



Village of Lake in the Hills

600 Harvest Gate, Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MARCH 21, 2023

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. Present were Trustees Huckins, Dustin, Harlfinger, Bojarski, Anderson, Murphy, and President Bogdanowski.

Also present were Village Administrator Shannon Andrews, Chief of Police Mary Frake, Finance Director Pete Stefan, Superintendent of Streets Guy Fehrman, Parks & Recreation Director Trevor Bosack, Director of Community Development John Svalenka, Village Attorney Brad Stewart, and Village Clerk Shannon DuBeau.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Bogdanowski.

Audience Participation

Village resident Scott Surman addressed the Board regarding lake rights, operations, access, and safety. He requested that either Woods Creek Lake be restricted to residents only or beaches, attached properties, and boat launches begin to utilize gated entries.

Scott feels the issues surrounding lake use would be addressed more effectively if a Parks and Recreation Board member was assigned as a lead. He would also like the park classification removed from the Village's beaches in an effort to limit public access.

Parks and Recreation Board member Cecilia Carman countered requests for restricted lake rights. She feels the motives are discriminatory and enforcement will lead to racial profiling.

Village resident Mickey Capellani shared support for restrictions, stating that he takes all of his family to the lake and wants to see it maintained.

President Bogdanowski explained to the audience the process of discussions between the Village Board and staff to ultimately decide if a change is warranted. He does not feel that the ordinance carries racist undertones. Instead, these discussions are in response to the lack of control the Village had over the beaches in recent years.

POA member John Murphy along with POA President Rich Anderson addressed the Board to request approval for the installation of two 20"x30" signs. The POA will be responsible for producing the signs but seeks approval for their use. The signs will likely be installed on existing poles.



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Administration

Request to Approve Waiver of Section 43.09, "Noise", of the Municipal Code and Waiver of Sign Regulations & Enforcement

Presented by Village Administrator Shannon Andrews

Attached to the agenda, please find a letter from Stewart McVicar, with Club 400, requesting enforcement activities be suspended to allow the placement of temporary signage on Henry Lane. He has also requested a waiver of the provisions of Section 43.09, Noise, of the Municipal Code to allow music to be played at an event being held by Club 400 at 3090 Henry Lane on Thursday, April 6, 2023. Finally, he requests that parking be allowed on the following streets for approximately 100 guests:

- Northside of Gladstone
- Eastside of Henry Lane
- Southside of Gateway
- Eastside of Albrecht

Accordingly, the police department will place signage restricting parking to only one side of the street during the events. This will alleviate street congestion and allow for better traffic flow for residents and emergency vehicle access if necessary.

Club 400 will also be applying for a one-day Event Permit Liquor License.

Mr. McVicar was present at the March 21, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Staff recommends a motion to waive the provisions of Section 43.09, "Noise" from 5:30pm until 9:30pm, suspend enforcement activities to allow the installation of temporary signage on Henry Lane, and allow parking for approximately 100 guests for the event being held by Club 400 on April 6, 2023 at 3090 Henry Lane.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.

Request to Allow Boy Scout Troop 369's Canoe Trailer to be Parked at the Nockels Park/LaBahn Hain House Parking Lot

Presented by Village Administrator Shannon Andrews

Boy Scout Troop 369 is requesting permission to park their Slick-Rydr canoe trailer, which holds 10 canoes and several kayaks, in the parking lot at Nockels Park/LaBahn Hain House from late April 2023 through September 2023. This is the tenth consecutive year that the Village has received this request.

Staff recommends a motion to allow Boy Scout Troop 369 to park their Slick-Rydr canoe trailer in the parking lot at Nockels Park/LaBahn Hain House from late April 2023 through September 2023.

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Trustee Dustin asked how many of the participating scouts are non-residents. Administrator Andrews will report back.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.

Request to Approve a Settlement with Hanson Professional Services

Presented by Village Administrator Shannon Andrews

Hanson Professional Services had served as the primary engineering firm for the Airport until 2013 when Crawford, Murphy & Tilly assumed the role. When engineering services were transferred, there were two projects that Hanson had provided engineering/design services on, which had not yet been approved for funding through IDOT, as follows:

1. Perimeter Fence - Phase 2 engineering for the placement of a perimeter fence around a portion of the airport property (valued at \$41,100)
2. Apron - Phase 1 design for the planned installation of an apron at the airport (valued at \$150,250)

In 2013, the Village entered into a global settlement agreement to account for all payments owed to Hanson, with the exception of the perimeter fence and apron projects, which had not been undertaken at that point. These projects were included as part of a separate professional services agreement with Hanson, where it was understood that payment would be owed upon the earlier of: (1) grant funding of the project; or (2) the Village's abandonment of the project.

