VILLAGE OF RIVER GROVE, ILLINOIS
2621 Thatcher Avenue, River Grove, Illinois
www.rivergroveil.gov

MINUTES
of the Village Board Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees
held on Thursday, July 02, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Publication and Notice. Notice of tonight’s meeting was published in the Tribune Media Group (formerly known as Pioneer Press), Elm Leaves edition, on December 19, 2019, and, notice and the Agenda were posted on the bulletin board of the Village Hall at 2621 Thatcher Avenue, and at the Senior Community Center where the courtroom and board room are housed, at 2601 Thatcher, River Grove, Illinois on June 16, 2020, and posted at the village website, as well as e-mailed to the Board members and department heads.

Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Illinois Governor Pritzker’s Executive Orders (including Order 2020-07 issued on March 16, 2020 and subsequent Orders), the posted Agenda and Notice of this meeting included the following statement:

"PHASE IV PROCEDURES DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor’s Executive Orders, all interested parties are encouraged to stay-at-home and call in if interested in listening to the meeting via telephone. Interested parties attending the meeting remotely will be allowed to make public comment during the public comment section of the meeting. Any individual may email any public comments to publiccomment@rivergroveil.gov. Emails received by 6 p.m. the night of any meeting will be read or summarized during the public comment session. The call-in telephone number to listen to the meeting is 1-877-304-9269, after which you will need to enter passcode 5997154. Individuals desiring to attend the public meeting note the following Phase IV Guidelines:

• You must wear a face covering to enter building.
• You must maintain a social distance of 6’ from those with whom you do not live.
• Attendance may not exceed 50 individuals or 50% of the room capacity.
• You may be required to have temperature taken by EMS personnel.
• If you are ill, do not attend meeting."

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The meeting was called to Order by President Guerin at 7:04 p.m. Guerin led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

2. **ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE:**

NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Orders (including 2020-07 on March 16, 2020), certain requirements of the Open Meetings Act were amended, including that members of a public body be physically present at meetings of the public body, and the limitations of the Open Meetings Act as to when members of a public body may participate in meetings of the
public body remotely. To minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, most Department Heads attended by teleconference.

Clerk Manchen took the roll as follows:

Present in Person:  President David B. Guerin and Clerk Marjorie A. Manchen; Trustees Lynn M. Bjorvik, Michele M. Obaya, Katie A. Muellner and Christopher J. Lilly.

Absent: Trustees Roger V. Sewell and Robert C. Thomas

A Quorum was declared by Clerk Manchen.

Also Attending (including Dept. Heads) in Person: Village Attorney Bart Smith; and HR/Communications Dir. Shawn Campbell.

Also Attending (including Dept. Heads) via Telephone Conference: Police Chief Michael Konwinski; Fire Chief Sean M. Flynn; Interim Comptroller Greg Peters; Water Supt. John Bjorvik; Village Engineer Alex L. Alejandro of Hancock Engineering; Building Dir. Jim Duffy; Building Commissioner Joe Hutcheson; and Recreation Dir. Laura Jardine.

3. SPECIAL RECOGNITION OR PROCEEDING: None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A Motion was made by Trustee Lilly, seconded by Trustee Bjorvik to approve the Minutes of the Regular Open Board Meeting of June 18, 2020, and that they be archived accordingly. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

5. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. PUBLIC SAFETY: Trustee Lilly read aloud the July 02, 2020 “Public Safety Committee Report,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

b. PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC PROPERTIES: Trustee Muellner read aloud the report dated July 02, 2020 from Public Works Director Brock Leder, a copy of which is attached hereto.
c. **FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**: Trustee Obaya read aloud her Finance/Economic Development Committee report dated July 02, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto.

d. **LICENSE AND ORDINANCE**: Trustee Bjorvik read aloud her “License & Ordinance Committee Report” dated July 02, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto.

e. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS**: Trustee Sewell was absent; no report was submitted.

f. **YOUTH & RECREATION**: Trustee Thomas was absent. Trustee Bjorvik read aloud the report of Laura Jardine, dated July 02, 2020 and titled “River Grove Youth and Recreation Board Report,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

g. **CLERK’S REPORT**: Clerk Manchen summarized her Clerk’s report dated July 02, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto.

