

**MINUTES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TOWN MEETING
Monday, May 11, 2009**

Present:

Trustee Brandt	Trustee Feldman
Trustee McDonough	Trustee Saltiel
Trustee Servi	Trustee Walder, Jr.
Mayor Blomberg	Village Clerk Mastandrea
Village Manager Irvin	Dep. Village Clerk Marshall
Director of Public Works Hughes	Director of Community Development McNellis
Chief of Police Melvin	Director of Financial Systems Roelker
Village Attorney Simon	

Location: Village Hall, Public Meeting Room, One Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069

ROLL CALL

Mayor Blomberg called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and Deputy Village Clerk Marshall called the Roll.

ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS

2.11 Town Meeting

1. Ms. Carol Golden, 425 Village Green, said that when she visited the new Weiss Development on the Village Green she was told by the sales people that the trees there were a dedicated forest preserve. It was her understanding that the area was going to be cleaned up. She asked if any of the “bad” growth has been taken out. Mayor Blomberg said on her side of Indian Creek those trees are on the condominiums’ property. On the other side of Indian Creek is Village-owned property and that area is scheduled to be cleaned up and some of the undergrowth will be removed. Ms. Golden asked what the chance is of having it remain that way and Mayor Blomberg said “none”. He said the Village’s goal is to develop that property. Since the permits with the Army Corps of Engineers are getting close to their expiration dates, the Village needs to get that work done so the permits don’t expire. If they do, the Village will have to start all over again. Village Manager Irvin said work on this site will take place over the summer.

2. Mr. Grant Golden, 425 Village Green, asked where the road that was just put in at the stoplight is going. Mayor Blomberg said it will go into the new downtown area. It will not go over the creek.

Mr. Golden said, with the new development on the Village Green, there will be 150 units and that may bring about 200 cars traveling in and out of there. There is no stop light at that intersection. He felt the Village has the leverage to get a stop light there. It is problematic especially during rush hour. Director of Public Works Hughes said she did not think there is sufficient traffic volumes on the side roads to warrant a light, but staff will look into it.

Lastly, Mr. Golden said the Village provided financial information (in the Annual Report), and he felt that it should have provided a balance sheet. He felt it is an essential part of looking at any financials. Trustee Saltiel said we have an operating budget and capital improvement budget where all that is set out. That is really the actual budgeting document of the Village, but his point is well taken.

Mr. Alan Blum, 208 Northampton Lane, said he went to the Village to see if he needed a permit to redo his driveway. He had investigated other materials and selected crushed stone with pavers. The contractor he used said he was not changing the driveway so he didn't need a permit. Mr. Blum relied on his contractor and had him do the driveway. He then heard from Engineering Supervisor Rob Horne and was told his gravel driveway was not permitted by Code. Mr. Blum said that asphalt is toxic, and there is nothing toxic in crushed stone. He feels this type of driveway should be acceptable if installed by a professional. He said he put in 16 foot-aprons. He feels that crushed stone installed properly should be adopted by the Village.

Village Manager Irvin said the current Code does not allow crushed stone. The way the Code is written is the exact opposite of what the Board's discussion was eleven years ago. If nothing else, staff needs to correct that portion of it. There are two separate issues. What do you do about existing ones? There are about eight crushed stone or gravel driveways in the Village that have no apron at all. That is a separate issue from whether you would allow decorative crushed stone driveways with aprons. Mr. Blum said that Village Forester Gliot came to his house to look at some trees. He saw the driveway and he said ecologically it is superior to any other materials that are used. Trustee Brandt felt this is going to become a bigger issue. She agrees with the environmental aspects of it. She would look to changing the Code and allowing crushed stone and deciding on a size for the aprons. Trustee Saltiel does not favor the crushed stone. He has a concern that some people will not maintain their driveways correctly. His issue is with the gravel getting into the sewer system and into the roadway. He felt that even with an apron of 16

feet, with the plows in the winter time when the cars go out of the driveway, there will be run-off into the street. He can see the crushed stone closer to the home. Trustee Brandt had concerns about the Board trying to “over control” things. She agrees that the apron should be 12, 16, or 20 feet.

Trustee McDonough was open to looking at some amendment but it sounds like the ordinance adopted many years ago made it illegal to put in gravel, which was low cost. Now we have a resident who spent a lot of money putting in a high-cost driveway and Trustee McDonough would be concerned about aiming for the high-cost and excluding the low-cost.

Mr. Blum felt the people should maintain their driveway, and if they don't, they should get cited. He felt that with the appropriate apron that will not be an issue. Trustee Servi is open to listening. He shares Trustee Saltiel's concern that crushed stone or gravel will get into the roadway. The Board is open to looking into this. Trustee Servi said we should contact the contractor and let him know he cannot mislead the purchaser.