While the Village and Hanson had initially intended for these projects to move forward, state and federal funding was shifted to projects that brought the airport into compliance with new safety standards. As such, the apron project was abandoned and the perimeter fence project was placed on the Village's long-range plans.

Unfortunately, after ten years, IDOT has not approved funding and the Village has not moved forward with either of these projects. As such, Hanson has never been compensated for the design work they performed ten years prior. While there may be a future need for a perimeter fence and apron, so many changes have been made to the airport layout, that the designs Hanson produced back in 2013 may not be able to be used.

Through a short series of settlement discussions, Hanson has agreed to accept \$50,000 as a settlement for services rendered on these projects, in addition to turning over all design work. If the design work is able to be used on a future capital project, the Village could seek to reclaim incurred expenses.

Financial Impact

The Airport Fund will require a budget amendment to cover the cost of the settlement in the amount of \$50,000.00 from reserves. There are currently sufficient funds in reserve to cover this expenditure. The budgeted fund balance has included a presumed future expenditure of \$40,530 for the perimeter fence project, leaving a budgetary impact



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of \$9,470 for the settlement. Staff is working on an extensive review and realignment of the Airport Fund, which will likely lead to updated fuel pricing in an effort to increase revenue.

Staff recommends a motion to approve a Settlement Agreement between the Village of Lake in the Hills and Hanson Professional Services in the amount of \$50,000.00 and to also approve an Ordinance Approving Budget Amendments to the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.

Finance

Informational Item Concerning the Police Explorer Post #1096 Fund

Presented by Finance Director Pete Stefan

Lake in the Hills Police Explorer Post #1096 was established in October 1999 and is currently registered with the State of Illinois as a Not-for-Profit Corporation. Due to some recent changes in leadership in the program, a review of current practices was undertaken to determine if this was an opportunity to simplify reporting requirements and increase transparency.

Since the program is essentially run by Police Department staff and the Village currently budgets for the Explorer conference as part of the Support Services Division Community Affairs budget, dissolving the Not-for-Profit Corporation and consolidating the program into the Village's financial statements would accomplish both goals.

The Village's new auditing firm, GW & Associates, PC indicates that as long as there is a specific restricted or committed revenue source as the foundation for the fund, it would meet the criteria to be established as a Special Revenue Fund. Since the main revenue source would be donations restricted for use by Police Explorer Post #1096, that criteria would be met.

Therefore, as part of the first FY23 budget amendment process, a Police Explorer Post #1096 Fund would be established, and the new fund would be incorporated into the FY24 budget process as a new ongoing fund of the Village. This is the same process used to establish both the Veterans Memorial Fund and the Police Seizure Fund last year.

Community Development

Request to Approve a Temporary Use Permit for a Carnival at 101 N. Randall Road

Presented by Director of Community Development John Svalenka

Section 12 of the Zoning Code regulates temporary uses and grants the Community Development Department authority to issue temporary use permits. However, per Section 12.3, carnivals are considered special temporary uses and shall require approval by the Village Board.



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The Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Chamber of Commerce has requested a temporary use permit to hold a carnival in the parking lot of the At Home store at 101 N. Randall Road from Thursday, April 20 through Sunday, April 23, 2023. The carnival would be operated by Windy City Amusements, which has operated at Summer Sunset Festival and Rib Fest for many years in the past and is familiar with the Village code requirements. Windy City will provide rides, games, and their two food trailers. There will not be any alcohol sales or live entertainment at this event. The Chamber of Commerce has secured written permission for the event from the At Home store and the U-Haul Moving & Storage business.

Community Development staff has reviewed the request and recommends approval.

Staff recommends a motion to approve a temporary use permit for a carnival at 101 N. Randall Road from April 20 through April 23, 2023.

