

Public Works Committee Meeting

August 31st, 2017

Minutes

Called to Order: @4:32 p.m. by Chairman Trustee Jim Addington

Present: Mayor Ron Gunter, Trustee Jim Addington, Trustee Marie Guzzo, Trustee Linda Liddle, Trustee Bruce Barker, Trustee Steve Nero, Trustee Harold Barry, Village Manager Steve May, Finance Director Spencer Parker, Community Development Director Jill Ziegler, Public Works Director Mike Ramsey, Clerk Jinny Szymiski, Public Works Supervisor Jim Cates, Public Works Supervisor Virgil Viscuso, Village Engineer Noriel Noriega, Chief of Police Jim Gunther, Deputy Fire Chief Steve Riley, and guests Norm Oostman and Jon Griffin.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from 7/20/2017 were approved.

New Business:

- A. Norm Oostman from Oostman Fabricating at 45 E. Chicago Ave. came to speak to the committee regarding the project occurring near his business at Warwick Ave. and Naperville Rd. Village Engineer Noriega gave a brief update with the status of the project. Mr. Oostman's primary concern is with the design of the street parking along Warwick Ave. The west side of Warwick used to have eight to nine head in parking spaces which were utilized for Oostman employee parking and customers. The new lay out of the road has eliminated the head in parking and four parallel parking spaces have been returned. This will eliminate the sidewalk being blocked or vehicles hanging out into the street. Mr. Oostman is concerned he will not enough parking for his customers and employees as he originally had 16 spots. He stated the lack of parking will lower the value of the building and a burden to neighbors as parking will occur on the street in front of residences. With prior projects as well as the current project has eliminated a total of eight to nine spots of the original 16 spots. Trustee Barry voiced concern regarding the head in street parking blocking the sidewalk and stated with the improvements, it is bettering the Village. Also, multiple businesses have utilized public right of way for personal parking. With project improvements, parking areas in the right of way have been brought up to proper standards, which includes the American with Disabilities Act. Trustee Addington asked if vehicles could still park head in, if the trucks were removed. Engineer Noriega stated a normal standard cross section of Warwick Ave. with head in parking would have a normal sized vehicle needing to park two feet over the sidewalk and still have the rear of the car hanging out into Warwick. It is not feasible for head in parking. There are four spots on the east side of Warwick that are underutilized that can be used for Oostman employees and customers as well.
- B. With the apiary coming in at the corner of Richmond and Quincy, the need for public sidewalk extension has come up. Mr. John Griffin of 222 E. Quincy St. came to speak of his landscaping company and the work he has completed on the front of this property. Mr. Griffin stated the sidewalk would pose a safety issue if anyone was on the sidewalk with truck traffic entering and leaving the businesses along Quincy St. The Township would have the same danger with trucks entering and leaving the site while crossing over the sidewalk. Mr. Griffin has created a

landscaping design on his site and is concerned with the proposed seven foot wide sidewalk. He wanted to know what the purpose of the sidewalk is. It was stated the apiary will bring foot traffic from schools and parks along Quincy St. Manager May went over the reason for the sidewalk being seven feet wide along the curb line. If the Village went with the standard five foot sidewalk, it would need to be pushed as far from center line of Quincy as possible on the right of way. This would cut into the landscaping design that Mr. Griffin has created on the property. This is trying to be avoided which would then affect the mailbox and eight trees. Mr. Griffin is concerned about the impact on the nature aspect. Mr. Griffin stated if the Village is discussing sustainability with the apiary, he would like his landscaping preserved as well. Mr. Griffin is willing to work with the Village to better this sidewalk concept, such as aggregate walk, but with his landscaping, he would need to wait until Spring to move items. Mayor Gunter would like to wait until spring for revising this project. This project will be postponed until spring time.

- C. Community Development Director Ziegler presented to the committee a proposed new ordinance for preservation of Heritage Trees. As part of the strategic plan, trees need to be preserved. Heritage trees are considered 20 inch trees in diameter; four feet above the ground. Director Ziegler went over the value of the trees to the environment. Trees are not protected with developers demolishing older trees prior to approval. There will be permit requirements in place for a three to one replacement for private trees that can not be saved. This will help preserve trees as only 12 percent of the Village's canopy. A recommendation will go before the Environmental Improvement Commission in September and a more formal presentation will be brought before the Village Board. Trustee Barry appreciates this ordinance moving forward to preserve trees in older communities.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Public Works Director Mike Ramsey gave an update on the status of the new Public Works facility. Mayor Gunter has met with staff to satisfy goals for this project. The current proposal goes in line with the financial budgeting of the project. Water rates would go up .20 cents for the next three years and the Places for Eating tax would increase by half a percent. Director Ramsey stated the goals such as moving out of residential areas, all employees under one roof, all vehicles inside, replace water tower, and follow EIC recommendation for LEED certification. The most feasible option is to build at 55 E. Burlington, next to the current Water Division. The new building would be 97,000 square feet. There would not be displacement of employees with this option. There would be better curb appeal with a new design. Residents would not be looking at water tanks, but a newly designed building. Equipment would be protected and streamlined in one location as opposed to having to supply two buildings. The building would be around a 10-12 million dollar building. The water tower would be 3 million. This cost is built into the cost of the increased water rates. The stormwater portion would be around 2 million dollars. Total cost to build at the location would be 16 million dollars. There will be future costs with soil remediation at the Street Division. The cost of the project will not be touching any reserves. Financing will come from various avenues. Finance Director Spencer Parker mapped out where the funding would come from for the project. There is concern regarding the water rates, places for eating tax and the cost of the engineering. The Committee and Board will need to decide if they want to move forward with the total cost of 16 million to create a new PW facility. It was decided at the committee level to get the revised engineering fees for phase 2 of the project to move forward and

estimate the future costs. Director Ramsey will get the proposal for the next phase and present it at a future board meeting.

Meeting motioned to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. by Trustee Barry, seconded by Trustee Nero.