7. **UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS**:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-01**: An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2002-04 Adopting a Raffle Licensing System. (Was referred to the License & Ordinance Committee by board vote on February 06, 2020). No discussion or action took place with regard to this Ordinance.

8. **RESOLUTIONS**:

a. **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-32**: President Guerin called Resolution 2020-R-32. Clerk Manchen read aloud the title or description of Resolution 2020-R-32 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-32**: A Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of a Base Level Maintenance Agreement between the Village of River Grove and Aclara Technologies LLC ($4,215.00)

- President Guerin asked for a Motion. A **Motion** was made by Trustee Obaya, seconded by Trustee Bjorvik to **adopt Resolution 2020-R-32** as presented.
- Trustee Obaya summarized the Resolution for all present and on the telephone.
- Guerin asked whether there were any questions or comments. No further discussion ensued.
- Guerin asked Clerk Manchen to take the Board’s vote; the roll call vote was taken by Manchen as follows:

**Roll Call Vote**:
- **Ayes**: Trustees Bjorvik, Obaya, Muellner, and Lilly.
- **Nays**: None.
- **Abstentions**: None.
Absents: Trustees Sewell and Thomas

Motion Carried by a count of 4 “aye” votes to 0 “nays” and 0 abstain; and 2 absent.

b. RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-33. President Guerin called Resolution 2020-R-33. Clerk Manchen read aloud the title of Resolution 2020-R-33 as follows:


- President Guerin asked for a Motion. A Motion was made by Trustee Muellner, seconded by Trustee Bjorvik to adopt Resolution 2020-R-33 as presented.
- President Guerin and Public Works Director Brock Leder summarized the Resolution.
- Guerin then asked whether there were any questions or comments. No discussion ensued.
- Guerin asked Clerk Manchen to take the Board’s vote; the roll call vote was taken by Manchen as follows:

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Trustees Bjorvik, Obaya, Muellner, and Lilly.
Nays: None.
Abstentions: None.
Absent: Trustees Sewell and Thomas

Motion Carried by a count of 4 “aye” votes to 0 “nays” and 0 abstain; and 2 absent.

9. ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-17. President Guerin called Ordinance 2020-17. Clerk Manchen read aloud the title or description of Ordinance 2020-17 as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-17. An Ordinance Authorizing the Approval and Execution of an Amended Redevelopment Agreement by and between the Village of River Grove, Cook County, Illinois and MB Thatcher LLC

- President Guerin asked for a Motion. A Motion was made by Trustee Bjorvik, seconded by Trustee Obaya to adopt Ordinance 2020-17 as presented.
- Guerin asked Attorney Bart Smith to summarize this Ordinance, which he did.
- Guerin then asked whether there were any questions or comments. No discussion ensued.
- Guerin asked Clerk Manchen to take the Board’s vote; the roll call vote was taken by Manchen as follows:

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Trustees Bjorvik, Obaya, Muellner, and Lilly.
Nays: None.
Abstentions: None.
Absent: Trustees Sewell and Thomas

Motion Carried by a count of 4 “aye” votes to 0 “nays” and 0 abstain; and 2 absent.

10. **NEW BUSINESS:**

**PAYING VILLAGE’S BILLS.** A Motion was made by Trustee Obaya, Seconded by Trustee Lilly, to authorize payment of all bills in accordance with the list of warrants, dated July 02, 2020 when funds are available, and vouchers are properly endorsed. No discussion ensued. Guerin asked Clerk Manchen to take the Board’s vote; the roll call vote was taken by Manchen as follows:

Roll Call Vote:
- **Ayes:** Trustees Bjorvik, Obaya, Muellner, and Lilly.
- **Nays:** None.
- **Abstentions:** None.
- **Absent:** Trustees Sewell and Thomas

Motion Carried by a count of 4 “aye” votes to 0 “nays” and 0 abstain; and 2 absent.

11. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** None.