Trustee Dustin questioned the purpose of the carnival. The Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Chamber of Commerce Chairman, Sean Cratty, stated that the funds will go to the Chamber for general use. Trustee Dustin further questioned if there is a specific need that the funds will go toward. Sean stated that the carnival will be a way to get people out and about. Trustee Dustin noted that in the past, a carnival in the same area was required to have a fence as a safety measure. He then asked if Chamber members will be on site. Sean confirmed that members will be present. Director Svalenka stated that there is not a requirement for a fence, but one can be added. Trustee Dustin asked if the Village would be liable in the case of an incident. Attorney Stewart stated that the Village would not be directly liable.

Trustee Anderson questioned parking details with concern for the businesses sharing the parking lot. Sean stated that the row of parking spots in front of the At Home store will be customer parking only. He is seeking permission from AMC to use their lot for carnival-goer parking.

Trustee Bojarski questioned the allocation of police resources. Chief Frake stated that she will discuss details with the coordinators including an emergency evacuation plan and crowd density projection. There will be a need for traffic movement, an emergency weather plan, and a site coordinator from the Chamber.

Trustee Murphy asked if the event would displace the U-Haul trucks. Sean stated that a row of U-Haul trailers will need to be temporarily relocated.

President Bogdanowski stated that the Board will aim to get an answer for the Chamber by Thursday's Village Board meeting.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.



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Request to Approve an Ordinance Granting Conditional Use, a Variance, and a Development Plan for an Outdoor Deck at Moretti's Restaurant at 220 N. Randall Road

Presented by Director of Community Development John Svalenka

Mark Hoffmann, owner of Moretti's restaurant, has submitted applications to the Village to allow for the construction of a new 3,225 square-foot deck on the front (east) side of Moretti's restaurant at 220 N. Randall Road. The deck is proposed to provide additional areas for outdoor dining by restaurant patrons.

The subject property is within the B-2 Neighborhood Convenience Business zoning district. In accordance with the Permitted and Conditional Use Chart in Section 11 of the Zoning Code, an "outdoor use accessory to a principal use" is allowed in the B-2 zoning district only with the approval of a conditional use. The applicant has requested approval of this conditional use.

Per Section 18.2-2.C of the Zoning Code, when a building undergoes any increase in the gross floor area or seating capacity then the parking facilities shall be increased accordingly to at least equal the minimum parking required. Per Section 18.9 of the Zoning Code, restaurants are required to provide one parking space for every 70 square feet. The proposed new deck would require an additional 46 parking spaces, for a total of 213 parking spaces. As shown on the submitted plan attached to the agenda, the subject property includes only 152 parking spaces. The owner has not proposed the construction of any additional parking spaces. Therefore, the applicant has also requested a variation to reduce the required number of parking spaces.

In accordance with Section 25.5 of the Zoning Code, a Development Plan must be prepared and submitted for any Planned Development. On August 26, 1999, the Board of Trustees approved a development plan for the Governor's Public House restaurant on the subject property. On September 28, 2000, the Board of Trustees approved a first amendment to the development plan for Governor's Public House. On October 22, 2013, the Board of Trustees approved a second amendment to the development plan, this time for the Moretti's restaurant. Therefore, in order to allow for changes in the site plan and landscaping to accommodate the proposed deck, the applicant has requested approval of a third amendment to the development plan for the subject property.

Village staff reviewed the conditional use, variation, and development plan according to the standards listed in the Zoning Code. In general, staff found that the development meets all seven standards for conditional use, meets all nine standards for a variation, and meets the standards for amendment of a development plan.

The Planning & Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on March 13, 2023. The Commission recommended approval of the requests by a vote of 7-0.

Staff recommends a motion to approve an ordinance granting conditional use, a variation, and a development plan for an outdoor deck at Moretti's restaurant at 220 N. Randall Road.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.



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Public Works

Request for Approval to Reject the Bid for the Purchase of Two Half Ton Pickup Trucks

Presented by Superintendent of Streets Guy Fehrman

Staff seeks Board approval to reject the sole bid from Bob Ridings for the purchase of two 2023 half ton pickup trucks.

The FY23 budget had included \$97,140 for the purchase of two replacement $\frac{3}{4}$ ton pickup trucks. This budgeted amount included an escalation factor to account for the rising vehicle costs. With the new year, Staff explored the state bids, but found the costs to be \$60,498.00 per truck or \$120,996.00 for two, which was considerably higher than what had been budgeted. In an attempt to find alternative solutions to obtain replacements, the sizes of the vehicles were reduced to $\frac{1}{2}$ ton pickup trucks when the RFP was issued.

