

**DRAFT MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE  
ZONING AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2014  
MEMORIAL HALL  
7:30 p.m.**

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

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Kathleen Gargano, Village Manager, Robert McGinnis, Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner, Brad Bloom, Police Chief, Rick Ronovsky, Fire Chief, Mark Wodka, Deputy Police Chief, Sean Gascoigne, Village Planner

Chairman Saigh called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and summarized the agenda.

**Minutes – November 2013**

Trustee Elder moved to approve the minutes as written for the November 19, 2013 meeting. Second by Trustee Angelo. Motion passed unanimously.

**Monthly Reports – January 2013**

**Fire Department**

Chief Ronovsky limited comments concerning the Fire Department monthly reports for November and December to questions from the Trustees. There were no questions.

**Police Department**

Chief Bloom asked if the Committee had any questions on the November and December Police Department Monthly Reports. Chief Bloom summarized some of the circumstances on two recent residential burglaries occurring in the Village and asked for residents to call immediately if they observe suspicious activity in their neighborhood.

**Community Development**

Robert McGinnis limited comments concerning the Community Development monthly reports for November and December to questions from the Trustees. There were no questions.

**Referral to Plan Commission**

**Recommend Case A-3-2014, 133 E. Ogden, be Referred to the Plan Commission for Review and Consideration of a Map Amendment.**

Chairman Saigh introduced the item, summarized the request, and asked if anyone was there to speak on behalf of the applicant. Dan Soltis of Cima Development spoke on behalf of the contract purchaser, Parent Petroleum Retail, who presently operates the BP station.

Mr. Soltis explained that the owner had a contract on the property to the west and that the plan was to ultimately demolish the mostly empty office building on the property, and replace it with a free standing drive-through car wash and 2,500 square foot retail building. They are looking to rezone the property to B3 to match the zoning of the existing gas station. Their expectation is to lease the retail building to a single user, ideally a dry cleaner or food mart.

Chairman Saigh commented on the number of approvals that would be required in order to do what the applicant wanted to do with the property and the difficulties that would be encountered at least with respect to the rezoning process.

Trustee Angelo added that the zoning map was established as it was with lines of demarcation that were not arbitrary and that these issues were not taken lightly.

Trustee Angelo made a motion to recommend that case A-3-2014, 133 E. Ogden, be Referred to the Plan Commission for Review and Consideration of a Map Amendment. Second by Trustee Elder. Motion passed 2-1 and one abstention.

### **Request for Board Action**

#### **Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Withdrawing the Landmark Status Designating 319 N. Washington Street as a Historic Landmark**

Chairman Saigh introduced the item, gave a brief summary of the request, and asked the applicant, Beth Barrow, to speak on the request.

Mrs. Barrow submitted a list with reasons as to why they feel that their home has become a tear-down candidate and why they feel that having the home landmarked will be an impediment to marketing the home when and if that time comes.

She went on to state that it is her position that ultimately this does become an issue of economic hardship.

Trustee Elder asked about process and which of the two provisions they were asserting this case met. If they were claiming economic hardship, then the process would be to try and obtain Certificate of Economic Hardship through the Historic Preservation Commission.

Sean Gascoigne explained the process, stating that unless the applicant was ready to move forward with a project; either a permit for work or demolition, that the applicant could not obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness. As such, they were left with the choice to either request that the Committee approve the request for withdrawal or go back to the Commission to try and make a case for Economic Hardship.

Trustee Haarlow stated while he is not eager to go down this road, he empathizes with the Barrows plight and did not want to run them through additional hoops. He felt that the conditions were met in 14-4-1A.

Trustee Angelo agreed stating that it would be different if they purchased the home with the designation in place already, but in this case they were trying to be part of the solution and being punished for it.

Trustee Saigh stated that he was not there yet and circulated a list of significant homes around the north Hinsdale area that he felt supported his claim that the essential character of the area had not changed. He stated that he wanted to take a longer view of this and viewed it in the context of one house in a larger area thereby tempering the conditions set forth in 14-4-1A.

