

**Village Board Meeting
September 26, 2023**

1 - Order

President Weatherston called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Caledonia Village Hall.

2 - Pledge of Allegiance

3 - Roll Call

Board: President Weatherston, Trustee Pierce, Trustee Stillman, Trustee Martin, Trustee McManus, and Trustee Wishau.

Absent: Trustee Hammes was excused.

Staff: Also present were Administrator Kathryn Kasper, Village Engineer Ryan Schmidt, Development Director Peter Wagner, Police Chief Christopher Botsch, Fire Chief Jeff Henningfeld, Finance Director Wayne Krueger, and Village Attorney/HR Manager Tyler Helsel. Village Attorney Elaine Ekes was also present.

4 – Approval of Minutes

Village Board – September 12, 2023

Motion by Trustee Martin to approve the Village Board minutes of the following meeting(s) as printed. Seconded by Trustee McManus. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Stillman to move item 7D to the top. Seconded by Trustee McManus. Motion carried unanimously.

7D – Resolution 2023–106 – Resolution Of The Village Of Caledonia Accepting The Master Grading And Drainage Plan For Crawford Park Expansion (Park and Rec Advisory Committee: 9/11/2023 7,0)

The session was well attended by citizens to provide public comment surrounding the Crawford Park Master Grading item. McManus led the discussion by highlighting the scope of the agenda item. Schmidt explained that the current item solely pertained to the grading and drainage of the park. He emphasized that the master plan for the park had already been approved, and the current focus was ensuring the site's effective drainage, meeting the standards set by the DNR. Schmidt detailed the drainage proposals, mentioning the specific features to support the same. McManus explained that there weren't any current plans for roadways installation.

Before proceeding calling to the vote, Weatherston opened the floor for public comments.

5 – Public Comment- Park Topic (Provides a two-minute opportunity for citizens to voice opinions to the Village Board. The Village Board cannot respond as this may conflict with open meeting requirements.)

Christian de Jong, 1648 Secretariat Lane, expressed gratitude to McManus for her clarifications. Although he wasn't opposing the resolution, DeJongh voiced concerns about the potential implications the plan could have on the neighborhood. He highlighted that if a contractor was paid to move dirt, it effectively meant that the plan was in motion. DeJongh urged the board to review the plan thoroughly, advocating for minimal impact on the residents. He raised questions about stormwater drainage and the fate of the empty storm drain.

Tom Dovorany, 5329 Sunshine Lane, was strongly against the proposed access lane for Sunshine Lane. He mentioned his efforts in gathering opposition from residents regarding this objection. Dovorany expressed disappointment that those directly affected by the change might not have their voices heard adequately. He appealed for the plan to be revisited in the parks committee.

Trustee McManus provided a clarification about the two access roads featured in the general plan. One was designated for police and fire departments, and the other was a shorter access road from Sunshine Lane situated on the park's northeast section.

Laurie Buchaklian, 5421 Sunshine Lane, voiced her objection to an access lane emerging from Sunshine Lane. Instead, she proposed that the road should lead to Heidi Drive, asserting that such an arrangement would be logical in terms of grading and traffic flow. Buchaklian believed that this alternative would cause lesser disruption.

Mary Waller, 5339 Sunshine Lane, shared that she became aware of the plan only through a neighbor. She acknowledged her lack of involvement previously but is now informed that she registered her opposition to access to Sunshine Lane.

Julie Halstead, 5414 Sunshine Lane, has been a resident for over a decade. She recalled the initial stages of Crawford's construction and remembered coming home to a caution sign related to road access. Given the caution exercised ten years ago, Julie believed the same level of caution and concern should be maintained now.

Andrew Lewis, 1615 Count Turf Lane, recognized the plan's focus on grading. They understood that road placements would be deliberated upon in the future. While they opposed the road, they were in favor of the park upgrade, speculating that the entire neighborhood might feel the impact.

David Brown, 1719 Count Turf Road He was unaware of the current park plan, urging the board to reconsider the access points, reminding them that the current residents were there first. He suggested alternative park entrances that wouldn't adversely affect the current inhabitants.

7D – Resolution 2023–106 – Resolution Of The Village Of Caledonia Accepting The Master Grading And Drainage Plan For Crawford Park Expansion (Park and Rec Advisory Committee: 9/11/2023 7,0)

Motion by Trustee McManus to approve Resolution 2023–106 – Resolution Of The Village Of Caledonia Accepting The Master Grading And Drainage Plan For Crawford Park Expansion.
Seconded by Trustee Stillman.

An essential clarification made during the discussion was that the approval wouldn't hinder any considerations for road placement in the future. Schmidt informed that a consulting engineer had addressed that minor changes could be made to the grading and drainage plan without impacting the overall stormwater management facilities, such as access or amenity locations. Schmidt also stressed that the current approval was strictly for the overall site grading and drainage plan of Crawford Park based on the Master Park Plan approved in the Fall of 2022. The grading would lay down the groundwork for future amenities and roads by establishing elevation and devising a stormwater management plan. President Weatherston asserted that every entity, be it paving,

buildings, or other infrastructures, would need explicit approval to move forward and would be publicly available information on agendas.

Motion carried, unanimously.

5 – Public Comment – General (Provides a two-minute opportunity for citizens to voice opinions to the Village Board. The Village Board cannot respond as this may conflict with open meeting requirements.)

