

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2012**

Chairman Laura LaPlaca called the meeting of the Environment and Public Services Committee to order at 6:33 P.M., Tuesday January 24, 2012, in Memorial Hall of the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale, IL.

PRESENT: Chairman Laura LaPlaca, Trustee Doug Geoga, Trustee William Haarlow, Trustee Bob Saigh

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Dave Cook, Village Manager; George Franco, Director of Public Services; Robert McGinnis, Director of Community Development; Dan Deeter, Village Engineer; Tom Bueser, Deputy Director of Public Services; John Finnell, Village Forester; Dan Hopkins, Village Horticulturist.

Approval of Minutes – December 12, 2011

The EPS Committee reviewed the minutes from the December 12, 2011 meeting. Trustee Saigh motioned for approval of the December 12, 2011 minutes. Trustee Geoga seconded. Chairman LaPlaca, Trustee Geoga and Trustee Saigh votes Yes. Trustee Haarlow abstained. The motion passed.

Public Services Monthly Report

Mr. Franco updated the committee on the status of the Public Service Department. He noted the difference in overtime hours from 2010 to 2011. This was attributed to the mild winter and reduced need for snow plowing. He noted that there were two water main breaks in December. He also responded to Trustees' questions concerning the information provided in the Public Services packet.

Business District Planting Beds (Discussion Item)

Chairman LaPlaca introduced this item. Mr. Franco and Mr. Hopkins added their comments about this issue. Staff would like to convert 13 of the 38 flower beds to sustainable landscaping. This would include planning perennial plants that are salt and drought tolerant. Mr. Hopkins said this program would not produce any savings in the first (planting) year. But, it should provide some savings to the village in subsequent years. The 13 beds would be test beds to understand which plants were hardiest and were the most attractive. Mr. Franco and Hopkins responded to Trustees' questions. Trustee Haarlow suggested that some planting beds should also be included in the business areas north of the tracks. Mr. Franco said that staff would study and develop a plan to implement this suggestion. The committee approved the staff's request to convert 13 flower beds to sustainable landscaping.

Private Property Ice Rinks (Discussion Item)

Chairman LaPlaca explained the historical and legal issues involved with this discussion item. Mr. McGinnis added his comments. The Village has taken a “hands-off” approach towards private ice rinks in the past. The committee discussed whether the Village should regulate these ice rinks under the Zoning Ordinance as temporary structures. Considering the previous village practice(s) and the fact that there has been only one complaint registered with the Village to date, the committee chose not to introduce new regulations concerning ice rinks at this time. Chairman LaPlaca stated that residents with ice rinks should operate them under good neighbor rules and that common courtesy applies. Future individual complaints will be handled by the Police Department. The Community Development Department will send a letter to residents with a private ice rink educating them about where rinks can be located in the future.

Residential Refuse/Landscape Waste Removal and Recycling

Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda item. Mr. Franco provided his comments. The Village negotiated with Allied Waste concerning the services and cost structure of a three year extension to the current garbage collection contract. The committee discussed the issues and asked questions of Mr. Rich Vandermolen, the Allied Waste representative. The committee authorized staff to prepare a request for board action for contract #1380 for the February EPS meeting

Proposed Parkway Tree Removal at 5607 S. Park Street

Mr. Franco is considering a variety of LED street lights to replace existing lights as they fail. Advantages of LED lights include improved night visibility, lower operating & maintenance costs, and lower environmental “footprint”. Staff has placed a variety of LED lamps in the drive north of the Village Hall for viewing. Staff will revisit this topic during the February EPS meeting to get the trustees’ input.

Permission to Seek Bids

Mr. Franco is requesting the committee’s permission to seek bids on annual services including: fuel, sewer and catch basin cleaning, water main leak detection, elm inoculation/ Ash treatments, mosquito abatement, and Water Plant filter media removal/ replacement. The committee authorized staff to seek bids.

Engineering Monthly Report

Mr. Deeter updated committee on the status of Veeck Park restoration, Oak Street Bridge replacement, 2011 Resurfacing Project, the Chestnut Street Project, 2012 Resurfacing and Reconstruction Projects, and the 2013 Resurfacing and Reconstruction Projects. On 11/16/11, the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference approved the allocation of State Transportation Project (STP) funds for four Hinsdale projects in 2017. This brings the total amount of grant funds awarded to \$24,190,000.

Approval of an Ordinance Vacating Half of a Public Alley Right-of-Way situated West and Adjoining 702 S. Monroe Street at a Purchase Price of \$12,000. Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda item. Mr. Deeter provided further information and answered trustees' questions. Trustee Saigh motioned to approve. Trustee Geoga seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

With no further issues to be brought before the Committee, Trustee Saigh moved to adjourn. Trustee Haarlow seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Deeter
Village Engineer