



**Town of Cortland**  
**Board of Trustees Town Board Meeting**  
Town Hall, 59 S. Somonauk Road Cortland, IL 60112  
February 24, 2025  
**MINUTES**

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**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / ROLL CALL**

Mayor Pietrowski called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was called showing as present Trustees Walker, Corson, Fioretto, Siewierski, Stone, and Olson. Quorum was present. Also present were Public Works Director Joel Summerhill, Police Chief Lin Dargis, Engineer/Zoning Administrator Brandy Williams, and Town Attorney Kevin Buick.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Walker moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

**PUBLIC WISHING TO SPEAK**

David Pehlke addressed the Board. He addressed the Board requesting reconsideration of allowing chickens within the Town of Cortland.

Rick Jonoutz addressed the Board stating he believes they (Cortland Flooring) are in the last steps to achieving a building permit for the new building. He stated he has been informed that the permit is ready. He is here tonight for confirmation of the TIF consideration on the agenda. He stated he appreciates the work done by all.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve Town Board Minutes of January 27, 2025, Approve Expenditure report of December 2024, Accept Treasurer's report of December 2024

Clerk Aldis read the Consent Agenda into the record. Trustee Walker moved and Trustee Siewierski seconded a motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2025, Approve Expenditure report of December 2024, Accept Treasurer's report of December 2024.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustee Stone, Trustee Siewierski, Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, and Trustee Olson

Nay: None

Absent: None                      Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

2. Consider a motion to accept An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement By and Between The Town of Cortland and Cortland Flooring, Inc and Richard Jonutz Cortland Tax Increment Financing District

Trustee Corson moved to approve An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement By and Between The Town of Cortland and Cortland Flooring, Inc and Richard Jonutz Cortland Tax Increment Financing District, seconded by Trustee Siewierski.

Ms. Williams relayed information to the Board from TIF attorney Herb Klein stating this document is crafted as a forgivable loan over five years. The Board could choose to require a promissory note or a second mortgage beyond the forgivable loan. The Board did not request additional assurances.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustee Siewierski, Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, and Trustee Olson

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstaining: Trustee Stone Motion Carried

**Ord 2025-01**

3. Consider a motion to approve a Return-to-Work Policy. *This policy is a condition of our insurance carrier with regard to Workman Compensation coverage*

Trustee Olson moved to approve the Return-to-Work Policy as presented, seconded by Trustee Fioretto.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustee Stone, Trustee Siewierski, Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, and Trustee Olson

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried

**P 2025-01**

4. Consider a motion to approve the purchase of five (5) tasers, training cartridges and training in an amount not to exceed \$28,700. Payments to be made interest free over a five-year period with the first payment to be made prior to April 30, 2025; estimated amounts \$2,547 from IPRF Safety Grant Line 01-6200-492 with remaining balance allocated to Capital Outlay-Equip/Furn line 01-6200-812 *(This is an unfunded state mandate to have less than lethal devices on the officer's person. The current department equipment is outdated and cannot be replaced with the same model.)*

Trustee Siewierski moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Axon Enterprises, Inc for the purchase of five (5) tasers, training cartridges and training in an amount not to exceed \$28,700, waiving formal bidding under 65 ILCS 5/8-9.1. Payments to be made interest free over a five-year period with the first payment to be made prior to April 30, 2025; estimated amounts \$2,547 from IPRF Safety Grant Line 01-6200-492 with remaining balance allocated to Capital Outlay-Equip/Furn line 01-6200-812, seconded by Trustee Walker.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustee Stone, Trustee Siewierski, Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, and Trustee Olson

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried

**C 2025-02**

5. Consider a motion to Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Engineering Resources Associates (ERA) for design engineering for the replacement of the Airport Road Box Culvert in the amount of \$162,582. *Funds would come from Restricted Asset lines 13-4168 in the amount of 17,091.24 and 13-4170 in the amount of \$106,953.83, and Engineering Expense line 01-6300-211 in the amount of \$38,536.93, for a total of \$162,582.*

Trustee Olson moved to Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Engineering Resources Associates (ERA) for design engineering for the replacement of the Airport Road Box Culvert in the amount of \$162,582. Funds from Restricted Asset lines 13-4168 in the amount of 17,091.24 and 13-4170 in the amount of \$106,953.83, and Engineering Expense line 01-6300-211 in the amount of \$38,536.93, for a total of \$162,582, seconded by Trustee Fioretto.

