

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014**

Chairman Laura LaPlaca called the meeting of the Environment and Public Services Committee to order at 7:36 P.M., Monday February 10, 2014, in Memorial Hall of the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale, IL.

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

ABSENT: Trustee Gerald Hughes

ALSO PRESENT: Kathleen Gargano, Village Manager; George Franco, Director of Public Services; Tom Bueser, Deputy Director of Public Services, John Finnell, Village Arborist; Ralph Nikischer, Village Arborist; Dan Deeter, Village Engineer.

Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2014

The EPS Committee reviewed the minutes from the January 13, 2014 meeting. Trustee Saigh noted three spelling errors. Trustee Haarlow motioned for approval of the revised January 13, 2014 minutes. Trustee Saigh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Services Monthly Report

Mr. Franco updated Committee on the Village's salt supply which is approximately 250 tons remaining for the year and noted that due to weather factors the \$60,000 budget for deicing chemicals is well over budget and currently at approximately \$83,147. The response to 8 water main breaks was noted as well. Due to the continuous snow this winter, crews have not been able to conduct tree trimming operations and the removal of approximately 70 ash trees infested with EAB. Public Services crews are in the process of working cooperatively with Com Ed subcontractors to remove 14 EAB ash trees near power wires as conditions permit.

Mr. Franco noted that crews will be uncovering catch basins to aid in alleviating potential flooding due to snowmelt with a forecasted rise in temperatures later this week and next week. Chairman LaPlaca noted that many fire hydrants throughout town are covered by snow and the Fire Department has been out exposing many hydrants. An adopt a fire hydrant program through the Fire Department was noted which asks homeowners to clear snow from the valves of hydrants near their homes. Any assistance from residents is appreciated.

Trustee Saigh inquired about the water main on 3rd Street between Lincoln and Grant which has had a few breaks on it over the last few weeks and commended the Public Services crews for making repairs in less than favorable conditions. Mr. Franco noted that this is a 4 inch cast iron water main from the early 1920's which has not yet been replaced through the infrastructure master plan.

Integrated Pest Management Report (IPM)

Village Horticulturalist, Ralph Nikischer, presented the 2013 annual IPM report to Committee which included:

- Steps of the IPM process
- Various activities conducted by the Village for turf and prairie maintenance, tree preservation, and sustainable landscaping.
- Future recommendations

Chairman LaPlaca inquired about a part of the report which suggested reducing irrigation in certain parklands. Mr. Nikischer responded that this process would only be utilized in smaller parks such as Dietz and Melin parks when athletic activities have been completed for the spring season; these parks would then go dormant until the start of the fall season. Committee will be notified of any changes to current practices regarding the irrigation of athletic fields.

Trustee Haarlow inquired if Mr. Nikischer will be working collectively with Tim Scott on the new Burlington Park Wall and the steps to convert 10 planting beds in the Business District to self watering beds. Mr. Nikischer responded that he has been working with Tim Scott on this project and has already made some plant changes and would like to see irrigation lines installed in the new planting area along the beds. The self watering beds would require installation of an irrigation system with pop-up heads and backflow prevention.

Trustee Saigh inquired if Ehret Park was pesticide free and if any special attention has been given to Burlington Park due to the amount of events and foot traffic the park greenspace receives. Mr. Nikischer responded that currently Melin Park is the only pesticide free park in the Village and is hoping to incorporate Ehret Park as pesticide free in the upcoming year. Mr. Nikischer stated there have been no restrictions on foot traffic in Burlington Park and his recommendations include fertilizing, aerating, and overseeding to maintain turf conditions.

Chairman LaPlaca opened up the discussion to the public at which time Ruta Jensen commented:

- The incorporation of another pesticide free park and the Woodlands rain gardens are a step in the right direction.
- The IPM plan is good but needs to be completed.

- The Village should choose not to use pesticides.
- Good use of fescue seed mix in shaded areas.
- The most important component of IPM is education of the citizens.

Chairman LaPlaca advised Mr. Nikischer to keep Committee updated on the Business District flowerbeds, the Burlington Park wall, and the Woodlands rain gardens.

Clark Mosquito Control, Earth Right Presentation

Mr. Franco introduced Clarke Mosquito Control representatives George Balis (biologist) and Emily Glasberg (entomologist) to Committee. Ms. Glasberg provided Committee a brief overview and informative video on Earth Right which is Clarke Mosquito Control's new green initiative towards mosquito abatement which is the only public health mosquito control program which utilizes products listed with the Organic Materials Review Institute.

Trustee LaPlaca inquired if any other communities are utilizing this type of mosquito control, cost differences, and if there has been success. Mr. Balis replied that there are approximately five other communities utilizing this service. Catch basin treatments and surveillance controls will receive no change in pricing; however there is an increase of 7% in the event adulticiding spraying is needed. Mr. Balis also stated that there has been 100% satisfaction with the program and control measures in other communities.

Trustee Saigh inquired about the safety of the Natular which is utilized as a larvicide and Merus which is utilized as an adulticide and their impacts on wildlife within the community. Mr. Balis informed Committee that these products are safe for all animals within Hinsdale while also being as effective as previously used products. It was also noted that this is the first EPA approved new active ingredient for promoting public health in the last 30 years.

Citizen, Ruta Jensen, inquired if mosquitoes can become resistant to Spinosad which is the active ingredient in Natular and what the benefits were from using Spinosad versus BTI. Mr. Balis responded that there should be no resistance to the Spinosad as there have been no applications. The benefit of Spinosad over BTI is that Spinosad has a longer residual effect.

Chairman LaPlaca advised Clarke Mosquito Control that since this was an informative discussion there will be no decision on the change to the Village's mosquito control program at this time. However this item will be discussed at the March EPS meeting.

