**VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS**

**11-19-18; 11-26-18; 12-3-18; 12-10-18; 12-17-18 & 12-26-18**

**11-19-18 VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

**Approval was given to have all Village monthly payments paid administratively through an “AutoPay” Program, which will be qualified and operated under the direction of Finance Director Kent Oliven.**

**Approval was given to authorize the Village of Alsip Department Heads to have procurement Credit Cards with an established policy designating guidelines that will be applied to all eligible cardholders.**

**Michels Corporation of Bedford Park was awarded the 2018 MWRD I&I Cleaning and Televising bid in the amount of $110,716.75.**

**An Ordinance was passed approving the renewal of a Class 6B Assessment Status for the real estate identified as 5100 West 123rd Street.**

**Roger Hopkins of Hopkins Solutions, LLC. reported on Economic Development: The façade improvements are completed at the strip mall at 122nd and Pulaski. Official Cuts has also completed their façade improvements and their parking lot. Discussion continues with Firewater BBQ. They are in the process of recruiting a new investor. The new investor is interested in taking over the other half of the building. This would provide two sales tax generating establishments. After the Trade Show at Navy Pier last month, efforts are being made to market the EDCA property, the old cash wash property, lot by Jewel, the empty lot by Food For Less and the lot by Demon Dawgs.**

**11-26-18 VILLAGE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Bids were opened for the Pump Station Interior Waterproofing Membrane System and Floor Coating. Two bids were received, one from Artlow System, Inc. of Carol Stream in the amount of $36,491.40. The second bid was from Berglund Beyond Building of Chicago in the amount of $99,850.00. Bids were turned over to Committee for review and recommendation.**

**Bids were also opened for the Service and Maintenance of the Keltron Fire Alarm Systems. Two bids were received, one from Alarm Detection Systems, Inc. of Aurora and the other from Crosspoint Sales Inc. of Lockport. Alsip Fire Chief Tom Styczynski stated that he would have to look to see if Alarm Detection Systems of Aurora is qualified as they are not an authorized Keltron dealer or service center. Finance Director Kent Oliven pointed out that Alarm Detection Systems contacted him, and they get the equipment from the same dealer that Keltron does. Bids will be reviewed by Committee.**

**Steve Derkacy from Quality Alarm spoke at the Public Forum on the Fire Monitoring compliance. He stated that his customers are pleased that they may have the opportunity again to choose their own alarm monitoring company. He further stated that in the amended Ordinance passed, Letter “D” references Section 26.3 of the NFPA which reference a Central Station Monitoring System. He gave a background on how the fire alarms work and that there are 4 categories. He focused on only two, one being the Central Station Monitoring which he felt was very uncommon because of the cost to maintain. There were none of these in Alsip prior to the introduction of the Keltron Fire Alarm System. The other category is remote station fire alarms. They connect to the same facility that would monitor the central station monitoring without the cost to maintain. He was concerned that the Village Board might have been uneducated about what was adopted with the Ordinance and that business will not be able to make a change if they wanted because of the cost associated with it. Larry Covney who has also been in the alarm business for decades also spoke. He discussed three types of monitoring fire alarms from NFPA Chapter 26. The first was proprietary meaning there is a security guard on site to monitor the alarm and then call whoever would be responding to the call. The second was remote supervising station which has multiple types. The third was central station monitoring. It was enacted by the NFPA to assure that alarm systems were installed per code. It is a step above an alarm monitoring central service because it requires a technician be sent out within 2 hours of an alarm signal, within 2 hours of a supervisory signal and within 4 hours of a trouble signal. The Alsip Fire Chief pointed out that this was important because it assures that fire alarms are operating property and that they are notified of an issue, so they can also follow up. Annual inspections are also required, and the fire department gets a report of those inspections. Trustee Dalzell pointed out that with the Keltron System, they have a municipal remote station monitoring but it does have a direct connect. The Ordinance that was adopted gives the business owner the choice of staying with the current Keltron Program or the Central Station Monitoring should they decide to use their own alarm company. The big difference is with the higher requirements of Central Station Monitoring, there is no way that an alarm can be down without a signal being transmitted so it is repaired in a timely manner. The Village Board discussed revisiting the wording of the Ordinance. Trustee Dalzell stated that he thought it was unfair to require businesses to go to a step-up service should they decide to leave the current system.**