David Chorbajian, 2624 Arrowhead Street, after having raised road issues two weeks prior during Public Comment, had initially intended to persistently raise the issue to ensure the necessary repairs were made. However, he acknowledged the repair efforts he observed and appreciated the quality of the repair work.

Sara Mikaelian, 7430 5 Mile Road, has been a resident for 37 years and has voiced her concerns about the recurring accidents at the proposed roundabout locations on Highway 38. She pointed out that minimal measures have been taken to curb these accidents, apart from the addition of flashing lights. While she believed that the board was proactive, she felt there might be more cost-effective solutions to the issue. Mikaelian suggested reducing the speed limit on Highway 38 from 55 mph to 45 mph as a potential remedy to decrease accidents. After conversing with the Department of Transportation, she learned that their hesitance stems from the potential backlash from residents due to increased commute times. However, Mikaelian, after doing the calculations, found that the speed reduction would only add an extra 1 minute and 10 seconds to commutes, which, she felt, would be a small price to pay for potentially saving lives and minimizing accidents. She also highlighted a hill that was discussed in a DOT meeting held the previous week, which, according to her, doesn't provide drivers with sufficient time to anticipate and stop their vehicles. Mikaelian expressed her surprise when she learned about the proposal to take 100 feet from the hill and adjust the elevation of her driveway to fit the changes.

Richard Barnes, 4515 Mattew Drive, raised his concerns about speeding in his area. He specifically complained about construction vehicles using his street instead of following designated routes. Barnes made a request for the placement of signs that would prohibit these vehicles from using their road.

Wagner highlighted the utility of the Caledonia Zoning Hub. The hub offers residents the convenience of receiving email alerts regarding village projects, especially those occurring in their immediate vicinity. By entering their email address, residents can opt to be alerted about projects within specified proximity to their homes. This service allows residents to stay informed without having to constantly check the village website for updates. Wagner emphasized this feature considering discussions about residents being unaware of certain village projects.

President Weatherston announced that the next village board meeting would be held at Fire Station 11, with the promise of comfortable accommodations for attendees.

6 – Committee Reports
6A - (Approval of A/P checks)

Village – \$2,350,529.11
US Bank – \$34,685.70

Motion by Trustee Wishau to approve the A/P checks as presented for \$ 2,350,529.11. Seconded by Trustee McManus. Motion carried, unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Wishau to approve the US Bank List as presented for \$34,685.70. Seconded by Trustee McManus. Motion carried, unanimously.

7 – Ordinances and Resolutions

7A – Resolution 2023–104 – Resolution Authorizing The Village Of Caledonia To Enter Into A Contract With The City Of Racine Regarding Bus Service In The Village Of Caledonia For 2024 (Village Board only)

Trevor Jung from the City of Racine was present and briefly addressed the contract. Jung highlighted the impact of the pandemic on ridership. They discussed partnerships and technological innovations that have helped restore ridership. The importance of public transit for work, school, and recreation was emphasized.

Trustee Wishau questioned the manufacturer of these buses.

Motion by Trustee Pierce to approve Resolution 2023–104 – Resolution Authorizing The Village Of Caledonia To Enter Into A Contract With The City Of Racine Regarding Bus Service In The Village Of Caledonia For 2024. Seconded by Trustee McManus. Motion carried, unanimously.

7B – Resolution 2023-81 – Resolution Authorizing The Adoption Of A New, Standard Color For Use In All Village Materials (Communications Committee: 7/18/23 3,0, 9/19/23 3,0; Village Board: 7/25/23 laid over, 8/8/23 laid over)

Motion by Trustee Martin to approve Resolution 2023-81 – Resolution Authorizing The Adoption Of A New, Standard Color For Use In All Village Materials. Seconded by Trustee Wishau.

Trustee Pierce emphasized the importance of recognizability and acknowledgment for the village through its materials. Consistency in design elements like font and color aids in creating a cohesive brand identity, making village communications instantly recognizable to residents and others.

To illustrate the proposed changes and the impact of the new color, Trustee Pierce prepared several examples. These samples showcased the application of the new color across various materials, including logos, signature lines, the village's website, and other potential uses.

Motion carried, unanimously.

7C – Resolution 2023–105 – A Resolution Approving A Park Use Agreement For St. Catherine's High School For Use Of Crawford Park (Park and Rec Advisory Committee: 9/11/2023 7,0)

Motion by Trustee McManus to approve Resolution 2023–105 – A Resolution Approving A Park Use Agreement For St. Catherine's High School For Use Of Crawford Park. Seconded by Trustee Wishau. Motion carried, unanimously.

7E – Resolution 2023–107 – Resolution Authorizing A Contract With Gila, LLC, d/b/a Municipal Services Bureau (MSB) To Provide An Online Payment Solution To The Village Of Caledonia (Village Board only)

Motion by Trustee Pierce to approve Resolution 2023–107 – Resolution Authorizing A Contract With Gila, LLC, d/b/a Municipal Services Bureau (MSB) To Provide An Online Payment Solution To The Village Of Caledonia. Seconded by Trustee Stillman.

Krueger recommended that the motion be amended to include “subject to final review by counsel.”

Motion by Trustee Pierce to approve Resolution 2023–107 – Resolution Authorizing A Contract With Gila, LLC, d/b/a Municipal Services Bureau (MSB) To Provide An Online Payment Solution To The Village Of Caledonia subject to final review by counsel. Seconded by Trustee Stillman.

Motion carried, unanimously.

8 – Adjournment

President Weatherston adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joslyn Hoeffert, Village Clerk