Trustee Angelo made a motion to recommend Approval of an Ordinance Withdrawing the Landmark Status Designating 319 N. Washington Street as a Historic Landmark. Second by Trustee Haarlow who went on to add that he did not want to see the Barrows held hostage to their own good intentions and that he was concerned that a chilling effect would be created by going through this voluntary process should it be difficult to undo if circumstances changed.

There was conversation about obtaining a Certificate of Economic Hardship and the process involved in obtaining it.

Motion carried 2-2 with Trustee Elder and Chairman Saigh voting against it. Request moves forward with no recommendation.

**Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Restricting Left Turns from Northbound Monroe Street to Westbound Ogden Avenue Daily Between 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Chief Bloom stated in summary that in October 2012, he received a petition that appeared to contain 40 signatures of Village residents that supported the installation of left turn restrictions from N/B Monroe to W/B Ogden Ave. The purpose as stated in the petition was to reduce the volume of crashes occurring at Ogden and Monroe as a result of this turn.

Due to Ogden Avenue being a roadway under the jurisdiction of the State and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) we sent a letter to IDOT dated October 31, 2012, requesting that this intersection be reviewed for potential improvements that would reduce the number of crashes.

IDOT was provided historic crash data and studied the intersection for potential improvements. On December 23, 2013, we received a letter back from IDOT with their findings. In summary, IDOT will recommend infrastructure improvement including "channelizing" this section of Ogden Ave which includes protection for vehicles making a left turns from westbound Ogden to southbound Monroe. The improvements however are not part of IDOT's FY 2014-2019 improvement plan, however the program is reviewed on an annual basis. The intersection was also reviewed for the installation of traffic signals but does not meet the MUTCD warrants.

In the interim, IDOT indicates that they will allow the Village to proceed with implementing left turn restrictions for both left turns from westbound Ogden to southbound Monroe and northbound Monroe to westbound Ogden. Our review of the crash data between 2008 to present found that 25 crashes (8 resulting in personal injuries) occurred from vehicles traveling northbound on Monroe turning left to westbound Ogden. All of the crashes occurred between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm and on every day of the week.

Chief Bloom said that traffic volumes for southbound Monroe are 2,226 and northbound are 1,171. We counted 383 left turns from northbound Monroe to westbound Ogden (occurring between 7am to 6pm) of which 57 came from 550 W. Ogden Ave (Hinsdale Orthopedics)

Based on this data we are recommending that the Village prohibit left turns from northbound Monroe to westbound Ogden from 7am to 7pm daily. Left turn restrictions will undoubtedly reduce crash volumes at this interaction but will increase traffic volumes on North Street and Madison Street (approximately 383 cars between 7 am and 6 pm) as drivers access the most direct access on local streets to access westbound Ogden.

Trustees discussed the matter and were concerned that the turn restrictions would increase traffic volumes on adjoining Village streets, particularly Madison Street which already backs up and does not have a left turn arrow for N/B traffic to turn W/B Ogden Ave.

Trustee Angelo motioned to recommend that the Village Board approve an ordinance amending Schedule VI: Special Turning Restrictions in Section 6-22-6 subsection B, by adding subparagraph 1, and prohibiting left turns on Monroe Street from northbound Monroe to Ogden between the hours of 7am to 7pm. Trustee Elder seconded. Motion failed with Chairman Saigh voting yes and Trustees Elder, Haarlow and Angelo voting not to recommend approval to the Board.

**Approve an Ordinance Declaring Property as Surplus, Approving the Sale of the Surplus Property on the Internet Website E-Bay by Public Auction and Disposing of Items that Have No Value**

Chairman Saigh introduced this item. Chief Ronovsky spoke on declaring a 1987 Pierce fire engine as surplus while Chief Bloom spoke on declaring two older police vehicles as surplus for the purpose of selling them.

Chief Ronovsky stated that for over 30 years the Fire Department operated with 3 fire engines and a ladder truck all of which can pump water. Over the years the make-up of the Fire Department indicates that 2 fire engines and a ladder truck that pump water are sufficient. The current 3<sup>rd</sup> fire engine has been used 10 times in 3 years. Chief also stated that the Fire Department Officers are evaluating if there is a need for an additional

vehicle, a first response squad will be looked at. Chief Ronovsky reviewed the cost savings to the Village as well as any contingency plans with one less fire engine.

