

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH  
AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 8:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:**

Scott Lewis, Chair (present remotely)  
Alan Fink, Trustee (present remotely)

**Staff Present:**

Chief Brian Budds, LES

**Others Present:**

Ingrid Velkme, Village Manager  
Deputy Chief Dan Albrecht, LES  
Deputy Chief Brian Scott, Fire & EMS  
Jeff Koza, Director of Engineering Services  
Pat Schramm, Director of Technology  
Susan Depner, Administrative Services Coordinator, LES

**Public Present:**

Brian Barnhart  
Emily Zimmerman

**Electronic Attendance:**

This meeting was conducted via Zoom online platform in accordance with Illinois Governor Disaster Proclamation dated April 2, 2021 (Restore Illinois Plan), and Executive Order 2021-06 extending the Governor's prior Executive Orders relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and his implementation of the "Restore Illinois" Plan (COVID-19 E.O. No. 76), as amended.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

**2. Roll Call**

Present remotely were Scott Lewis, Chair, and Alan Fink, Trustee. Present in Village Hall and/or the Fire Department were Chief Brian Budds, LES, Deputy Chief Dan Albrecht, LES, Deputy Chief Brian Scott, Fire & EMS, Ingrid Velkme, Village Manager,

Jeff Koza, Director of Engineering Services, Pat Schramm, Director of Technology, and Susan Depner, Administrative Services Coordinator.

### **3. Approval of Minutes – May 6, 2021**

**MOTION:** Trustee Fink made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 meeting. Chair Lewis seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

### **4. Review and Consideration of Proposed Traffic Control Improvements at Intersection of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street & Franklin Avenue**

Chief Budds referenced the memo included in the meeting packet that outlines the actions leading up to this proposal. Resident Emily Zimmerman created a petition to make the 2-way stop sign at the intersection of 43<sup>rd</sup> and Franklin a 4-way stop sign. This petition was discussed at the May 18, 2021 Transportation and Safety Commission meeting, where the commission voted 5-1 in favor of advancing the motion to this committee. Many residents signed the petition and no one spoke against the proposal at the T&S meeting.

Chief Budds pointed out that this same request was reviewed in 2018 and a traffic study was done by an engineering firm, which recommended not to change the 2-way stop to a 4-way stop. This recommendation was based in part on the MUTCD standards. Chief Budds also referenced a 2016 memo prepared by Village Attorney Michael Jurusik included in the meeting packet in which Attorney Jurusik stated that the Village could be exposed to legal consequences for installing a traffic control device that doesn't meet MUTCD standards. Chief Budds explained that this doesn't mean the Village can't install a traffic control device, it is just an issue to consider.

Chief Budds stated that if the proposal was recommended to move forward by the committee, full Board approval would be required and the Village Code would need to be amended.

Trustee Fink asked Chief Budds to elaborate on Attorney Jurusik's opinion. Chief Budds answered that if there was an accident, a claimant could claim the accident wouldn't have happened if the traffic control device wasn't installed. However, a counter rationale was discussed at the T&S meeting – since the study in 2018, there was one accident in 2020 and possibly not installing a traffic control device could lead to liability as well.

Chair Lewis pointed out that measures were taken in 2018 to improve traffic at 43<sup>rd</sup> and Franklin following the traffic study and that these measures don't seem to have resolved the issue. He also pointed out that there is wide-spread community support for the proposal and that traffic has increased there since 2018 and that he supports making the intersection a 4-way stop.

Resident Emily Zimmerman then spoke. She recapped her comments at the T&S meeting, pointing out the community support for the proposal, including the support of School District 101, Music Makers, a new business in the area since 2018, and the First United Methodist Church. She said that the measures taken in 2018, as well as the crossing guard provided for the end of this school year by District 101, are not sufficient and that visibility is still an issue and so the 4-way stop is needed.

Brian Barnhart, Superintendent of District 101, then spoke. He reiterated the school district's support for the 4-way stop.

MOTION: Chair Lewis made a motion to recommend approval of the proposal to change the 2-way stop at the intersection of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street and Franklin Avenue to a 4-way stop to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Fink seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

### **5. Public Comment**

None.

### **6. Other Business**

None.

### **7. Adjournment**

MOTION: Chair Lewis made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Fink seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved by a unanimous vote at 8:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Depner  
Administrative Services Coordinator