12. **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

**SPECIAL TEMPORARY PROCEDURES DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS.** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Governor’s Executive Stay-At-Home Order (Order 2020-07 issued on March 16, 2020), the posted Agenda and Notice of this meeting included the following statement: “all interested parties are encouraged to stay-at-home and call in if interested in listening to the meeting via telephone. Interested parties attending the meeting remotely will be allowed to make public comment during the public comment section of the meeting, and any individual may email any public comments to publiccomment@rivergroveil.gov. Emails received by 6 p.m. the night of any meeting will be read or summarized during the public comment session. The call-in telephone number to listen to the meeting is 1-877-304-9269, after which you will need to enter passcode 5997154.”

At this time in the meeting, President Guerin read aloud the call-in telephone number and stated that he would wait 3 minutes to see whether anyone would call in with comments. **The telephone number to call in with questions: 708/716-5072.** No telephone calls were received. Village Attorney Bart Smith asked whether Communications Director Campbell received any e-mails from the public, to which she responded in the negative.

Resident James Stebbens was present in the audience and asked why River Grove would use funds for water rescue training. Stebbens stated that water rescue should be the purview of the State first, then the County. President Guerin replied that since we are the first to respond if there
is an emergency, our police and fire should be trained. Guerin took Stebbens’ phone number and stated that the Fire Chief will contact him to discuss that issue.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

14. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the Board, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. A Motion was made by Trustee Bjorvik, Seconded by Trustee Muellner to adjourn this meeting at 7:27 p.m. **Motion carried** unanimously on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marjorie A. Manchen, JD, RMC, CMC
Village Clerk, Village of River Grove, Illinois
River Grove Public Safety Committee Board Report

July 2, 2020

From the desk of Chief Sean Flynn: The RGFD did an After-Action Review (AAR) of the latest flood and our responses for calls for service. It was determined that it was time to purchase new Water Rescue Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This equipment has been ordered and once in we will be doing water rescue drills with surrounding towns with the new equipment while practicing river rescue techniques. Look to the next newsletter for pictures and more specifics of this new equipment.

COVID is still active so please practice social distancing hand washing and wearing masks to be part of the solution for defeating this disease.

RGFD had 200 total calls for the month of June, 125 EMS and 75 Fire.

From the desk of Chief Mike Konwinski: We are waiting for word from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (SLEA) on whether they will run a basic police recruit training class on July 22, 2020. The last word on that issue was that SLEA was waiting for final approval from the law enforcement training board, before moving forward. If the class does run, Gerald Smith, whose class was cancelled in March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, will fill that seat.

Due to the uncertainty of future basic recruit training opportunities, the chief of police has reserved 2 seats for training at the Chicago Police Academy, tentatively scheduled for September 21, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Lilly
Public Safety Trustee
From the Desk of Director Brock Leder

Along with the River Grove Public Works doing everything they can to ensure the safety of our residence and preventing the spread of the COVID-19 Virus, the Public Works has been hard at work keeping up with the Village’s landscaping and making sure the flowers keep blooming. Our tree trimming team has been out trimming parkway trees. I advise all residents to please contact the Public Works #708-452-7055 for any of your parkway tree trimming needs. Don’t take it upon yourself to trim or plant on your parkway. The Village has trained arborists that will do so.

After the recent storm, Public Works has been working tirelessly on the cleanup of down branches all over town as well as the removal of problem trees that cause a threat to pedestrians walking on the sidewalk. As you know the Village of River Grove is Celebrating 25 years of being a part of tree city USA. We have an abundance of trees in our town and to trim each tree, it would take five years. So please be patient as we make our way through the town.

Thank You, Brock Leder

From the Desk of Director John “Bucky” Bjorvik

The River Grove Water Department with the help of Vision Sewer are televising our Villages Sewer’s to obtain a visual on which sewers need to be repaired around town. They have now finished collecting the data from our town’s sewers. We can now review and determine on repairing the problem areas.
License & Ordinance Committee
Report
7/2/20

After a 3 month grace period due to Covid 19, the deadline for business license renewals will be August 3rd. The clerk’s office is still working closely with any businesses with outstanding documents. After August 3rd, late fees will apply.

Wishing everyone a Safe and Happy July 4th Holiday.

