

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Village Hall **7:30 PM**

Village of West Dundee
August 9, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Village Clerk Traver called the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:30 pm.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present were Trustees Voss, Gillam, Price, Osth, Hanley and Yuscka. Also present were Village Manager Cavallaro, Village Attorney Brechin, Finance Director Danielson Community Development Director Tymoszenko and one (1) person in the audience. Village President Keller was absent.

MOTION: Moved by Trustee Hanley and seconded by Trustee Yuscka to appoint Trustee Osth as President Pro Tem. Upon roll call, motion was approved.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:

President Pro Tem Osth led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Moved by Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee Gillam to approve the agenda as presented. Upon roll call, motion was approved.

V. VILLAGE PRESIDENTS REPORT: There was none.

VI. REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM TRUSTEES: There were none.

VII. VILLAGE STAFF REPORTS:

Manager Cavallaro said the downtown streetscape is moving along and should be done on the schedule.

Manager Cavallaro said the Fifth Streets traffic lights are now permanent and in operation.

Attorney Brechin explained the way the Regular Board meetings and the Committee of the Whole meetings are scheduled saying there is one Committee of the Whole meeting and two Regular Board meetings each month. Public discussions are permitted at the two Regular Board Meetings and public discussion is limited to the items on the agenda at a Committee of the Whole Meeting.

VIII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. License Fee for Raising Chickens

Director Tymoszenko explained that Brian Leith, a resident of the Village of West Dundee, has submitted a farm animal license application to permit backyard chickens. He has also asked for a reduction in the cost of the license as he believes it is a deterrent to raising chickens and the wrong impression for reduce, recycle and reuse. The current license fee is \$25 per year per animal.

Mr. Leith addressed the Board saying he has no objection to having 3 or 4 chickens. He said the number of eggs produced by the chickens is based on sunlight and in the summertime an egg per chicken per day is normal. He said based on our climate that there are really only four months a year when egg production is good, but that in the winter months the type of coop, lighting and temperature will also have the chickens produce eggs. He said that his request to raise chickens will provide eggs for his family and teach his children that not everything comes from the store.

Mr. Leith also addressed the fee saying the Village only charges \$10 per year for dogs and that he thinks \$25 per year for each chicken is steep.

Discussion took place regarding the number of chickens to be permitted, property size, what do you do with the refuse, odor, if the chickens will draw in coyotes, fox and raccoons, what is the annual cost for feed (\$75 for 4 chickens), size of coop space (2 sq. ft. per hen in enclosed pen), size of outside space needed (10 sq. ft. per hen), the amount of the fee and whether or not the fee once established should be yearly and that no roosters would be permitted.

After discussion, it was decided that four (4) chickens would be the maximum allowed and there would be a one time annual fee of \$25.

Director Tymoszenko said she would send a letter to the neighbors of Mr. Leith notifying them of Mr. Leith's intention to have chickens. She also a draft ordinance would be drawn up amending the fee, the number of chickens permitted and will be presented back to the Board.

B. FY 2010-2011 First Quarter Financial Report

Finance Director Danielson presented this report on the First Quarter Financials. He said there are no real surprises for the first three months. He said that the state sales tax has stabilized, but that state shared revenues are down and that revenue distributions from the State of Illinois continue to lag.

He also pointed out that the utility taxes are now fully implemented and on target. He called the Board's attention to the article that was in the winter Newsletter which explained the utility taxes and the reasons for their implementation. In answer to questions from Trustees, Director Danielson said he has received a few number of calls and complaints regarding these taxes. He said these three sources of new revenue will generate in excess of \$700,000 for the Village which partially makes up the \$1,000,000 in decreased sales tax revenues that have been experienced within the General Fund.

He said due to the lower amount of cash available for investments as well as lower interest rates the interest rates have continued to decline.

Director Danielson said that on a positive note, the Community Development Department has issued a building permit for the King Shan Distribution Center (located in the Opus Corporate Center) in June of this year. He said this is the first major project that has occurred within the Village for several years.