Since there was no longer an advantage to moving forward with the state bid, Staff released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for two half ton pickup trucks on February 10, 2023. The RFP invitation was sent to twenty-nine vendors, posted on the Village's website, and published in the Northwest Herald. Public Works received and opened one sealed proposal on March 3, 2023. Bob Ridings of Taylorville, IL was the lowest proposal at \$89,986.00, which is \$7,154.00 under the budgeted amount.

While the bid was under the budgeted amount, the two trucks did not include snowplows, which is a significant piece of equipment required on the trucks to assist with snow and ice control operations. The estimated cost to outfit both trucks with snowplows would be an additional \$12,000.00, or \$6,000 per truck, which would put them over the budgeted amount for the larger $\frac{3}{4}$ ton trucks with a plow.

Staff believe it is in the Village's best interest to reject the Bob Ridings bid for the two pickup trucks and attempt to rebid in 2024. Staff will continue to monitor the vehicle market in the hope that inflationary pressures ease and pricing may come more in line with that experienced in prior years.

Financial Impact

The 2023 Village Budget includes \$48,000.00 for the replacement of truck 76 in the Capital Improvement Fund and \$49,140.00 for the replacement of truck 87 in the Water Capital Fund. These costs are expected to be reassessed and included for consideration in the FY24 budget.

The alternative would be to accept the bid of \$89,986 and invest an additional \$12,000 for the plows, bringing the cost to a total of \$101,986, which is \$4,846 over the budgeted amount for larger vehicles.

Staff recommends a motion to reject the sole bid from Bob Ridings for the purchase of two 2023 half ton pickup trucks.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.



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Request for Approval of a Funding Agreement, Engineering Services Agreement, and Two Resolutions for the Pingree Road Resurfacing Project

Presented by Superintendent of Streets Guy Fehrman

Staff seeks Board approval of two Resolutions and a Funding Agreement related to resurfacing Pingree Road from Virginia Road to James R. Rakow Road.

In 2023, the Village plans to resurface a .83-mile section of Pingree Road that it owns and maintains. In anticipation of this project, staff applied for Surface Transportation Program (STP) grant funding through the McHenry County Council of Mayors (MCCOM). On December 15, 2020, MCCOM notified staff it had approved the Village’s STP grant funding request. As shown in the table below, the STP grant award will fund eighty percent (80%) of the construction and construction engineering costs, with the Village paying the remaining twenty percent (20%).

Phase	Total Cost (Est.)	STP Cost	Village Cost
Phase 1 & 2 Engineering <i>(paid in FY22)</i>	\$24,500	n/a	\$24,500
Phase 3 - Construction	\$245,440	\$196,352	\$49,088
Phase 4 – Construction Engineering	\$20,371	\$16,297	\$4,074
Total	\$291,311	\$212,649	\$77,662

Prior to receiving STP grant funding, the Village must pass a Resolution stating the required 20% local match will be available throughout the life of the project. The Resolution, which is attached to the agenda, will satisfy the Village’s MCCOM Resolution requirement.

In addition, in order to use MFT dollars, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) requires the Village Board to appropriate funds by approving an IDOT Resolution. The IDOT Resolution in the amount of \$77,662 is attached to the agenda.

Finally, IDOT requires the Board approve a Funding Agreement to ensure the Village agrees to fund the Village’s 20% STP grant match for phases 3 and 4, along with the Engineering Services Agreement. The IDOT Funding Agreement and Engineering Services Agreement are attached to the agenda.

Financial Impact

The Village had previously budgeted and paid \$24,500 for Phase 1 & 2 engineering in FY22. The Village’s FY23 Motor Fuel Tax Fund Budget contains \$265,810.00 for this project, with offsetting revenue of approximately \$212,640.00. The difference is \$53,162, which reflects the Village’s 20% share of the construction portion of this project. This brings the Village’s financial contribution towards this project across the two-fiscal year to a total of \$77,662.

Staff recommends a motion to approve a Resolution stating the required 20% local match for the Pingree Road Resurfacing Project will be available through the life of the project and to also approve an IDOT Resolution, Funding Agreement, and Engineering Service Agreement for the Pingree Road Resurfacing Project.



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Trustee Dustin asked if the safety issues near the intersection of Pingree Rd and Virginia Rd will be addressed. Superintendent Fehrman stated that this project will only involve resurfacing.

