

# Meeting Minutes

Village of Downers Grove - Council Meeting

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Council Chambers

April 13, 2021

7:00 PM

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## 1. Call to Order

Mayor Barnett called to order the Village Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. and led those in the room in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He explained the protocol for the meeting and the guidelines to submit public comment.

## 2. Roll Call

**Council Attendance (Present):** Mayor Barnett; Commissioner Earl, , Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Commissioner Kulovany

**Absent:** Commissioner José, Commissioner Gray

**Non-Voting:** Village Manager Dave Fieldman, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca, Village Clerk Rosa Berardi

## 3. Proclamation

**PROC 2021-8917 - A.** Proclamation: National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Mayor Barnett read and proclaimed this week as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week and extended his appreciation to all public safety telecommunicators.

## 4. Minutes of Council Meetings

**MIN 2021-8898 - A.** Minutes: Village Council Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2021

**Motion:** Commissioner Earl made a motion that Council adopt the minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting, as presented. Commissioner Walus seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioner Earl, Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Kulovany, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett

**Nay:** None

Mayor Barnett declared the motion carried.

## 5. Consent Agenda

**COR 2021-8921** - A. Claims Ordinance: No. 6403 – Payroll, March 12, 2021

**BIL 2021-8922** - B. Bills Payable: Bills Payable: No. 6586 – April 13, 2021

**MOT 2021-8899** - C. Motion: Authorize a Two-Year Contract with Ray O'Herron of Downers Grove, Illinois for an Amount Not to Exceed \$218,032.50 for Police Equipment and Uniforms

**Summary:** This action authorizes a two-year Contract with Ray O'Herron of Downers Grove, Illinois for an amount not to exceed \$218,032.50 for Police equipment and uniforms,

**MOT 2021-8906** - D. Motion: Approve the Purchase of Twenty-Four (24) Ballistic Vehicle Door Panels for Police Department Vehicles for a Total Cost of \$30,356.27

**Summary:** This action approves the purchase of Twenty-Four (24) Ballistic vehicle door panels for Police Department vehicles for a total cost of \$30,356.27.

**RES 2021-8905** - E. Resolution: Authorize a Contract Extension with Detroit Salt Company, LLC of Detroit, Michigan at a Cost of \$82.63 per Ton for a Total Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$388,361.00 for the Purchase of Bulk Rock Salt

**Summary:** This authorize a contract extension with Detroit Salt Company, LLC of Detroit, Michigan for a cost of \$82.63 per ton for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$388,361.00 for the purchase of bulk rock salt.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH DETROIT SALT  
COMPANY, LLC OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
BULK ROCK SALT  
RES 2021- 27**

**MOT 2021-8903** - F. Motion: Award a Contract to ALamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. of Schaumburg, Illinois in the Amount of \$179,432.77 for the Highland Court Road Reconstruction.

**Summary:** This awards a contract to ALamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. of Schaumburg, Illinois in the amount of \$179,432.77 for the Highland Court road reconstruction.

**MOT 2021-8910** - G. Motion: Award a Two-Year Contract to Route 66 Asphalt Company of Romeoville, Illinois, in the Amount of \$107,831.25 for the Supply of Hot Mix Asphalt Materials

**Summary:** This action awards a two-year contract to Route 66 Asphalt Company of Romeoville, Illinois, in the amount of \$107,831.25 for the supply of hot mix asphalt materials.

**MOT 2021-8908** - H. Motion: Award a Three-Year Contract to TNT Landscape Construction, Inc. of Elgin, Illinois in the Amount of \$347,554.12 for Sod Installation and Restoration Services

**Summary:** This action awards a three-year contract to TNT Landscape Construction, Inc. of Elgin, Illinois in the Amount of \$347,554.12 for sod installation and restoration services.

**MOT 2021-8909** - I. Motion: Authorize a Contract to Schroeder Asphalt Services Inc. of Huntley, Illinois in the Amount of \$137,500.00 for 2021 Street Restorations Services

**Summary:** This action authorizes a contract to Schroeder Asphalt Services Inc. of Huntley, Illinois in the amount of \$137,500.00 for 2021 street restorations services.

**MOT 2021-8904** – J. Motion: Award a Contract to V3 Companies, Ltd, (V3) in the Amount of \$20,284.00, Including a 10% contingency, for the Design of a Sidewalk on the South Side of Norfolk St. Between Saratoga Ave. and Main Street

**Summary:** This action awards a contract to V3 Companies, Ltd, (V3) in the amount of \$20,284.00, including a 10% contingency, for the design of a sidewalk on the south side of Norfolk St. between Saratoga Ave. and Main Street.

**MOT 2021-8914** – K. Motion: Authorize a Three-Year Agreement with Air One Equipment, Inc. of Elgin, Illinois to Provide Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment in a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$115,704.90.

**Summary:** This authorizes a three-year agreement with Air One Equipment, Inc. of Elgin, Illinois to provide firefighter personal protective equipment in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$115,704.90.