Discussion: Ms. Williams reported that the box culvert has been deemed deficient by the State of IL. We must fix the structure, or they will, at the town's expense. A geotechnical engineer is involved in the quote; \$14,950. When asked if the road weight limit would be increased, she responded that it would remain the same as current. She further stated that the Town has federal funding for construction. The federal portion is 80% with the county paying the remaining 20%. The Town must pay for the design.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustee Siewierski, Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, and Trustee Olson

Nay: Trustee Stone

Absent: None

Motion carried

**C 2025-03**

6. Consider a motion to Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Parkreation for an open shelter to be constructed in McPhillips Park in the amount of \$27,146. Monies from Restricted Assets line 13-8000-824 in the amount of \$14,305 and the remainder from Capital Outlay line 01-6100-812 in the amount of \$12,841. *This is a recommendation of the Parks Advisory Committee and has been budgeted in FY25.*

Trustee Stone moved to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with Parkreation for an open shelter to be constructed in McPhillips Park in the amount of \$27,146, waiving formal bidding under 65 ILCS 5/8-9.1. Monies from Restricted Assets line 13-8000-824 in the amount of \$14,305 and the remainder from Capital Outlay line 01-6100-812 in the amount of \$12,841, seconded by Trustee Fioretto.

Discussion: It was noted that this purchase is included in the FY25 budget and is for purchase of materials only. Public Works will construct the structure. A concrete pad will also be installed.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Trustee Stone, Trustee Siewierski, Trustee Walker, Trustee Corson, Trustee Fioretto, and Trustee Olson

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried

**C 2025-04**

7. Informational - Annually the Town's official Zoning Map is presented. There were five (5) revisions from 2023 to 2024.

The 2024 Zoning Map was presented for information only.

8. Informational -The FY22 MFT Audit Report Number 25-30-008 has been received and placed on file. The opinion is "that the Local Public Agency (LPA) has complied with applicable laws, regulations and administrative requirements and fairly represented the financial claims regarding their Motor Fuel Tax funds."

The 2022 MFT Audit was presented for information only.

## **PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Fioretto reported that the focus for this season is what might be able to be supplied for park equipment. They will be working on a design for Cortland Community Park to become an event area. The process would need to be completed in coordinated phases. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

### **9. Public Works, Police Department, Building Permits January 2025**

Trustee Corson questioned Chief Dargis regarding the 30 mile per hour speed limit on Somonauk Road. With the data that has been presented for approximately one year, it appears that many people are not adhering to the set speed limit. Ms. Williams stated that there is 50% less truck traffic coming through because of the speed limit. There was a lively discussion about pros and cons and other locations in town where traffic control was also questioned. Chief Dargis and Ms. Williams stated that the setting of the speed limit is at the discretion of the Board.

Mayor Pietrowski suggested that Chief Dargis be prepared to discuss the speed data with the Board.

## **COMMENTS**

Trustee Corson questioned Chief Dargis about the squad that was recently damaged. He inquired if there were funds available to replace the squad. Chief Dargis reported that there is over 100,000 miles on the vehicle. It is intended to be used for administrative needs as Squad 25 replaced this particular vehicle.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Pietrowski reported on the passing of retired Sheriff Roger Scott. He also reported on the occasion of Doris Hetchler's 100th birthday open house at the Cortland Church on Saturday, March 1, 2025.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Corson seconded a motion for adjournment. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Cheryl Aldis

Town Clerk