**There was a discussion about the 2018 tax year property tax levy. Finance Director Kent Oliven made a presentation. There are two options: A 4.99% increase would bring in an additional $690,745 to the General Fund, which could be used for the rebuilding of the Village Hall parking lot, pay for increasing salaries and benefits and make some reduction in the budget deficit; or a 3.99% increase which would bring in an additional $579,399 to the General Fund and could be used for the rebuilding of the Village Hall parking lot, pay for increasing salaries and benefits and make a little bit of a reduction in the budget deficit. Mayor Ryan and Kent Oliven pointed out that of the increase the Village only gets about 17% of the overall tax bill. Trustee McGreal said that she felt another meeting was necessary so that information from the previous year as well as what was presented could be reviewed. The meeting was scheduled for Friday, November 30 at 6:30 PM and a poll will be taken at that time.**

**There was a discussion about the Keltron System and fees. The fees are currently $65.00 per month, which is where they have been for about a year and a half. The fees were dropped from $80.00 per month to be more competitive. A decision needs to be made about the bid because it would leave only a little over 30 days to terminate over 300 contracts. There was a discussion about how to deliver the new contracts to the 345 subscribers. It was suggested using regular mail and having part time personnel make phone calls to the businesses that did not sent contracts back. Trustee Dalzell also proposed a $55.00 per month fee, which would be about $41,000 less for the Village; but was a fair price for the service being offered and still have a little profit. The Village would also be handling the billing. The Fire Chief thought that the $55.00 per month fee might keep more subscribers.**

**The Village Health Inspector has an excused absence from the Village and her supervisor, Ken Panarella, has assumed the responsibility of making health inspections.**

**12-03-18 VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

**Holiday on Pulaski is planned from Friday, December 7, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM.**

**A Proclamation was read to congratulate the Alsip Falcon Football and Cheerleaders as the 2018 Widget Division Super Bowl Champions finishing their season with a 7-1 record.**

**An Ordinance was passed granting a text amendment to the Village of Alsip Zoning Ordinance by amending Article 10, Business District B-1 and by deleting Article 10, Business District B-3. This is to combine the alcohol district within the business district.**

**The contract for the Pump Station Interior Floor Waterproofing Membrane and Floor Coating was awarded to low bidder Artlow Systems in the amount of $36,491.00.**

**Approval was given to accept the bid of Parts 1, 2 & 3 of the proposal received by Crosspoint Sales, Inc. of Lockport. Part One Service and Maintenance is as follows: Cost per month per subscriber is $8.00 and cost for annual software licensing fees from Keltron is $2,600.00. Part Two New Installations are as follows: All inclusive cost for a new subscriber is $1,500.00 and labor only for installation of a decommissioned transceiver is $125.00. Part Three Decommissioning of Installed Transceivers is as follows: Labor cost for removal of a subscriber transceiver due to cancellation of service is $100.00.**

**The monthly service billing fee of the Keltron radio boxes as discussed will be $55.00 per month effective January 1, 2019.**

**Authorization for the Village Attorney to update Ordinance #2018-11-2 to incorporate Remote Station Monitoring according to NFPA Section 26.5 as a viable alternative for the fire alarm system monitoring was removed for more discussion at next week’s Committee Meeting.**

**12-10-18 VILLAGE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**A presentation was made by Sarah Edwards, the Efficiency Community Outreach Coordinator for the Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability. Her job is to help people find ways to save money and energy on their utility bills. Smart meters that have been installed into homes and businesses have two-way communication. Several benefits of the smart meters are that when there is a power outage, the meter will report it, and this will result in faster restoration of power. Another benefit is that the smart meter knows how and where electricity is being used. There are programs and incentives being offered now; one is being peak time savings. If less energy is used during specific hours, a credit will appear on your utility bill. Another is hourly savings, you can receive up to 15% savings by using energy at night and on the weekends. In addition, a home energy assessment can be performed by ComEd and Nicor to see where there are potential energy savings. More information can be found on the Cook County Department of Environment Sustainability website.**