**RES 2021-8915** – L. Resolution: Authorize a 36-month License Agreement Renewal with SADA Systems, Inc. of North Hollywood, CA, in the Amount of \$147,420.00 for Use of Google Workspace (formerly G Suite) Over Three Years

**Summary:** This resolution authorizes a 36-month license agreement renewal with SADA Systems, Inc. of North Hollywood, CA, in the amount of \$147,420.00 for use of Google Workspace (formerly G Suite) over three years.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A 36-MONTH LICENSE AGREEMENT RENEWAL WITH  
SADA SYSTEMS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$147,420.00 FOR USE OF GOOGLE WORKSPACE  
(FORMERLY G SUITE) OVER THREE YEARS**

**RES 2021-28**

**MIN 2021-8895** – M. Minutes: Note Receipt of Boards and Commissions Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** Commissioner Earl moved that the Council adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Walus seconded the motion.

**Votes: Yea:** Commissioner Earl, Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Kulovany, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett

**Nay:** None

Mayor Barnett declared the motion carried unanimously.

## **6. Active Agenda**

**ORD 2021-8885** – A. Ordinance: Authorize the Execution of a Sales Tax Rebate Agreement with Steinhafels, Inc.

**Motion:** Commissioner Earl moved to authorize the execution of a Sales Tax Rebate Agreement with Steinhafels, Inc. Commissioner Walus seconded the motion.

Mayor Barnett invited discussion.

Resident, Mr. Rose, explained that he found information on the Village's web site regarding Sales Tax Revenue rebates to be overly simplified and not very helpful to citizens. The information failed to discuss larger issues as they affect the region, state, and the nation, and how they pit one municipality against another, eventually leaving poor communities losing the most. He suggested the Village provide more information on the web site that explains how negotiations originate and how terms evolve; citing his observation of the former Art Van site and its negotiations. Mr. Rose further explained his understanding of the matter and suggested that should the village choose to explain such deals on its web site, it should include the financial flow options he cited in his discussion. He also suggested providing the same information for TIFs, pension obligations, operational costs, and capital assets.

Mayor Barnett asked Mr. Rose to send the Village an email if he wanted specific answers. However, the Mayor explained that negotiations on such deals include a number of individuals, including Village board members.

**Votes: Yea:** Commissioner Earl, Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Kulovany, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett

**Nay:** None

Mayor Barnett declared the motion carried unanimously.

## 7. First Reading

**ORD 2021-8894** – A. Ordinance: Amendment to Ordinance No. 5831 and the Village of Downers Grove Budget for Fiscal Year 2020

**Summary:** Finance Director Judy Buttny summarized that actual FY2020 expenses ended the year below budgeted levels for most funds, including the general fund. The three funds that are over budget will require budget amendments: 1) Debt Service Capital Fund will require a budget amendment of \$15,610,000; 2) the Water Fund will require a budget amendment of \$1,330,000; and 3) the Police Pension Fund will require a budget amendment of \$100,000 due to greater than expected retirements in the police department. Staff is also seeking an amendment for \$1,220,000 for the general fund because 2020 revenues in the general fund were \$1.3M Dollars lower than budget. Further details followed with Judy Buttny explaining the steps she will take to get the general fund balance within the range recommended by the S&P, which balance will provide flexibility to use future funds for new facilities. Mayor Barnett stated the above explanation offers a "net positive" for the community.

**ORD 2021-8902** – B. Ordinance: Approve a Sales Tax Rebate Agreement with Downers Grove Imports, Ltd. d/b/a Pugi of Chicagoland

Downers Grove Economic Corporation President and CEO, Michael Cassa, spoke of Pugi's 30 year history with the Village and relayed that the company was adding its fourth dealership to the Village – a Genesis dealership. Renovations would take place at Pugi's Hyundai and Mazda dealerships. Estimated gross sales tax revenue to be generated during the first year of the agreement would total \$1.0M Dollars and increase by 3% each year. During years 1 and 2 the Village will rebate 25% of that amount to Pugi and thereafter the Village will rebate at 50% of the amount of sales tax generated above the \$880,000 base to Pugi, provided that all four dealerships are in operation. A history of the Village's rebate program with Pugi followed. Key terms of the new agreement were listed by Mr. Cassa. Mr. Cassa thanked Dominic Pugi and Pugi representatives for bringing their new dealership to the Village and thanked Village staff for working out the details of the agreement terms.

Director of Operations, Gary Nettleman, thanked the Council members for their partnership and looked forward to another 30 years.

Commissioner Kulovany thanked Pugi for their investment in the Village, their partnership, and the benefits the business brought to the residents. Village Manager Fieldman voiced the same support.

## **8. Manager's Report**

## **9. Attorney's Report**

Pursuant to Section 2.5 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca, reported the following were presented for Village Council consideration:

1. An Ordinance Providing for an Amendment to Ordinance No. 5831 and the Village of Downers Grove Budget for Fiscal Year 2020
2. An Ordinance Approving a Sales Tax Rebate Agreement Between the Village of Downers Grove and Downers Grove Imports, Ltd.

