**VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MINUTES**

**DATE:** Monday, March 11th, 2024 **TIME:** 7:00 PM

**PLACE:** North Room – Eason Hall

**Members Present:** Mayor Dennis Lutes, Trustee Judy Einach, Trustee Johanna Kelley

**Members Excused:** Trustee Josh Freifeld, Trustee Blake Maras

**Staff**: Rebecca Betts-Paternosh, Treasurer; Andrew Webster, Rec. Director; Chris Reese, Fire Chief; Josh Belcher, First Assistant Chief; Ed LeBarron, Public Works Superintendent; Vince Luce, Administrator & Village Clerk

**VISITORS:** Judy Kales**,** Judy Fingerhut, Carol Widrig, Janice Carlson, Judy Loomis, Celeste Kerns, Don McCord

**PLEDGE**: The Mayor led the Pledge to the Flag at just after 7pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING: COMMUNITY GATEWAY MORATORIUM EXTENSION**

Mayor Lutes opened the public hearing at approximately 7:05pm and asked for comments from the public. He explained that the Planning Board is still working on the B2 Highway Business District zoning on North Portage Street and that they need an additional three months according to Planning Board Chair Don McCord. The proposed local law will extend the moratorium for six months if needed. This extension of the current moratorium is contained within proposed local law #1-2024, Community Gateway Overlay District Moratorium Extension law.

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:**

There being no comments from the public after an explanation of the proposed local law, the Mayor asked to close the public hearing which was approved on a motion by J. Kelley/J. Einach and carried unanimously.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION**:

The Mayor welcomed several members of the Westfield Stray Cat Rescue. They are appreciative of the $1,000 already provided by the Village over the past three years but outlined how their expenses for providing the services for stray cats and the spay/neuter program far exceeded their revenues. Any additional funds are welcome. An informational sheet which outlined their mission, the programmatic impact of the Stray Cat Rescue in Westfield and other relevant information was submitted to the Board.

Chris Reese, Fire Chief went over his budget as did Andrew Webster, Recreation Director.

Don McCord Representing the Village Planning Board updated the Board on funding to start the comprehensive planning process. He notified the Board that the Town has offered up to $30,000 to assist with the process.

Respectfully submitted by,

Vincent Luce, Village Clerk