

VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
Administration and Community Affairs Committee
Minutes of the Meeting September 11, 2014

Chairman Hughes called the meeting of the Administration and Community Affairs Committee to order in the Board Room of the Memorial Building on September 11, 2014 at 7:34 PM.

Members Present: Chairman Hughes, Trustees Angelo, Elder and LaPlaca

Staff Present: Darrell Langlois, Finance Director; Gina Hassett, Director of Parks and Recreation; and Tim Scott, Economic Development Director

Approval of Minutes – June 2, 2014

Trustee LaPlaca moved approval of the June 2, 2014 minutes. Trustee Elder seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Reports

Chairman Hughes stated that staff monthly reports were available as printed reports, so the discussion will only focus only on questions regarding the staff reports or to highlight items of particular interest.

Treasurers Report - Mr. Langlois stated that a couple of items warranted some mention. Water purchased from the Du Page Water Commission was down 20% for August and 22% for July, this is the lowest in the past 12 years. It was a wet, cool summer that contributed to it and will likely have a negative impact on water and sewer revenue in the next three or four months. Mr. Langlois also commented on the litigation regarding the AT&T settlement related to telecommunications tax revenue. The Village will have to payback about \$77,000 in four installments beginning in August. Although the repayment will be made in FY 2015, accounting standards dictate that in be reflected in the accounting records for FY 2014.

Parks and Recreation – Ms. Hassett stated that the pool report will come to ACA in November or December. Trustee Elder asked about the meeting with the Clarendon Hills Park District. Ms. Hassett stated that Clarendon Hills has agreed not to offer the “friendly” rate to Hinsdale residents. She hopes to get their year-end numbers to see the number of Hinsdale residents that attended there.

Trustee LaPlaca stated that she preferred receiving the department reports in the meeting packet instead of receiving through Manager’s Notes because it is easy to forget to bring them to the meetings.

Economic Development – Mr. Scott stated that there has been a lot of tenant work and he is working on securing a new tenant for the train station. Trustee LaPlaca commented on Wild Ginger and the neon sign that is in the window. Mr. Scott has notified Code Enforcement regarding the sign.

Mr. Scott stated that the current plan from Garfield Crossing does not have any restaurants. Trustee LaPlaca stated that the building looks great. Chairman Hughes asked about the parking recommendations and asked if there is an implementation plan. Mr. Scott stated that that instead of individual meters there will be new pay boxes installed in the Garfield lot on a trial basis before extending the new program to other parking areas. Mr. Scott stated that the press will help in sharing that information.

Trustee LaPlaca asked Mr. Scott about the landscaping of the parking lot. Mr. Scott stated that most of it is maintenance, but some new plants can be added.

Trustee LaPlaca asked Ms. Hassett about the walking path at Veeck Park. Ms. Hassett stated that the largest cost is because the park is a finished site and can't be done without tearing up the park. The path needs to be done at grade. Staff is still considering alternatives to bring the cost down.

Approval of a License Agreement for Use of a Portion of the Village Right-of-Way for Installation and Maintenance of Landscaping and a Temporary Ice Rink at the Property Adjacent to 655 Harding Road, Hinsdale, IL

Chairman Hughes explained the request from the resident to continue the past practice of installing an ice rink on the undeveloped right-of-way adjacent to their property. The resident will be required to provide insurance and the Village will assume no liability. Trustee LaPlaca moved approval of the request. Trustee Elder seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Hughes noted that the ice rink would be for their own personal use and not for the general public.

Discussion of a Request from Whole Foods to Sell Spirits

Due to scheduling issues Whole Foods did not attend the meeting nor did they provide any paperwork in advance of the meeting. Mr. Langlois explained the nature of the request that will be made and noted that they would come to a future meeting to make their appeal to the Village. He has also noted he had new discussions with Walgreens regarding making a similar request again and had advised Whole Foods to review the video of the ACA discussion when Walgreens approached the Committee several years ago in order to understand what the expectations of the ACA Committee.

Trustee LaPlaca indicated that in her opinion selling spirits at Whole Foods would be different than Walgreens in that Whole Foods is a grocery store and Walgreens is in a location closer to the center of town and is the type of store where children would often go. Children don't usually go unaccompanied to a grocery store and their presence would be easily noticed. Mr. Langlois stated that there would still be issues to be decided such as minimum bottle size and security requirements.

Approve the Closure of South Clay Street from Fourth Street South to the Area Adjacent to St. Isaac Jogues Parking lot on October 18, 2014

Trustee Elder approved the request. Trustee Angelo seconded the request and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Personal Property Owned by the Village of Hinsdale

Chairman Hughes explained that this is a routine request. Trustee Angelo moved approval of the request. Trustee Elder seconded the request and the motion passed unanimously.

Award of Bid #1574 in the Amount of a) \$141,006 or b) \$159,621 to Kenneth Company for Completion of the Peirce Park Playground Replacement Project

Chairman Hughes asked for the decision of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners and to which option they would recommend. Ms. Hassett explained that before going out to bid the plan was redrawn based on resident comments in order to include demolition and replacement of the current shelter and removal of some of the concrete. In order to bring the project in at budget, the lower priced option would defer the replacement of the shelter and defer installation of a drinking fountain. The Parks and Recreation Commission voted 4 to 3 for Option A in order to stay within the budgeted amount.

Ms. Hassett explained that there is a lot of shade and all the trees will remain. Trustee Elder moved approval of Option A in the amount of \$141,006. Trustee Angelo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Hughes stated that the shelter and drinking fountain should be considered for the capital plan for the next budget year, especially the drinking fountain.

Discussion of the Impact of IRS Section 125 Employee Contributions on IMRF Earnings

Chairman Hughes stated that this issue was addressed in 2009. Mr. Langlois explained the problems in the payroll system at that time as it related to Section 125 health insurance contributions and the impact on IMRF pension earnings. The base IMRF plan is based predominantly on taxable income. In order to not have pension earnings reduced for Section 125 deductions, employers are allowed the option to pass a resolution that adds these deductions back into pension earnings. The ACA Committee decided to stay with the base plan in 2009, which meant that an employee's pension earnings would be reduced when paying for health and dental insurance costs on a pre-tax basis. If an employee were to fund these costs with after tax dollars, their pension would not be impacted. Mr. Langlois stated that in June there was another audit and wanted to make sure that all corrections were made and the village is in compliance.

Trustee LaPlaca explained that healthcare expenses present many confusing factor and while she is concerned about the cost of pensions she doesn't believe, in this case, that pension benefits should be lost for the small cost to the Village. Trustee Angelo stated that to deny the benefits would not portray the Village very well, but there is a trade-off.

Chairman Hughes commented that he hated being in this position, but this is a value and there are possible perceptions of being unfair. The one thing he sees is that it will be more of an issue in the future and adding more complication from the health care mess would make a bigger deal for the board years down the road. There was general consensus to consider adopting the resolution at a future ACA meeting.

Accept and Place on File the Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Report

Mr. Langlois explained the responsibility of keeping bonds exempt from income taxes. It is his responsibility to be sure that the Village is in compliance with the record keeping policy.

Trustee Elder moved approval of the request. Trustee LaPlaca seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Committee, Trustee Angelo motioned to adjourn. Trustee LaPlaca seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

Darrell Langlois
Assistant Village Manager/Director of Finance

DL/lc