Motion was made to place this item on the Village Board Agenda.

Parks & Recreation

Informational Item Concerning Chapter 8: Parks, Lakes, and Beaches Policy

Presented by Parks & Recreation Director Trevor Bosack

Staff seeks to amend sections of Chapter 8, Parks, Lakes, and Beaches, as well as the Comprehensive Fine and Fee Schedule. These updates intend to clarify information related to access and operations, while updating the relevant sections of the Fine and Fee Schedule.

Historically, full beach operations at Indian Trail Beach (ITB), including hiring gate attendants and lifeguards, were under the Parks and Recreation Department until 2016 at which time, ITB was converted to a 'swim at your own risk' beach. This decision was consistent with the approach to operations at Butch Hagele Beach (BHB). The Village eliminated the corresponding staff costs to manage the beach. Both ITB and BHB were unsupervised and were unlocked at sunrise and locked at sunset, consistent with the defined operating hours within the Village Code.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic challenged this model and the need to enforce capacity limits required the Village to supervise beach operations, resulting in employees being paid as much as \$40 to \$70 per hour, due to overtime being earned. These staff worked on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through Labor Day of 2020.

In 2021, capacity limit restrictions had been lifted, and the beach operations returned to being unsupervised. In the summer of 2021, a resident presented concerns to the Village Board regarding beach access, boat and lake use access, and fishing. The response to these concerns was to review signage, increase lake enforcement, and adjust staff schedules to allow for seasonal staff to monitor residency at the beach entrance during peak periods over the weekends.

In April 2022, additional concerns and Village Board feedback resulted in the drafting and adoption of Ordinance 2022-06. This ordinance replaced Chapter 8 of the Municipal Code with a comprehensive Parks, Lakes, and Beaches chapter, and removed Chapter 10. Furthermore, the Village Board provided direction to staff to add language related to fishing permits, camping, electric motors, vehicles, and a Special Event Permit. New signage was prepared and posted to reflect these changes, specifically related to 'Lake Regulations', 'Beach Regulations', and 'Park Regulations'. Additionally, the 2022 beach season was more fully staffed and supervised with seasonal staff hired through Public Works serving as beach attendants. The scheduled supervised hours were from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. There were times—if staff were not available or if they called in—where regular full-time Public Works employees would fill in. Since overtime was not authorized during these instances, the employees would leave at their regular scheduled end time of 3:30 pm leaving the beach unsupervised into the evening hours.



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Since the adoption of the code changes, the Village received an Aquatic Visit Report from IRMA (Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency) and staff have received feedback from the community via e-mail, in person, and through meetings with residents. Staff also met with both Public Works and the Police Department to discuss policy considerations to present and ultimately incorporate into the Municipal Code.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Staff presented the Parks and Recreation Board (P&R Board) policy review questions and considerations on Thursday, March 2. The P&R Board was missing three members for the meeting. There were four Lake in the Hills residents who provided public comment at the meeting. Village President Ray Bogdanowski and Trustee Diane Murphy were also in attendance.

Staff approached the meeting with the intention to bring the Village Board a recommendation from Parks and Recreation Board specifically related to four questions as outlined below:

1. Should ITB be limited to residents year-round or only during the peak summer season?
2. Should ITB access to the beach during the summer be limited to supervised times only?
3. Should ITB support boating and fishing opportunities outside of the swimming area?
4. Related to Fishing Permits, should the Village waive fees for disabled and blind persons?

Additionally, staff reviewed the most recent Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Public Lake Survey Report on Woods Creek Lake related to fish counts, suggested two recommendations to Chapter 8 of the Municipal Code related to ice fishing, and outlined proposed signage, next steps, and a communication plan.

While the P&R Board did not provide a recommendation regarding the first two questions above, they did recommend that the Village allow fishing and boating from Indian Trail Beach in designated locations outside the swimming areas. They also recommended the waiver of fees for fishing permits related to disabled veterans and blind persons; as well as two proposed language changes related to the Municipal Code regarding ice fishing.

The feedback received during public comment included the following:

- A recommendation to make the lake use, including beach access, for residents only year-round.
- A recommendation to pursue a locked gate / key fob point of access for Indian Trail Beach and Butch Hagele Beach and issue fobs/key cards to residents to access at their leisure. This would eliminate the need for a gate guard.
- A suggestion to only allow for boat launch from ITB and not allow fishing due to the proximity to the swimming area.
- A recommendation to host a carp fishing derby to eliminate the large carp population.
- A question regarding the size of trolling motors and what is allowed on the lake.