He addressed the Water and Sewer billings and noted that the cash/investment balance of this enterprise fund continues to remain negative. He did say that it is anticipated that the rate restructuring program that went into effect on June 1, 2010 will generate approximately 9% in addition revenue for the Water and Sewer Fund. He said he has received very few complaints about the new water rate structure and that the Spring newsletter carried a full explanation of the rate structure and reasons for the change.

In answer to President Pro Tem Osth's question, he said it does appear that total pumpage for the year will be greater than last year due to the warmer weather we have been experiencing. Manager Cavallaro said he would get the figures from Public Works.

Director Danielson told the Board that the field work for the Village's annual audit is underway and any final adjusting entries that need to be made for FY 2009/10 have not yet been received or posted. He concluded that the need to closely monitor the Village's 2010-11 operating budget continues to remain strong. He said he hopes that the sales tax situation has stabilized; however, the potential for a significant influx of new dollars continues to remain a real one given the proposed commercial development within the Village. He also said that the additional revenues being generated by the new revenue sources implemented last year are now being collected and are being used to cover the shortfall in sales tax revenues.

Trustee Gillam asked that the Village store on line past Newsletters.

C. Western Corridor Bike Trail Options

Manager Cavallaro presented this item to the Board for discussion. He reminded the Board that pursuant to their discussion of the pros and cons of installing the bike trail along Huntley Road they had requested a discussion of options of relocating the bike path and amending the Master Trail Plan.

The Board was presented with three options. He said the first is along Kittridge, through the Hills and Tartans subdivisions, through the forest preserve, then interconnecting with future development west of the forest preserve on the Galvin property, ultimately linking with Randall Oaks Park District facilities.

He said the difficulty of utilizing the Kittridge route is that no current trail exists through the Hills development, necessitating a designated bike trail on the right side of the roadway. He said this type of path sometimes come with parking restrictions in order to facilitate a safe bicycle environment.

He said a couple of options exist for the Village including retaining the plan as designated , which includes three path linkages along Sleepy Hollow Road, Huntley Road and Kittridge.

Discussion was held on the width of Kittridge, (Manager Cavallaro will check on the width), not to eliminate parking, possible problems with navigating on Kittridge and Tartans, safety concerns, the need for aggressive signage especially if bike path would access Raceway Woods and cross Huntley Road, possibility of signalization, posting streets as bike routes, looking at access points, the willingness of the Forest Preserve to work with the Village and whether or not there will be a bike path through Huffman Park.

The second option would be to eliminate this section of the Huntley Road bike path and utilize only two paths that would exist at Kittridge and along Route 72 and extend linkage from Kittridge north through the forest preserve to Oak Drive, utilizing the existing bike path that has been installed along the south side of Oak Drive, which extends to the west side of the Grand Pointe subdivision.

Manager Cavallaro said there is a downside to this trail designation because it places it directly through the subdivision and this bike path along Oak Drive is in lieu of a sidewalk and therefore creates conflicts with the bike path for every driveway access that crosses this area.

The third option that he presented would be to facilitate the bike path improvements along Huntley Road to the Village owned open space property located at Sleepy Hollow and Huntley Road on the southeast corner and facilitate the development of a trail system through that site, ending up on the east side of Sleepy Hollow Road and then provide access through that site to Oak Drive in conjunction with the existing bike path at Oak Drive in the Grand Pointe subdivision.

Discussion took place as to amending the bike trail system to one of the three options, basic things that need to be done for the Grand Pointe homeowners, i.e. sidewalk replacement, tree planting, and driveway approaches rather than a bike path, maintenance issues of a bike path in that area, and applying for a Tiger Grant.

After the discussion, Manager Cavallaro said he would check on the width of Kittridge and Oak; see what the forest preserve status is on the improvements of the Schweitzer property and a laundry list of prices for trees, sidewalks and driveway approaches.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was none.

X. MISCELLANEOUS:

Manager Cavallaro thanked the Board for their support during the last couple of months.

Trustee Gillam announced the next gardening date is August 28th.

Trustee Price asked about the downtown streetscape. Manager Cavallaro said the materials should be here by the 18th of August and they will be starting by the Samata building.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Moved by Trustee Voss and seconded by Trustee Price to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting. Motion was unanimous.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

Barbara Traver
Village Clerk

Norm Osth
President Pro Tem