Submitted by:

Lynn Bjorvik
Chairperson
Good Evening! We are happy to report, the River Grove Rockets are up and running! There are four full teams, 2 8U teams, a 10U team and 16 girls on our 14U team. We have a new group of towns we will be playing against, in a shortened summer season, which include Elmhurst, Villa Park, Wood Dale, Melrose Park, Bensenville and Horner Park. Our season began last night with three of four teams playing games. Parents and players are very excited to finally have an activity which allows them to get out of the house, exercise, see their friends and have some fun!

Moving forward, our 8U and 10U teams will be playing their home games at the beautiful Sheltens Field! If you are out and about, stop by and grab a world-famous hot dog from the concession stand and cheer for our Rockets! (Yes, that’s right, world famous) :)

The Recreation department is planning a craft/bingo day at the gazebo next month, more information will be available soon. We are working to bring back a variety of “social distanced” events for all to enjoy!

Happy 4th of July weekend!
July 02, 2020

1) First, Have a safe and happy Fourth of July from the Clerk’s office.

2) I received an invitation from Elmwood Park Mayor Skip Saviano to be a member of the Community Advisory Group as a stakeholder in the Phase I Engineering Study for the Grand Avenue Grade Separation, where Grand Avenue crosses the Metra / Canadian Pacific Railroad. The Village of Elmwood Park in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways are seeking to resolve the safety and mobility issues at this crossing and the initiation of a Phase I Preliminary Engineering Study will help to determine the best possible plan for separating rail, vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The flow of traffic in that area necessarily impacts River Grove whose border starts just a few blocks to the west of the crossing. The project is now known as ‘Grand Gateway’ and will have benefits including increased safety and improved mobility for the entire region. The first meeting of the advisory group is July 23, therefore, please send me any concerns or suggestions so I may relay them to the group. See attached letter of invitation from Mayor Saviano.

3) On June 25, 2020, I attended (virtually) the 88th Annual Meeting of the “Criminal and Social Justice Standing Committee Meeting” of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot was appointed to chair the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Criminal and Social Justice Committee. The Committee created a Working Group to come up with a recommended statement of principles for federal legislation to bring about police and racial justice reform. Mayor Lightfoot invited local representatives to attend so I was pleased to do so. Twelve Resolutions were approved that address criminal and social justice reform. See attached agenda and the “statement of principles,” and the “Summary of Criminal and Social Justice Committee Resolutions Submitted” which is copied herein at the end of this report.

4) This is a reminder to all Board members and department heads that submission of agenda items that require Resolutions or Ordinances to be drafted for the July 16, 2020 Board meeting is tomorrow, July 03, 2020, certainly not later than July 10 for emergency or unexpected items. The sooner that legal and the clerk’s office receive such items, the sooner the agenda may be prepared and a draft one circulated. Department heads and Trustees, please also remember to send in your board reports.

5) The 2020 Census. Here are the “self-response” totals as of July 01, 2020: National response rate: 61.8%;
Illinois: 66.6%; and
River Grove: 64.7%.
Response rates for River Grove and other municipalities across the US can be tracked here: https://2020census.gov/en/response-rates.html

I ask that each board member, staff and employee of River Grove encourage every friend, neighbor and family member to respond on behalf of their household to the Census if they have not already done so. Please make the Census and its importance a part of your every day conversations.

Information regarding the Census:
By now, each household has received an invitation to respond to the Census, which is a short questionnaire and may be responded to by telephone, on-line or by mail. All River Grove schools, parks and the library will greatly benefit from a complete and accurate Census count. Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle has stated that in Cook County, approximately $1,400.00 in federal funds is attributable to each person. If anyone does not respond, River Grove will be under counted and our schools and other programs may not get the funding they deserve.

Information regarding the Census:
The Census data will be used to determine the distribution of federal funds that support education, local health care, housing and employment programs. The Census count is mandated by the Constitution, and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a non-partisan organization, once every 10 years.

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect answers and keep them strictly confidential. In fact, every employee takes an oath to protect personal information that they receive for life.

Information received is NOT shared with other agencies, including law enforcement, the FBI or ICE. They will never ask for your Social Security number or any financial information.