Village Lot Resurfacing and Lighting Upgrades Discussion

Mr. Franco provided summary information to Committee regarding possible inclusion in the FY 2014-15 budget to complete Village lot resurfacing and incorporating lighting

upgrades at the same time. Current estimates for the resurfacing are approximately \$215,000. Staff has received a quote for the lighting upgrades which include moving the lights and directional boring the electrical component for these lights in the amount of \$30,000. Mr. Franco noted that it may be worth asking West Suburban Mass Transit if they would be willing to fund some of the upgrades.

Trustee Saigh commented that this is a high visibility centrally located parking lot that has had many band aid repairs over the years. The users of the lot would appreciate the upgrades and this may attract more users. Money spent on these upgrades would be well worth it.

Trustee Haarlow commented that this lot is particularly bad and falling apart. He noted that now is the time to address these issues and is in favor of completing this project as a full package.

Chairman LaPlaca advised Committee members to move through the budget process to see if these upgrades are a viable option for the Village Lot.

Permission to seek bids

Mr. Franco provided background on this item which includes the request to seek bids for fuel and the installation of irrigation systems in 10 planting beds within the Business District.

Chairman LaPlaca inquired how much the Village currently pays to have the planting beds watered. Mr. Franco responded that when applicable seasonal staff completes the watering which is augmented by full time staff if needed.

Trustee Saigh inquired who will maintain these irrigation systems after 4-5 years. Mr. Franco responded that staff will complete maintenance on irrigation systems however the backflow prevention devices will need to be certified by a third party.

Trustee Haarlow commented that there is no harm in receiving bids for these services.

Mr. Franco provided background on the Municipal Partnering Initiative for some services which are utilized by many different communities. This MPI is designed to promote cost savings through joint purchasing which raises the economies of scale. Village Manager, Kathleen Gargano, noted that the Village is not tied to contracts through the MPI and if bids received are unfavorable those services can be rejected and re-bid by the Village.

Chairman LaPlaca inquired that there may be glitches with this type of bidding and Trustee Saigh inquired what community would go first and how soon it would take to receive these services. Village Manager, Kathleen Gargano, responded that all MPI

members have the opportunity to weigh in on the specific bid specifications which includes the timing of services for each community.

Proposed Circular Drive at 629 S. Garfield St.

Mr. Franco provided background on this item which included the denial at the January EPS meeting for the removal of a 21” honey locust tree for the installation of a circular driveway. Since that time, Mr. Bomba has been working with staff to investigate possible solutions that would include his request for a circular drive while following Village guidelines for public tree protection. An agreement was established in which Mr. Bomba agrees to keep all excavation 8 feet from the honey locust tree.

Mr. Bomba responded to questions from Committee and stated he was going to use pavers on the apron but was not sure of the surface for the driveway at this time; also the sidewalk would need to be reconstructed in concrete as the current pavers are not ADA compliant. Chairman LaPlaca asked if the Village could retain the bricks as they are original, unique stamped bricks and it would be appropriate to salvage the bricks. Mr. Franco stated he would look into removing the bricks as weather conditions and Mr. Bomba’s construction schedule commence.

Chairman LaPlaca noted that there needs to be a signed letter of agreement which states all parameters for Mr. Bomba to follow before construction begins.

Engineering Monthly Report

Mr. Deeter noted that the Village has received a second award for the Woodlands Phase 1 Green Infrastructure project. The Special Achievement Award in the Waste and Storm Water category was awarded to the Village of Hinsdale and our consulting engineers, HR Green by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC). The award is given “for those projects worthy of special recognition for achieving engineering excellence”.

Mr. Deeter also reviewed the Oak Street Bridge project’s first community working group (CWG) meeting in Phase II, the design engineering phase. This meeting was held on February 6th at Katherine Legge Memorial Lodge. Mr. Deeter reviewed phase I (environmental assessment/preliminary engineering) activity, activities in phase II to date, and our anticipated timeline moving forward. Mr. Deeter showed the committee Hitchcock Design Group’s landscaping and architectural renderings which were presented for discussion at the CWG. Mr. Deeter and Chairman LaPlaca reviewed the discussion with and feedback from the community working group participants. Chairman LaPlaca highlighted that comments from the meeting may still be submitted to our consultant, HR Green, by phone or at the website. Please have those comments in by February 28th. HR Green will then compile and respond to the comments via the website. Additionally, Chairman LaPlaca noted that a meeting addressing traffic issues

will be held in the spring. Contact Hinsdale Police Chief Bradley Bloom if you wish to be part of this committee.

To Recommend Adoption of an Ordinance Vacating Half of a Public Alley Right-of-Way Situated West and Adjoining 228 S. Bruner Street at a Purchase Price of \$9,600.

Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda item. Mr. Deeter provided background information. Trustee Saigh asked how the price per square foot was determined. The C.A. Benson & Associates appraisal shows that the price was determined by a sales comparison approach which evaluates recent comparable property sales in the vicinity. With no further questions, Trustee Saigh moved to approve. Trustee Haarlow seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

To approve “A Resolution Approving and Accepting A Plat of Consolidation To Consolidate The Properties Commonly Known As 311 Ravine Road In The Village of Hinsdale, County of DuPage”.

Chairman LaPlaca introduced this agenda items and provided background information. Mr. Deeter confirmed that consolidating the parcels on the lot does not increase the size of the home allowed on the lot. The consolidation does vacate an unused utility easement that currently bisects the lot. This will provide the owner more flexibility when re-building on the lot in the future. With no further questions, Trustee Saigh moved to approve. Trustee Haarlow 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 9:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Deeter
Village Engineer