

**VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG  
JANUARY 30, 2025 REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

President Hettermann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Attendees

Trustee Mike Fouke  
Trustee Beth Foreman  
Trustee Jamie Morris (Absent)  
Trustee Josh Hagen  
Trustee Greg Klemstein  
Trustee Scott Letzter  
Village Administrator Claudett Sofiakis  
Assistant Administrator Vinny Lamontagna  
Special Projects Coordinator Rick Quinn  
Chief Jason Greenwald

**MINUTES** - Trustee Foreman moved to approve the minutes. Trustee Fouke seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted aye on the roll. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – Chairman Hettermann reported that the Year in Review letter is going out. He added that Village Administrator Claudett Sofiakis was able to secure an additional \$780,000 in funds for the Riverside Drive Project. Ms. Sofiakis explained that the additional funds will enable the Village to redirect the local funds originally set aside for the project to this year's road program. Chairman Hettermann stated that he is planning a Strategic Plan meeting this year.

**COMPREHENSIVE PARK PLAN** – Trustee Fouke reported that a meeting was tentatively set for February 18th to meet with a property owner regarding the Solon Road property. He discussed property on Cedar Creek and the possibility of subdividing it so that the Village can retain the property needed for the water tower and sell off the remainder of the property. Discussion occurred about splitting the land into half acre lots but some concerns were expressed regarding the soils. Assistant Administrator Lamontagna was directed to check with the Village engineer regarding the viability of splitting the property up. Trustee Fouke discussed interest he received regarding property owned by the Village on Sandelwood. The interested party is contemplating the expenditure of money to see if a lot may be viable. It was suggested that input be obtained from the Village engineer to determine if it would be worth the effort.

**NON-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PATH NETWORK** – Trustee Klemstein discussed a new bill being proposed that will allow non-highway vehicles to utilize snowmobile routes which could help overcome some of the challenges being experienced in establishing a network. Discussion also occurred regarding the timing of lights at Johnsburg Road and the speed of travel on Route 31. Administrator Sofiaki explained that a study is being requested of IDOT regarding the signalization and speed limit along Route 31 to determine if improvements could be made. Discussion has also occurred with McDot regarding the timing of the lights at Spring Grove Road and at Bay Road.

**MARKETING** - Trustee Hagen stated that the website redesign efforts are underway. Ms. Sofiakis reported on migration efforts. Mr. Lamontagna discussed Google analytics and the citizen inquiry components of the new site.

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT** - Village Administrator Sofiakis discussed the status of efforts looking into the establishment of another TIF district in the downtown area. She explained that initial projections have been completed and efforts are being made to reach out to other agencies to discuss the efforts and determine if there is support for the idea. Ms. Sofiakis further discussed the EV readiness program and explained that she and Assistant Village Administrator Lamontagna are working on associated zoning amendments, building code amendments, and performing a fleet assessment.

**ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT** – Assistant Administrator Lamontagna discussed proposed amendments to Chapter 15 related to no parking on Sunnyside Beach Drive, and EV and Handicap parking stalls. He also reported on the status of an ordinance regulating food trucks. He explained that the Ordinance Committee is looking into both daily and annual license options. Discussion occurred related to how the regulations will be communicated to vendors. Mr. Lamontagna stated that he is researching what other towns are charging.

**POLICE CHIEF REPORT** - Chief Greenwald stated that he has had discussions with representatives at the School regarding the reestablishment of a SRO program. He added that he is pursuing a grant to secure speed radar units and other equipment and bringing back community programs that went away during COVID. Chief Greenwald reported that he is in the process of filling two openings in the department and Detective Harvey is assisting with the testing and other requirements associated with creating a new eligibility list. He stated that the solicitation has resulted in more than 30 interested applicants which is a great improvement over past efforts.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR REPORT** – Special Projects Coordinator Rick Quinn reported on a meeting held with residents on River Terrace regarding the condition of their road in follow up to concerns raised at a recent meeting. He explained that one of the residents reported that her neighbor was digging up the road in front of her home and she wanted the Village to intercede. Mr. Quinn stated that he looked into her concerns and found that the neighbor dug along the edge of the road to create a ditch to direct water away from the homes. He added that Village employees also responded to her concerns and did everything they could do, but because the road is private, they were limited to performing general maintenance to insure that the road remains open for emergency access. Mr. Quinn stated that the resident wants the Village to pave a section of the road at its expense to which he explained that the Village cannot utilize public funds on private property. Mr. Quinn discussed options to upgrade the road through the use of an SSA but the resident stated that there are many rental homes on the road and the owners are not interested in spending money to repair the road.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Trustee Fouke moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Foreman seconded the motion. All Trustees voted aye. Motion to adjourn was carried at 9:14 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted*

*Claudett Sofiakis*  
*Village Administrator*