Good paying jobs remain available to help with the Census. Applicants should have access to a vehicle, a valid driver’s license and the ability to complete the training online. For more information, please go to www.2020census.gov/jobs.

The questions are brief and simple.
• Total number of people living in your household, including any additional people who may be staying with you
• Whether you own or rent
• Your phone number
• Name, sex, age and date of birth of all in household
• Are you of Hispanic, Latin or Spanish origin

For additional information: https://2020census.gov/en/what-is-2020-census.html
Summary of Criminal and Social Justice Committee Resolutions Submitted at the 88th Annual Meeting of the “Criminal and Social Justice Standing Committee Meeting” of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

#5 Closing the Racial Equity Gap affirms the Conference’s commitment to closing the racial equity gap around COVID-19 and prioritizing healthcare resources and services to the most vulnerable and calls on all levels of government to help close the racial equity gap and look through a racial equity lens to identify the most equitable path forward.

#15 Implementing Safe Protocols for Prisons and Jails calls for all prisons and jails to protect the people who are incarcerated by implementing clear protocols for the health and well-being of those within should COVID-19 be detected, and respond effectively to COVID-19 outbreaks; requires the justice system to employ safe methods of decarceration; and urges taking precautions with an eye beyond the current COVID crisis, in case of a second wave of COVID-19 or other illnesses.

#16 Urging the Trump Administration to Waive Cost Share Requirements for COVID-19 Federal Aid urges the Trump Administration to waive all cost-share requirements for FEMA assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#17 Denouncing Violent Extremism and the Rise in Hate Crimes Against Minority Communities Since COVID-19 urges U.S. cities and those around the world to come together to address this shared global challenge that is further compounded by COVID-19; pledges that the Conference a) work to unite communities against division, hate, and violence placing principles such as belonging, inclusion, equality, cohesion, peace, and safety at the core of their work; b) denounce xenophobia and discrimination in all its forms and commit to protecting Asian Americans and all other groups who are targeted by extremist, racist groups; and urges cities to work with civil society to establish local city strategies to prevent hate, bias, and extremism, to engage with technology and social media companies to implement policies and practices that counter the spread of violent extremist ideology online, while respecting universal human rights, including the freedom of expression.

#18 In Support of Federal COVID-19 Relief Inclusive of Immigrants, Regardless of Status urges Congress to prioritize public health and safety, and eliminate immigration restrictions from COVID-19 testing and treatment and economic emergency assistance and to eliminate immigration restrictions from all other COVID-19 relief programs, urges the Administration to eliminate or declare a moratorium on the application of the Public Charge rule during the national emergency period.

#19 In Support of the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act of 2019 (H.R. 2415) supports the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act and calls on Congress to pass this legislation; urges DHS to enact humane detention standards at its facilities nationwide to improve conditions and ensure immigrants are afforded the dignity they deserve; urges Congress and the Administration to restore due process for all those in detention by providing the federal resources necessary to facilitate swift judicial review of these cases; and urges DHS to apply a long-existing range of alternatives to detention, particularly for asylum seekers and for certain other populations with strong community ties and robust incentives to appear in immigration court.

#20 Stand for Our Immigrant and Refugee Communities calls on the Senate to pass H.R. 6 to ensure that Dreamers and DACA and TPS recipients continue to live in, contribute to, and ensure the prosperity of the
cities they call home; calls on Congress to pass S. 879 to provide a pathway to citizenship for TPS holders; calls on Congress to repeal the three- and ten-year bars, eliminating barriers for immigrants eligible for adjustment of status; calls on U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to address citizenship barriers; supports other immigration legislation and policy that will allow immigrants to remain in the United States without fear of deportation and with the ability to attain work authorization and other benefits, including citizenship, in order to integrate more fully into our communities, adding to our country’s overall social and economic well-being; supports immediate steps to resume refugee admissions to meet the FY20 admissions goal, set the refugee admission ceiling to at least 95,000 in the Presidential Determination on Refugee Admissions for fiscal year 2021, and to provide the necessary resources to adequately help refugees in the resettlement process.