**A presentation was made by the new owners of the Shell Gas Station located at 11725 South Pulaski. They are requesting that a Class “F” liquor license be created to sell packaged goods in their convenience store to be known as Alsip Simple Mart. This will be their third location and they hope to open as soon as possible pending the proper licenses needed. Approximately 25% of the store would be dedicated to liquor sales. The Mayor stated that to sell packaged liquor would not require a Class “F” liquor license. The Village Board will review their request as there are no liquor licenses open.**

**There was a discussion concerning updating Ordinance 2018-11-2 to incorporate Remote Station monitoring according to NFPA 72, Section 26.5, as a viable alternate for fire alarm system monitoring. The Fire Chief stated that as far as public safety, the direct connect system is the best option. The next step down would be the Central Station Monitoring because there are stricter standards to keep alarm companies honest and is the next best option to the direct connect. The Remote Station Monitoring goes to Oak Lawn Central and they provide a report daily of alarms that are out of service, so they can be fixed immediately. Being that Alsip has a wide variety of building sizes/layouts and multifamily dwellings, it would be going backwards by removing the direct connect, so that is why the Fire Chief feels so strongly about the Central Station Monitoring. Trustee McLawhorn asked for feedback from the Village Board about whether there should be an amendment to the Ordinance that would have certain criteria that would require buildings to have Central Station Monitoring and some that would be acceptable to have Remote Station Monitoring.**

**There is a request to outfit three previously approved Ford Explorers at a cost not to exceed $49,000 for all three vehicles.**

**Roger Hopkins of Hopkins Solutions reported on Economic Development: Official Cuts and Affiliated Management projects have been completed, and they are completing the reimbursement process. There is progress being made with Health on Earth Wellness at 11933 South Pulaski. Demon Dawgs has been purchased and at this time, their plan is for some minor cosmetic updates so there is no need for TIF assistance. Firewater BBQ is still working on investors and lining up possible restaurants for that property.**

**12-17-18 TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING**

**A presentation was made by Finance Director Kent Oliven outlining the 2018 Tax Year Property Tax Levy. On November 30, 2018, there was a meeting to decide on the tax levy, which will be 2.5%. Industrial and commercial is taxed at a 25% rate and residential is taxed at a 10% rate, so most of the Alsip’s property tax is picked up by the industrial and commercial properties. Compared to 23 other local municipalities, Alsip is one of the lowest in the average composite tax rate. Based on a home with an average $6,000.00 property tax, the annual increase in property tax would be $26.00.**

**12-17-18 VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

**Approval was given to create a Class “C” Liquor License for the Shell Gas Station at 11725 South Pulaski with the convenience store known as Alsip Simple Mart pending application and compliance associated with said license.**

**An Ordinance was passed levying taxes for General Corporate Purpose for the Fiscal Year beginning May 2, 2018 and ending April 30, 2019 for the Village of Alsip.**

**Approval was given to have the Village Attorney draft an Ordinance to update Ordinance 2018-11-2 to incorporate Remote Station Monitoring according to NFPA 72, Section 26.5 as a viable alternative for Fire Alarm System Monitoring.**

**Approval was given to purchase Genesis Hydraulic Tools in the amount of $25,120 that was approved by the Foreign Fire Tax Insurance Fund.**

**Approval was given to outfit three previously approved Police Ford Explorers at a cost not to exceed $49,000 for all three vehicles.**

**Approval was given to purchase water meters at a cost not to exceed $80,500.00. This purchase is for the ongoing replacement of residential water meters and was appropriated for in the FY19 Budget.**

**12-26-18 VILLAGE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**There is a request to approve a Resolution approving the declaration and disbursement of surplus monies in the TIF District #1.**

**There is a request to promote one firefighter to Lieutenant status to fill in for an injured Lieutenant and to coincide with the upcoming retirement of a Lieutenant. Alsip Fire Chief Tom Styczynski stated that the Department is down to 5 lieutenants.**

**There is a request from VFW Post 450 located at 11800 South Cicero avenue for a year-long raffle from November 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018.**

**There is a request to hire Darrell Rita as the Building Inspector. He will be replacing retired inspector, John Justin. His rate will be $10.50 per plan review and $18.00 per inspection, which will be the same as the previous inspector’s rates.**

**There was a discussion about the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 9, Fire Prevention and Protection, Article 1, In General, Sections 9-4, Fire Alarm Systems.**