

**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE  
ZONING AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2012  
MEMORIAL HALL  
7:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Chairman Saigh, Trustee Angelo, Trustee Haarlow, Trustee Elder

**Absent:** Robert McGinnis, Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner

**Also Present:** Dave Cook, Village Manager, Brad Bloom, Police Chief, Rick Ronovsky, Fire Chief

Chairman Saigh called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and summarized the agenda.

**Minutes – October 2012**

Trustee Elder moved to approve the minutes for the October 22, 2012 meeting. Second by Trustee Haarlow. Motion passed unanimously.

**Monthly Reports – October 2012**

**Fire Department**

Chief Ronovsky reported on the activities of the Fire Department for the month of October 2012. The Fire Department responded to 232 incidents during the month bringing the year to date total to 2090 incidents through October. Fire personnel responded to a reported fire in the 400 block of Glendale and found large construction dumpster on fire next to a house under construction. Fire was extinguished, no damage. Members also responded to assist the Pleasantview FD with a multiple injury accident in Countryside. Paramedics transported a teenager to Loyola Hospital after he was extricated from the wreckage.

Chief Ronovsky reported on training conducted during the month including joint training with our MABAS Division on Incident Management Team training and Lt's Claybrook and Neville being certified as Rapid Intervention Team Officers. Department personnel also prepared for live fire training at 421 E Ogden Avenue to be conducted in November.

Chairman Saigh commented on the Alley ID program the Fire Department has started in the Business District. This program identifies the addresses on the rear of the buildings also so that emergency crews working in the rear of structures can identify to correct locations.

**Police Department**

Chief Bloom reported that Sergeant Peter Jirasek announced his retirement from the Village after 30 years of service. Sergeant Jirasek had served as one of the Police Departments first DARE Officers, had served as a Crime Prevention Officer prior to being promoted to Sergeant. Following his promotion Sergeant Jirasek oversaw the departments Field Training Officer program. Sergeant Jirasek has built many solid relationships in the community and will be missed by the community and his co-workers. Sergeant Jirasek plans to continue his teaching criminal justice classes on the collegiate level.

Trustee Angelo inquired on the arrest of a homeless man and asked if he was a PADs attendee. Chief Bloom indicated that the subject was not and has left the area and was recently involved in a battery case in Downers Grove.

## **Community Development**

Robert McGinnis gave the Committee a breakdown of monthly activity and added that he was able to start including a log of monthly phone activity with the new phone system. He noted that the department handled over 4,200 calls for the month of October.

## **Request for Board Action**

### **Ordinance Approving a Major Adjustment to a Planned Development for a New Entrance Gate at the 57<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance to Foxgate Lane for the Foxgate Planned Development**

Chairman Saigh introduced the item and asked if anyone was present to speak on the request. Jack Sartorre, the President of the Homeowners Association spoke on behalf of the request and gave background and rationale for the request.

He explained that although the high school and police department have done what they could in order to prevent school traffic circulating within the development, it was still at unacceptable levels.

He explained that at the peak of the problem they were experiencing between 15-20 cars making a turn into the development. While the situation has gotten better, they still wanted to pursue the gate option.

The petitioner explained that this was a private development and that maintenance was handled by the association.

Trustee Angelo asked about emergency access and why the height could not be maintained at a 3' height.

Mr. Sartorre addressed the concerns and stated that the overall height was not their primary concern here and that he supposed that they would not object to a 3' rather than 4' height.

Emergency access was discussed and those concerns were addressed.

There were questions on the operation of the gate itself and whether it would swing or retract.

The trustees agreed that provided the height was reduced to 3' there was no problem with the request and instructed the petitioner to bring some accurate exhibits of what they would actually be building.

Trustee Angelo made a motion to approve an Ordinance Approving a Major Adjustment to a Planned Development for a New Entrance Gate at the 57<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance to Foxgate Lane for the Foxgate Planned Development. Second by Trustee Elder. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Ordinance Approving a Special Use Permit for a Musical Tutoring Service Below the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor at 28 E. Hinsdale Avenue**

Chairman Saigh introduced the item and summarized the request and the vote at Plan Commission.

There was brief discussion on the use and its location in a lower level space in the building. Trustees agreed that the request was fairly self explanatory.