Staff has tentatively reviewed the feasibility of installing a key fob system, but before moving forward, the Village must first address the policy decisions related to restricting access to the beaches. Once staff collects feedback from the Village Board, an Ordinance will be prepared that incorporates the direction provided.



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POLICY REVEIW

Beach or Park?

Chapter 8 of the Municipal Code identifies ITB and BHB both as a 'Beach' and as a 'Park'. Historically the approach has been to treat ITB as a park, open from sunrise to sunset year-round. With the recent addition of limiting beach access to Village residents and their invited guests, this has caused confusion as to who is allowed to access Indian Trail Beach and when. Over the past few months staff has received questions from the community regarding the ice-skating sign not reflecting the Village residents and their invited guests stipulation; however, Woods Creek Lake has become the Village's designated ice-skating rink. Additionally, ITB is an access point for ice fishing and home to the adjacent Connor Kincaid Memorial Garden.

One recommendation would be to add language that reflects that ITB and BHB are 'beaches' from the time period of Memorial Day to Labor Day and the resident stipulation would be in effect during that timeframe. Post Labor Day, ITB would return to its 'park' status and be open for the general public from sunrise to sunset. It should be noted that, in the off season, Butch Hagele Beach is locked.

Beach Operations

Access to Indian Trail Beach continues to be a point of concern and the historic approach has been to have the Police Department open ITB and BHB at sunrise and lock up at sunset. Staff has heard that the beach had unsupervised access early in the morning and later in the evening, as the 2022 supervised hours were 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. This year reflects a \$12,600 budget for staff salaries to cover the peak season. The budgeted amount can cover a nine-hour day, seven days a week, for the fourteen-week season at \$14 per hour and has developed the proposed supervised beach hours:

M-Th 10:30 AM to 7:00 PM
Fri 10:30 AM to 8:30 PM
SA 9:30 AM to 8:30 PM
SU 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM

These hours are modified to allow for the beach to be supervised later in the evening by having the beach attendant arrive later in the morning, as supported by the 2022 attendance sheets showing an average of 4 guests during the 9:00 am and 10:00 am hours. Last year, staff, upon arrival, would approach guests within ITB and ask for proof of residency. With a modified start, later in the morning during the week, staff anticipates that if the gates were open at sunrise, this would continue to be the case going forward.

One approach to limiting access would be to only open ITB during supervised times. This approach would have staff unlock and lock the gate during the summer, opening and closing the beach at the designated times. If the beaches were closed as a result of the water sampling from McHenry County, the gate would be locked until the water tested satisfactorily. This approach to beach operations would manage the beach more similarly to other aquatic facilities with defined open/close times and no access when unsupervised. One challenge to this approach would be if staff took time off and there were no beach attendants available to work. In that instance the beach would be closed



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until staff arrived or until the next scheduled shift. Staff seeks input for how to best approach beach operations when not staffed, for the peak season of Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Boating and Fishing from ITB

Last summer a Village resident boated to Indian Trail Beach to swim at the beach and brought their boat ashore. The resident was advised by a police officer that they were not allowed to have a boat at the beach and would need to leave. The current signage indicates that operating and launching a boat is prohibited at the beach, instead of stating that it is prohibited within the designated swimming area. The swimming area is further defined as the area designated by buoys. Additionally, the Village Code indicates that fishing is prohibited from the beach area at all times with the exception of Village sponsored events. The reference to 'swimming area' and 'beach area' is confusing and staff is seeking Village Board clarification as to when and how fishing and boating may be allowed at Indian Trail Beach. Once identified, staff will prepare updates to Chapter 8 to clarify this language and update signage to inform attendees.

Staff is proposing to update the definition of 'beach area' to include the sand and corresponding shoreline and area designated by buoys. Boating and fishing would not be allowed from the 'beach area', even during the off-season. The grass shoreline to the northwest and southeast of the sand could accommodate boating and fishing.

Fees re: Boat Slips, Boat Registration, and Fishing Permits

Staff received an inquiry from a disabled veteran as to why he would be required to purchase a Lake in the Hills Fishing Permit when the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) does not require disabled persons to acquire a state sport fishing license. Staff has reviewed the IDNR fees and confirmed that there is no need for disabled or blind persons to acquire a license. Staff do not have a current roster of license holders who meet these criteria to determine the financial impact; however, staff supports waiving the fees to issue a permit. It would also be recommended that anyone who would like to fish in Lake in the Hills acquire a permit, either by paying or being issued for free (for disabled, blind, or under 16) to maintain consistent language and enforcement that fishing requires a valid permit.

Fishing

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Fisheries prepared a Public Lake Survey Report regarding Woods Creek Lake in February 2022 (attachment 1 of the agenda). The report reflects the information resulting from a fish community survey from May 14, 2021, and as a follow up to surveys in 2008 and 2017. The summary report reflects that the desirable goal catch rates were exceeded for largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie, channel catfish, and smallmouth bass. The report reflects a healthy and diverse number of fish in Woods Creek Lake. The report also provided additional recommendations for consideration and a timeline to schedule a follow up survey for Spring 2025.

Staff is also recommending two additions to the Municipal Code to address resident concerns regarding fishing. These include adding "ice" to section 8.06 that currently reads "Every person fishing from the shore or boat....shall have a current Annual Fishing Permit or Daily Fishing Permit." Adding "ice" as a location clarifies the intent. The



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other recommendation would be to add a section to 8.06.3.E to reiterate that refuse and rubbish generated as a result of ice fishing should be properly disposed of or removed from the premises.

Staff is seeking direction from the Board on the following questions:

1. Should ITB be limited to residents year-round or only during the peak summer season?
2. Should ITB access to the beach during the summer be limited to supervised times only?
3. Should ITB support boating and fishing opportunities outside of the swimming area?
4. Related to Fishing Permits, should the Village waive fees for disabled and blind persons?

Trustee Huckins asked how restricted access would be enforced. Director Bosack listed the addition of a year-round attendant and keyed access as options. He added that the reception of federal grants, which the Village received for Turtle Island, requires beaches to be public. Staff will explore the exclusions and ramifications of making the beaches private.

Trustee Anderson asked for the breakdown of cost versus revenue for each option. Director Bosack will report back.

Trustee Dustin asked how guests will be monitored. Director Bosack explained that there is no established method other than having guests show a current ID to a beach attendant during the peak summer season.

President Bogdanowski stated that prior to 2016, beach tags were required, bringing in \$10,00-15,000 in revenue.

Administrator Andrews noted that access points include more than just Indian Trail Beach. It would be challenging to control access in many areas.

Director Bosack listed the 2022 lake tag revenue as \$11,111. Trustee Huckins questioned other fees. Director Bosack listed costs associated with beach attendant salary, stocking, and tag production.

Director Bosack stated that lake use tags were given based on household count. Trustee Anderson asked how many tags were sold annually. Director Bosack will report back.

Trustee Murphy asked how many non-residents were turned away. Director Bosack tallied those turned away each day, averaging single digits on most days.

Director Bosack stated that the 2016 revenue was \$18,058, expenses were \$19,582. In total, 138 lake use tags were issued.

Trustee Harlfinger suggested an ad hoc committee to focus on lake access issues.

In summary, the Board agreed that the best approach is to hire beach attendants, lock gates at sunset, and establish gate entry control.



Village of Lake in the Hills

600 Harvest Gate, Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MARCH 21, 2023

Administrator Andrews noted that current signs list park use rules, lake use rules, and beach use rules. Once updates to the ordinance are established, the signs will be updated.

Regarding boating and fishing opportunities outside of the swimming area at Indian Trail Beach, Trustee Huckins asked if the wording can be changed to non-motorized. Director Bosack stated that this is possible as well as designating an area specifically for non-motorized watercraft.

Trustee Anderson requested the swimming area buoys be made more visible.

Village resident Mark Vogt stated that many boats pull up north of the beach leading to an eroded shoreline. In addition, the adjacent park is used as a beach access point.

Trustees agreed with the need for an ad hoc committee to focus on lake access issues.

Regarding waived fees for disabled and blind persons and those under 16, Director Bosack stated that the standard permit fee is \$40. The IDNR lists qualifications that the Village can adhere to in order to establish those eligible for waived fees. The Board supports waiving fees for disabled and blind persons and those under 16.

Board of Trustees

None.

President

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shannon DuBeau".

Shannon DuBeau
Village Clerk