## **10. Public Comments**

Mr. James Kelly explained he was before the Council previously discussing his homeless situation at the time, but said he is not in that situation currently. He shared his involvement with a VIP feeding where he distributed meals to anyone in the community and spoke about the positive effect it had on him personally. He spoke about many businesses in this community who treated him with respect. He will be holding another event honoring Jim Elliott who runs a not-for-profit. The event takes place at the Grand Dukes Restaurant on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kelly asked that Commissioners and the public contact him regarding critiquing of his newspaper. More information would be published in the Irish American Newspaper. The paper provides positive and encouraging words.

Resident, Mr. David Rose returned to the podium and recalled his 2020 discussion before the Village Council about the definition of environmental sustainability and the recent intervention by the Mayor at the last meeting where no response was provided by Commissioner José nor the Council members. Mr. Rose surmised that the definition of environmental sustainability was never discussed nor given such attention as the topic of cannabis. Further personal comments and observations regarding environmental sustainability followed. In closing, Mr. Rose asked the council: 1) will any Council member go on record and state whether he/she agrees or disagrees with his statement that the present way of life in Downers Grove is environmentally unsustainable; 2) will anyone go on record stating if not Council, what level of government is responsible for assuring the way of life in Downers Grove is environmentally sustainable; or, if you believe the government should not take responsibility for meeting the goal, can you explain how you believe environmental sustainability is to be reached.

## **11. Mayor and Council Member Reports**

Commissioner Earl discussed her plans to bring forward a discussion on Village Council member pay raises at the next meeting. Suggested increases include Commissioners pay to be increased to \$5000/year and the Mayor to \$10,000/year. The increases would not go into effect until after the next two election cycles in 2023 and 2025.

Mayor Barnett queried whether the lack of compensation impedes individuals from wanting to participate. He stated that this is not a full-time job for any of the Council members and the added pressures of finding childcare,

having to leave their day jobs early to complete Council member tasks/duties. He ended by stating this wasn't the Council members electing themselves a pay raise, adding the pay raises would not go into effect until after the next two elections.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt agreed with Mayor Barnett, stating that this was a difficult position for young people/families that want to get involved due to the costs of childcare and said that it would be difficult for anyone on a limited income. She is in full support.

Commissioner Kulovany mentioned that the last increase took place in 1997. He stated that his take home pay is approximately \$40 a week. He mentioned the position is important to him, as he wants to make a difference, but feels it may be difficult for seniors with a low income to come forth.

Commissioner Walus agreed with her fellow Commissioners, stating that in her situation, she must pay for child care at times and can be costly. She stated she didn't realize the position was paid when initially being elected and when finding out she would earn \$40 a week, she was pleasantly surprised. However, after being in the role and realizing the amount of time and work it takes, in addition to having a full-time job, she welcomes the increase.

Discussions ensued and Mayor Barnett, stated that aside from the pay, the Council does not receive benefits or a pension. It is not a way that any of the Council members make a living.

Attorney Petrarca confirmed that the increase could not go into effect until after the 2023 election.

Manger Fieldman stated staff would work with Commissioner Earl regarding the indices that would be tied to the adjustment in pay and would be presented as a First Reading item at next week's Council meeting.

Mayor Barnett reiterated to the public that those on the Council are present to serve their community.

Resident, Mr. Rose, inquired about vacancies on the council and the selection process.

Mayor Barnett explained that State laws exist but that staff could send information to him.

Continuing, Commissioner Walus asked members to continue their thoughts and prayers for the Katie and Chuck Kalousek, owners of Busy Bee Bakery in Downtown Downers Grove.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt also gave her well wishes to the Kalousek family. She welcomed Commissioner Kulovany back and said it was wonderful to have him back in person. She congratulated those who won in the recent election and recognized Commissioners elect Gilmartin and Glover that were in the audience. She also thanked everyone that campaigned and put themselves out there.

Commissioner Kulovany said he was pleased to be back. He strongly encouraged the community to wear their masks and administer common courtesy for others.

Mayor Barnett shared that 4,411 Downers Grove residents contacted COVID and 64 died. During his most recent DuPage County Health Department call centered on kids eating out after sporting events and families coming together after a school event. Such gatherings are increasing the COVID cases again. Given the rise in cases, he said the health department has relayed that the positivity rate may exceed 8% (currently at 7.1%) and if it climbs higher, the Governor can initiate actions. Further statistics followed including hospitalization doubling this past month; 4 to 5 times that of last summer. Less than 1/4 of DuPage County residents are vaccinated and stated that we are a long way from being done with COVID. Mayor Barnett emphasized to practice the three W's.

## 12. Adjournment

Mayor Barnett asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Commissioner Earl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Walus seconded the motion.

**Votes:** **Aye:** Commissioner Earl, Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Kulovany, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett

**Nay:** None

Mayor Barnett declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosa Berardi

Village Clerk