Chief Bloom reviewed removing and selling two older police vehicles. There was some discussion on possibly assigning one of these vehicles to Community Development.

Motion was made by Trustee Elder, second by Trustee Angelo to recommend declaring one fire engine and two police vehicles as surplus and sell to the highest bidder. This passed unanimously.

**Recommend Approval that Wirf's Industries be Approved to Refurbish Engine 1013 as Outlined in the Scope of Work to be Done and Not to Exceed \$31,933**

Chairman Saigh introduced this item. Chief Ronovsky spoke concerning the need to perform some work to one of our existing fire engines (1013). With this fire engine being 13 years old, the Fire Department needs to extend its useful life from the current 16 years to 20 years in order to establish a functional replacement program for fire engines. Scope of work was reviewed. It was recommended that Wirf's Industries complete this work.

Since the total cost exceeded the Capital budget amount, Trustee Harlow asked if the Fire Department was able to off-set the cost with the Vehicle Maintenance portion of the Budget and still make needed repairs to other equipment. Chief Ronovsky indicated that some of this work would have already been performed during the annual maintenance of the fire engine and that cost would have come from Vehicle Maintenance at that time.

Motion was made by Trustee Elder, second by Trustee Harlow to recommend approval of Wirf's to complete refurbishing work. This passed unanimously.

**Recommend that Fleet Safety Services Provide Emergency Lighting for Engine 1013 at a Cost Not to Exceed \$6,892.66**

Discussion on this item was included in the above work to be done on Engine 1013. This cost was to provide replacement emergency lighting to be installed during this refurbish work. Some work done by Wirf's, some done in house by firefighters.

Motion made by Trustee Elder, second by Trustee Harlow to recommend approval to Fleet Safety for emergency lighting for Engine 1013. This passed unanimously.

**Discussion Items**

**Discussion on Implementing Time Zone Restrictions in the 700 and 800 Block of Phillippa and Justina Streets.**

Chief Bloom stated in summary that in November 2013 the ZPS Committee considered implementing parking restrictions that prohibited parking on the west side of Justina and the east side of Phillippa between Bob-O-Link and The Lane.

The original concern was based on cars (primarily belonging to Whole Foods employees) that were parking on both sides of the street making it impassable at times.

Chief Bloom stated that when this matter was considered a group of residents from Justina Street circulated a petition seeking time zone restrictions be implemented on their block.

The Committee approved restricting parking to one side of the street on both Phillippa and Justina, which was subsequently approved by the Board. The Committee voiced concerns that if time zones were approved on Justina Street that it would simply encourage drivers seeking long term parking to Phillippa Street. The Committee decided to consider the time zone restrictions after input from the Phillippa residents.

Notice was sent out to the residents of Phillippa Street seeking their input on time zoned parking restrictions (see attached). At this time there does not seem to be an interest in implementing time zones on Phillippa.

Chief Bloom said that we did receive two responses from Phillippa residents not in support of the time zone restrictions.

Due to the impact the implementation of a time zone on Justina would have on Phillippa we do not recommend the installation of time zone parking restrictions on either street. Chief Bloom stated that the original safety and traffic concerns that arose from cars parking on both sides of the streets and making them impassable has been addressed.

Resident Nick Statler of 828 Phillippa addressed the Committee indicating that the time zone restrictions would be problematic for his guests. Trustee Haarlow asked Chief Bloom if the Village had experience with residential parking permits. Chief Bloom said a long time ago residential permits were used at Elm and Walnut but he was not in favor of their use.

After a brief discussion the consensus of the Committee was to not implement time restrictions on either street due to a lack of support from residents on Phillippa.

**Renovation to the Kitchen/Day Room of the Fire Station.**

Chief Ronovsky informed the Committee that members of the Fire Department have included remodeling the Kitchen/Day Room of the fire station in the budget for the Foreign Fire Insurance Fund. Chief Ronovsky indicated that performing this through the Foreign Fire Fund allows this to be completed without funding through the Village Capital Improvements.

There were no questions and members agreed this was an excellent idea.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Saigh asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Elder made the motion. Second by Trustee Angelo. Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert McGinnis, MCP  
Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner