

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2012**

Chairman Laura LaPlaca called the meeting of the Environment and Public Services Committee to order at 7:34 P.M., Monday September 10, 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; Tim Scott, Director of Economic Development; George Franco, Director of Public Services; Tom Bueser, Deputy Director of Public Services; John Finnell, Village Arborist; Dan Deeter, Village Engineer.

Approval of Minutes – June 11, 2012

The EPS Committee reviewed the minutes from the June 11, 2012 meeting. Trustee Saigh motioned for approval of the June 11, 2012 minutes. Trustee Haarlow seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Services Monthly Report

Mr. Franco updated the committee on the status of the Public Service Department. After answering the committee's questions concerning the Village's water distribution system, Mr. Franco explained that staff was asking permission to seek bids for two projects. Since both the Well #5 Rehabilitation Project and the Removal and Replacement of the 125-hp High Service Pump Project are in the budget, permission was granted to seek bids for these projects. Mr. Franco also update the committee on the 2012 Leaf Pick-Up Newsletter.

Tree Removal Request (403 The Lane) Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda item. Mr. Finnell elaborated on the situation at 403 The Lane. The approved site plan shows the driveway reduces from 16-feet wide to 11-feet wide in the parkway. This plan maintains 11.5-feet between the driveway and a 6-inch diameter blue beech tree. Mr. Finnell did not feel that the tree could be moved because the utilities in the parkway preclude the use of a tree spade. The resident, Mr. Gregg Ruvoli addressed the committee concerning his desire to move or remove and replace the tree in order to widen his driveway in the parkway to 16-feet. Trustee Geoga did not agree with Mr. Ruvoli's rationale that the wider driveway in the parkway would improve safety. Trustee Haarlow noted that many Hinsdale residents had the minimum driveway width in the parkway. Chairman LaPlaca asked if there was a compromise dimension that could widen the parkway drive while maintaining a suitable distance from the tree.

After some discussion among the trustees, Mr. Finnell confirmed that eight feet would be a suitable distance for this particular tree if root pruning and tree protection fencing was established to maintain this protective distance. The committee unanimously approved widening the driveway to a point no closer than eight feet from the tree. Mr. Finnell will work with Mr. Ruvoli to implement this decision.

Tree Removal Policy (Discussion Item) Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda item. Trustee Geoga presented a plan that addressed various tree removal conditions. His plan starts with the fact that a resident can't take down a parkway tree without a permit from the Village. The following fees for tree removal would be required:

	<u>Fee</u>
• If a tree is removed without permission	\$25,000
• If a tree is accidentally killed or damaged by a private party	\$25,000
• If a permit is requested during construction	\$10,000
• If a permit is requested prior to starting construction	\$ 5,000

Under this plan, the tree commission would always have the option to reject a request to remove a parkway tree. After discussion and comments from Committee members, the committee agreed to discuss this plan with the Village attorney and again address it at the next Committee meeting. Since this policy change will require a change to the Village Ordinances, the full Village Board of Trustees will review and vote on it.

Engineering Monthly Report

Mr. Deeter updated the committee on the status of Veeck Park restoration and de-chlorination system installation, Oak Street Bridge replacement, the Chestnut Street Project, 2012 Resurfacing and Reconstruction Projects, Woodlands Phase 1, the 2013 Resurfacing and Reconstruction Projects, and the recent publication of the Illinois regulations governing Clean Construction and Demolition Debris (CCDD).

Mr. Deeter asked the Committee for guidance concerning the status of the pedestrian crossing at Oak Street Bridge. The pedestrian crossing has been closed since one support beam had failed. Structural inspections and repairs to the pedestrian crossing could cost \$12,000 or more. This expense is currently not budgeted. Chairman LaPlaca noted that residents have been using the Highland Station crossing since the closing of the Oak Street Bridge pedestrian crossing. No complaints have come into staff or the trustees concerning this alternate crossing. Chairman LaPlaca recommended keeping the crossing closed since the plan is to demolish and replace the Oak Street Bridge. Trustee Haarlow recommended that a more permanent barrier should be erected to close the current pedestrian crossing. The committee unanimously agreed to these two recommendations.

Burlington Wall Update. Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda item. Mr. Scott provided an update to members of the Committee on efforts to develop a plan for separating the green space of Burlington Park from the drive aisle and parking area adjacent to the tracks of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Discussion occurred on whether to remove the remaining granite caps and place a parge coat to protect the existing stone wall from harsh winter elements and salt. Members concluded that this was an unnecessary expense since a larger construction endeavor would be undertaken in the season ahead. The committee confirmed that \$200,000 is available in the budget for this project. The steps to move forward with the project include:

- Complete the conceptual design with the available resources
- Prepare construction documentation (this would require third-party, professional assistance)
- Bid the project
- Construction in Spring 2013.

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 9:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Deeter
Village Engineer