**#21 In Support of Safe and Accessible Elections** supports national efforts to increase voter participation and safeguard the integrity of our electoral system and urges election administrators and partners in federal, state, and county government to provide safe voting options.

**#22 In Support of Voting by Mail** strongly encourages the federal government, and states and localities to expand opportunities to vote by mail in advance of the November 3, 2020 national election and thereafter.

**#23 In Support of Banning the Manufacture, Sale, and Possession of All 3D Printed “Ghost Guns” and Parts** urges enactment of critical federal public safety legislation to make it unlawful for any person to manufacture, transfer, sell, trade, give, transport, or deliver any unfinished firearm frame or receiver to any person (other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector) unless the unfinished frame or receiver is serialized in accordance with federal requirements for the serialization of firearms, the recipient passes a background check consistent with the federal requirements for a licensed dealer’s transfer of a firearm, and the seller or transferor of the unfinished frame or receiver creates and retains records consistent with the federal record-keeping requirements for licensed firearm dealers related to the disposition of firearms; and prohibit the possession, without a federal firearms license, of a finished or unfinished firearm frame or receiver that has not been serialized.

**#24 In Support of Restorative Justice for Youth** encourages policymakers working on juvenile justice issues to prioritize rehabilitation over the punishment of youth offenders; pledges that the nation’s mayors support the widespread adoption of restorative justice as a guiding philosophy for courtrooms and local governments; and encourages further reforms at the local, state, and federal levels aligned with restorative justice practices.

**#25 The United States Conference of Mayors Supports the Use of Non-Governmental Entities as an Option for Employment Background Checks** deems a comprehensive review of an initial and continuous criminal background check conducted by a non-governmental entity for non-law enforcement activities sufficient employment screening report for employment purposes.
Marjorie Manchen
Village of River Grove
2621 N Thatcher Ave
River Grove, IL, 60171

Re: Village of Elmwood Park – Phase I Preliminary Engineering Study

Dear Ms. Marjorie Manchen:

We know that for the residents of Elmwood Park, public safety has been one of the highest concerns for many years, particularly where Grand Avenue crosses the Metra/Canadian Pacific Railroad. The Village of Elmwood Park in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways are committed to resolving the safety and mobility issues at this crossing and are thrilled to announce the initiation of a Phase I Preliminary Engineering Study to determine the best possible plan for separating rail, vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

This project, known as ‘Grand Gateway’, has many benefits including increased safety, improved access throughout the community, and a renewed central business district. In addition, it will also improve mobility for the entire region.

Your organization has been identified as an important contributor to this Study and we invite you to join our Committee Advisory Group (CAG). As part of our CAG, we are looking for feedback to help guide the Study’s goals and outcomes. The project team considers your feedback to be of the utmost importance and will be engaging with the CAG at every critical milestone for the duration of the Study.

We anticipate the CAG will meet five times over the next 24 months. The first CAG meeting will be held virtually, via Zoom, on Thursday, July 23, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

If you are unable to personally participate in the CAG, please designate an appropriate representative from your agency to ensure we receive your valued input. To confirm your agency’s participation in the CAG, please respond to Mandi Jennings at mjennings@metrostrategiesinc.com, by July 10, 2020, with the name of your agency’s representative.

I look forward to working together with the CAG on this important and collaborative effort to improve safety and mobility throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Angelo “Skip” Saviano
Mayor, Village of Elmwood Park
Meeting of the Criminal and Social Justice Committee
Thursday, June 25, 2020
AGENDA

4:00 PM EDT  Call to Order, Opening Comments, Introductions
LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
Mayor of Chicago
Chair

Remarks
BRYAN K. BARNETT
Mayor of Rochester Hills, MI
President, The U.S. Conference of Mayors

Discussion of the Statement of Principles

Consideration of Proposed Resolutions
5. Closing the Racial Equity Gap
15. Implementing Safe Protocols for Prisons and Jails
16. Urging the Trump Administration to Waive Cost Share Requirements for COVID-19 Federal Aid
17. Denouncing Violent Extremism and the Rise in Hate Crimes Against Minority Communities Since COVID-19
18. In Support of Federal COVID-19 Relief Inclusive of Immigrants, Regardless of Status
20. Stand for Our Immigrant and Refugee Communities
21. In Support of Safe and Accessible Elections
22. In Support of Voting By Mail
23. In Support of Banning the Manufacture, Sale, and Possession of All 3D Printed “Ghost Guns” and Parts
24. In Support of Restorative Justice for Youth
25. The U.S. Conference of Mayors Supports the Use of Non-Governmental Entities as an Option for Employment Background Checks