Trustee Elder made a motion to approve an Ordinance Approving a Special Use Permit for a Musical Tutoring Service Below the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor at 28 E. Hinsdale Avenue. Second by Trustee Angelo. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of an Ordinance Amending Title 6, Rules of the Road, and Chapter 11, Penalties of the Village Code, Regarding Distracted Driving**

Chief Bloom stated in summary that each year in the Village we average over 600 motor vehicle crashes. Many of these crashes involve injuries and some involve pedestrians and bicyclists. It is impossible for us to determine how many of these crashes are a result of distracted driving but we believe it is a significant factor in many crashes. Locally, we have observed many drivers committing lane violations; not observing pedestrians at crosswalks or driving through stop signs while talking on a cell phones. The National Safety Council estimates that about every 24 seconds a crash occurs as a result distracted driving. Many states have enacted laws to prohibit distracted driving. In Illinois we have several distracted driving bills pending legislative approval.

Chief Bloom is recommending that the Village Board consider an ordinance that would prohibit distracted driving. Under the proposed ordinance, which closely mirrors the proposed State law, distracted driving is defined as any means of manipulating items within the vehicle; reading; writing; performing personal grooming with any device; interacting physically with pets or unsecured cargo; using an electronic communications device; or engaging in any other activity, which interferes with the proper operation of vehicle equipment while operating a motor vehicle, as evidenced by a contemporaneous moving traffic violation.

Under the terms of the proposed ordinance persons would be issued a local ordinance citation carrying a fine of \$75. Violators would not be required to appear in court.

A discussion was held regarding this ordinance. Trustee Angelo was concerned that police officers should focus on the traffic violations and issue citations for that. Chief Bloom said that most of the traffic infractions are lane violations and officers are unwilling to cite drivers unless a lane violation was part of the DUI arrest. Chief Bloom stated that he thought citing drivers for the underlying cause of the lane violation was a better course of action. Trustee Haarlow voice similar concerns as Trustee Angelo.

Trustee Angelo stated he was opposed but wanted to move the issue to the full board for discussion. Trustee Angelo moved to approve an Ordinance amending Title 6, Chapter 4, Rules of the Road, and Chapter 11, Penalties of the Village Code, regarding Distracted Driving. Trustee Haarlow seconded. Two trustees voted for and two against approval.

**Approval of Temporary Parking Restrictions (No Parking 6 am to 9 am) on the East Side of Garfield Between Hinsdale and First Avenues**

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Chief Bloom stated in summary that he received a request from a resident to impose parking restrictions between 6:00am and 9:00 am weekdays for metered spots on the east side of Garfield between Hinsdale Ave and First Street. The purpose of this request is to relieve traffic congestion in the morning hours for northbound Garfield Street.

Chief Bloom said that his observations confirmed that morning rush hour traffic backs up sometimes all the way south to Third Street. Imposing parking restrictions during this time would allow two lanes of traffic to queue in this block and would relieve some of the congestion. We also observed usually only one car parks at metered spots reducing the northbound roadway to one lane and lengthening the queue.

Village Ordinance 6-2-3-5(b) allows the Board to approve temporary parking restrictions for a period of not more than 90 days. We are recommending that the Board approve temporary parking restriction that will allow staff more time to observe the impact on traffic and parking prior to recommendation of permanent restrictions.

Trustee Angelo moved to approve parking to be restricted between 6:00 am and 9:00 am, weekdays on the east side of Garfield street between the Garfield driveway entrance of 105 E. First to Hinsdale Ave. under the provisions of Village Ordinance 6-2-3-5 (b) for a period not to exceed 90 days. Trustee Haarlow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of an Ordinance to Declare Personal Property of the Village as Surplus and Sell it at Public Auction**

Chief Bloom stated he is requesting that a pick-up truck seized by the police department and awarded to the Village be declared surplus and sold at auction using the Internet auction site E-Bay. The minimum bid would start at \$15,000. Chief Bloom stated that the Village has had good success disposing of surplus property through the e-Bay website.

Trustee Elder moved to recommend that the Village Board approve an ordinance declaring property as surplus and approving the sale of the surplus property at the Internet website E-bay by public auction. Trustee Angelo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion Items**

**Approval to Seek Competitive Bids on Police/Fire Electronic Door Security System (Budgeted Replacement).**

The Committee approved seeking competitive bids for this project.

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**Temporary Ice Rinks**

Robert McGinnis summarized the issue and explained what was done last year. A letter was circulated to those individuals that had temporary ice rinks erected explaining where these types of structures could be erected.

He stated that the position taken last year was to observe and educate rather than to take enforcement action, but he wanted to get feedback from Committee before taking the same position this year. He stated that if the Committee felt differently and wanted to take a hard line position to prohibit them in front yards at a minimum, that he would like to try and get to those individuals before they erected them rather than after due to the investment involved.

The trustees agreed that the position taken last year was appropriate and to limit enforcement to a case by case basis by the police department rather than to make it a zoning issue and try to regulate them under the code.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Saigh asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Angelo made the motion. Second by Trustee Elder. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert McGinnis, MCP  
Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner