for a Verizon Wireless Store
- (“O” 11-21)** 5) 5101 W Roosevelt Rd – Special Use Permit for a Financial Literacy and Credit Restoration Company

Which five ordinances relative to zoning were on motion of Trustee Porod seconded by Trustee Virruso, approved for passage by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

***RESOLUTIONS***

**(“R” 13-21)**

On motion of Trustee Garcia seconded by Trustee Reitz, the Resolution authorizing and approving a certain invoice from Ryan Denson for services provided to the Town

*(Emergency Medical Technicians training for the Cicero Fire Department in the total amount of \$13,414.91), was accepted, placed on file and approved for adoption by the following vote:*

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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**(“R” 14-21)**

On motion of Trustee Virruso seconded by Trustee Reitz, the Resolution authorizing and approving a certain invoice from Custom Data Processing, Inc. for medical software services provided to the Town *(In connection with the COVID-19 vaccinations given by the Cicero Health Department in the total amount of \$10,000.00)*, was accepted, placed on file and approved for adoption by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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**(“R” 15-21)**

On motion of Trustee Virruso seconded by Trustee Reitz, the Resolution authorizing the Town President to enter into and approve a Development Impact Agreement with Hawthorne Race Course, Inc. for the Town *(In connection with the 3501 South Laramie Avenue Redevelopment)*, was accepted, placed on file and approved for adoption by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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**(“R” 16-21)**

On motion of Trustee Reitz seconded by Trustee Virruso, the Resolution authorizing and approving a certain invoice from MABAS Division XI for annual dues for the Town *(MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) membership dues for the Cicero Fire Department in the total amount of \$10,000.00)*, was accepted, placed on file and approved for adoption by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

***NEW BUSINESS***

**(26-21)**

On motion of Trustee Porod seconded by Trustee Garcia, the Board concurred with the recommendation of Board of Fire, Police and Public Safety Commissioners for the promotion of Patrol Officer Vito Pacione to the rank of Sergeant of the Cicero Police Department; action taken by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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**(27-21)**

On motion of Trustee Garcia seconded by Trustee Porod, the Board concurred with the recommendation of Board of Fire, Police and Public Safety Commissioners to hire the following next seven (7) qualified Firefighter Candidates from the current eligibility list:

Matthew Gocal	John Duffy	Nicholas Rochkus
Anthony Lupe-Cancino	Trevor Colby	Trevor Noonan
	Christopher Dospoy	

action taken by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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**(28-21)**

On motion of Trustee Garcia seconded by Trustee Porod, the Board concurred with the recommendation of Board of Fire, Police and Public Safety Commissioners to hire the following next ten (10) qualified Probationary Police Officer Candidates from the current eligibility list:

Abel Corral	Daniel Rodriguez	Christopher Carranza	Rand Perez-Verela
Zenna Ramos	Omar Coctecon	Jose Hernandez Jr.	Francis Pacheco
	Alondra Banda	Kevin Haro	

action taken by the following vote:

Ayes: Banks, Cundari, Garcia, Porod, Reitz, Virruso.

Nays: None.

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President Dominick opened the meeting to the public for their comments.

Resident Marie Pikul expressed concerns with wearing face masks and proposed passing legislation to make Cicero Mask Free Zone.

Public Relations Director Hanania reported a news media outlet reached out to cover a special series concerning crime rates in Illinois and after providing actual data on the subject it was reduced from a two hour special to a two second blip mentioning the Town's success.

Police Superintendent Chlada provided the following report:

From 1998 to May of 2005, there were 401 gang-related shootings  
From May of 2005 thru 2020, there were 219 gang-related shootings; 45% decrease.

From 1998 to May of 2005, there were 36 gang-related homicides  
From May of 2005 thru 2020, there were 30 gang-related homicides; 17% decrease.

It's important to notice that the time frame of May of 2005 thru 2021 more than double the time frame compared to 1998 to May of 2005.

From 1995 to 2004, the clearance rate of homicides was 10%  
From 2005 to present, the clearance rate of homicides is 77%; 65% increase.

The National average for homicide solvability in the United States is 65%  
The Town of Cicero is 10% above the national average for homicide solvability rate.

Resident Tom Scapillato expressed concerns with the 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue turning lane which exits into Roosevelt Road and the parking issues in the area.

Town Clerk Punzo-Arias reminded every business owner to be vigilant with the upkeep of the areas surrounding their store fronts & properties now that the weather is getting warmer.

On motion of Trustee Virruso seconded by Trustee Garcia, the board then stood adjourned at 10:20 A.M. to meet on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 10:00 A.M., in the Town Hall, Town of Cicero.

MARIA A. PUNZO-ARIAS, TOWN CLERK