Consideration of New Resolutions

Other Business

5:30 PM EDT  Adjourn
USCM Working Group on Police Reform and Racial Justice
Seizing this Moment
Statement of Principles
June 25, 2020

As mayors and police chiefs from cities across the nation, sharing the duty to protect every member of the public, determine police department policies, set budgetary priorities and negotiate labor agreements, we have the frontline responsibility for recasting the relationship between our police departments and the communities we serve.

The public response in the aftermath of the videotaped George Floyd killing has rekindled and intensified the national call for police reform and an honest dialogue on systemic racism and its impact on communities of color. The Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group is charged with producing, advancing, and enacting meaningful reforms that mayors and police chiefs across the country can adopt to address, deter, and remediate police violence and patterns of racial discrimination. Today, we set out the principles to which we are committed and that will shape our work.

In the next month, we will announce a police reform framework, outlining specific recommendations based upon the principles set forth below. This framework will be rooted in the goal of advancing policing practices that respect and protect human life and ensure safety for all. It will take account of both the urgent need to address racially-biased practices and concerns that there are public functions that have, for far too long, fallen to police departments by default but which can be better addressed by others.

Mayors and police leaders must meet this moment. Although there is no singular response that addresses the needs of every municipality or police department, there are core principles upon which we can build a new approach and that will frame our work. We know that now is the time to renew the compact between people and the police, to restore trust and accountability, to rebuild legitimacy and to reimagine policing in our country.

Principles

A set of principles for policing, attributed to Prime Minister Sir Robert Peel in England, is often cited as the foundational framework for modern policing in a democracy. They stand for the ideas that the police exist to prevent crime and that the legitimacy of the police derives from public consent and trust. Peel’s Principles state that policing must be based upon a reciprocal relationship of trust between the police and the public.
This moment calls for a reaffirmation of these principles of policing. Our work will be framed by the following updated principles which will guide the Working Group’s recommendations:

- **Redefining the Role of Local Police and Public Safety.** The current moment calls into question, but also provides a unique opportunity to discuss, the first principles of policing and requires a community conversation on the proper role of police in addressing the needs of residents. Building healthy, safe and vibrant communities requires many other tools than law enforcement alone. We must reset the compact between police and communities they are sworn to protect. This should begin with a hard but essential dialogue defining the proper role of the police. We need to ask, “Who is best equipped to be the first responder in addressing a long list of calls for service?” The reflexive answer cannot be “the police.” When the government has no presence in communities in a healthy and supportive way, the primary governmental actor that people see and identify are the police. In the absence of appropriate levels of funding for things like mental health care; affordable, high quality health care; accessible housing; healthy food options; good paying jobs; quality and safe education options; and other social services, the police are consistently thrust into a role of addressing these various social issues – a role for which they were not created and for which they will never be properly equipped. We must meet community needs with proper funding and investments and avoid inserting the police into roles in which they must be the primary or only public response. If we ask too much of the police, and not enough of ourselves, our residents will always get too little.

- **Trust and Legitimacy.** Public approval and acceptance are the basis of effective policing. The public and police must find common ground on which to trust each other. Police must earn their community’s trust and cooperation, and, in turn, the public must respect officers as faithful guardians of the community who both follow and enforce the law. This requires those who enforce the law to be accountable for adhering to it. Unintentional mistakes are not the same as intentional misconduct, but when police cross the line of established policy or legally permissible conduct, they must be held accountable in order to have legitimacy in the eyes of the public. Effective policing requires the police and members of the community to develop constructive and respectful ways of interacting with each other. The principles of community policing are critical to this process. The well of good will must be built and filled daily and long before a crisis hits. These principles of trust and legitimacy must also permeate the decisions about supervisor selection, especially the front-line supervisors who are in most frequent contact with officers on a daily basis. Thus, the criteria for supervisor selection, training and accountability are essential elements of defining the culture of a department. Supervisors must be held accountable for reinforcing the core values of the department in the discharge of their daily responsibilities.

- **Sanctity of Life.** At the core of a police officer’s responsibilities is the duty to protect all human life and physical safety. To inculcate this fundamental principle, use of force policies must clearly state this requirement, with specificity, and require officers to intervene when a fellow officer is using disproportionate or unnecessary force. As is often stated, just because one can use force, does not mean that it should be used. It is critical that we ensure that officers are properly trained to value the sanctity of life and only use the minimum amount of force necessary, if any, to accomplish lawful objectives. Officers must have the tools and judgment to differentiate circumstances that do not warrant the use of force. Use of force policies and training must also include, but not be
limited to: bans on chokeholds or any other carotid restraints; de-escalation and critical incident training; peer intervention to prevent misconduct; bans on shooting at moving vehicles except under extreme circumstances where a life is at risk; limitations on car pursuits to avoid death or great bodily harm; and defined parameters for foot pursuits, among other things.

- **Equality and Due Process.** Police conduct must not vary on account of race, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or other status. Every person is entitled to equal treatment, respect for his or her constitutional rights and due process of law. Fairness, respect and professionalism enhance public safety as they enhance public support and cooperation. We are mindful that the history of policing in many places has been interwoven with the nation’s history of racial discrimination, including efforts to use police forces to ratify and maintain segregation and other forms of racism. To ensure equal and just treatment of all persons, departments must provide consistent training on impartial policing, anti-discrimination principles, and cultural literacy. Members of the community must be included as teachers in the training process and given an opportunity to assist in curriculum development so that a community perspective is part of the mandatory training for all recruits and veteran officers. Departments must also do more to ensure that in recruitment, promotion and retention decisions, diversity matters.

- **Community.** Departments must strive for a sincere belief among officers that respectful, constitutional engagement with the community is the most powerful tool they possess, over and above a gun and a badge. Police officers must be regarded as guardians and part of the community they serve and work to support and engage with those communities to effectively discharge their public safety mission. We should support police outreach initiatives and more broadly consider how to address the needs of youth, people with mental illness, people with disabilities, immigrants and refugees, people from various faith traditions and others who come into contact with law enforcement. Police departments’ hiring, retention and promotion practices should strive to be more representative of the populations they serve. Departments must also incentivize officers to live in the communities they serve and to otherwise spend time building real, authentic relationships with members of the community, especially youth.

- **Transparency and Accountability to Reinforce Constitutional Policing.** True police reform will not come about through improved policies and training alone. We must ensure that police fulfill their commitments to protect the residents they serve and that police build trust and legitimacy through transparency, engagement and accountability. Police must play a role that reinforces democratic principles in our society. To ensure public awareness and reassure the public that officers are working to protect the community, departments should make their policies publicly available and, consistent with relevant laws and agreements, provide access to law enforcement data and findings of officer misconduct. Technology that can enhance accountability—such as body cameras and early warning systems—should be utilized. Cities should adopt uniform policies for the prompt release of video, audio and initial police reports on all matters of public interest, including specifically those arising from police-involved shootings, deaths in custody, or allegations of First Amendment violations. The collective bargaining agreements between cities and their police departments should provide fair, sensible and workable accountability mechanisms and eliminate any provisions that are roadblocks to addressing conduct that is inconsistent with the policies and laws that
govern our officers. Police unions must engage with good will as well and participate in these urgent reform, work with cities as partners — not obstructionists — on accountability and transparency and other reforms so that we can create stronger police departments that are truly responsive to the needs of residents and establish better police-community relations that serve both communities and officers. Cities should also work to eliminate any state laws that impede the implementation of sensible accountability measures across police departments. Transparency and more robust accountability mechanisms are necessary to improve police-community relations.

Looking Forward

Today, we share these animating principles. Over the coming weeks, we will work to put forth a full set of recommendations and proposals that can be implemented nationwide and that will reassure our communities that there is a concrete path forward for the future.