Ms. Roni Zalay, 321 Whitmore Lane, commented on power outages in Lincolnshire. In the two years that she has lived in Lincolnshire she was told, “Oh yes, that happens all the time”. In the thirty years she lived in Buffalo Grove, it rarely happened. In the two years she has lived here, it has happened between 12 and 18 times. Someone must be held accountable. She does not feel safe living in Lincolnshire and it is not up to Lincolnshire's standards. Trustee Brandt said the Board has been discussing this. She feels there are too many users on the grid. Village Manager Irvin does not know that to be the case. Commonwealth Edison has a franchise agreement with the Village to put their wires and cables in our rights-of-way, but we are not in the electricity business. He can't call someone in public works to “fix that thing - we don't have that power”. He said we have asked residents to supply that information to us so we can continue to get input. Trustee Saltiel said we need to gather more information so that we can go to Commonwealth Edison and tell them these are unacceptable levels of service. Village Manager Irvin said that Director of Public Works Hughes has been plotting the outages on a GIS map. Director of Public Works Hughes said they have super imposed the outages that we have to date. There are four main circuits that serve the residential portions of the Village. The southern-most one, which is down near Ryerson, has not experienced many outages at all. The majority of the outages have occurred in the Route 22 corridor and there are two circuits that are serving that area. One serves most of the property north of Route 22 and the second serves the Wood Creek Courts area and west (close to Oxford). There are more outages in those areas than other areas. Most of the ones that we have mapped from contact by the residents match up against the ones that Commonwealth Edison have recorded.

Mr. Grant Golden, 425 Village Green, said that the Board approved the monument sign for Village Green North. He felt that it will increase the traffic problems and the Village is developing “an accident waiting to happen”. He asked how long it would take for staff to get back to him with the survey results. Director of Public Works Hughes said it will take a couple weeks to run the study. He will have information within the next month. He would like to be notified when the Board discusses this matter.

Mr. Golden also suggested building a Community Center on the South Village Green. Trustee Saltiel said the Village had a Task Force look into this matter and the data showed that most of these facilities are “bleeding money”. They are incredibly expensive to operate, not even taking into consideration the construction costs.

Ms. Jeri Ettleston, 17 Sherwood, said the Village’s power outages are unacceptable.

Ms. Ettleston also said that the drinking of alcoholic beverages at North Park with the Kick Ball Leagues is unacceptable. Staff will look into this matter.

Mr. Jim Schneiter, 13 Dover Circle, thanked the Board for amending the Code to allow antique tractors on Village streets.

Mr. Jim Cheslock, 23728 Kingston Road, Prairie View, Il, asked when Lincolnshire will be annexing his property. He referred to the Lincolnshire-Buffalo Grove Boundary agreement. Mayor Blomberg advised that there are no plans to annex single-family homes in Prairie View at this time. Director of Public Works Hughes said she will get in touch with him regarding the availability of sanitary sewer in that area.

Mr. Cheslock said the median in between the parking lot at North Park is awful. Trustee Brandt agreed. She said it looks unruly. You can’t see kids and she was unhappy with it. She also said they need more trees for North Park.

Mr. Brad Schwartz, 45 Coldstream Circle, commented on the frequent power outages at Banner Day Camp. He heard from “the guys in the ComEd trucks” that the grid in our area is old and dilapidated and requires updating, but it is less expensive to fix it than to replace it.

Mr. Schwartz also asked if the Village could “tweak” the lights at North Park because there is light spill that comes onto Banner Day Camp property and that goes out on to Riverwoods Road and Everett Road. It is his understanding that it can be managed. Staff will look into this.

Mr. Nick Muresan, 40 Lincolnshire Drive, commented on the abandon properties in the Village and asked that they be maintained by the property owner. There are dandelion, uncut grass, leaves, branches.

Mr. Muresan also commented on the fact that his property taxes are getting higher and higher and asked what can be done to hold down costs. Mayor Blomberg explained that high tax bills are not from the Village, they are from the schools. Village Manager Irvin said that some people have been successful in getting their assessed valuations lowered, and Mr. Muresan should look into that.

Director of Community Development McNellis brought up property maintenance. He said the Village has to go through a process to enforce it. If grass needs to be cut it requires a warning, then a second notice. If we don't go through this process and take the complaint to court, it will get thrown out.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Brandt moved and Trustee Saltiel seconded the motion to adjourn. The voice vote was unanimous and the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

VILLAGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE

Carol S. Marshall
Deputy Village Clerk

(Attachment)

The following are Town Meeting “written requests” that were responded to during the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on the same evening as the Town Meeting.

Village Manager Irvin advised that the Town Meeting was adjourned before the Board responded to email and mail regarding the Town Meeting.

- A. Cut through traffic increase on Oxford Drive - Chief of Police Melvin will look into this.
- B. Two zip codes in Lincolnshire -Over the years there were two surveys sent to 600 addresses and the majority of the residents did not want to change from the Lake Forest address. The post office will not do another survey.
- C. Vehicles parked at the Village Hall overflow lot - Staff advised that it has no other choice. The staff parking lots are full.
- D. Tall grasses by Walgreens - Village Manager Irvin said it has been cut.
- E. Why are holiday lights burned so long? Village Manager Irvin said they stay up until February 14th and the Village had a number of calls suggesting that they be turned off earlier than that because of the cost of electricity. However, we do not pay for the electricity through a ComEd agreement.
- F. Can the Village provide larger recycling bins? Village Manager Irvin said we provide the largest totes for recycling now. Trustee Brandt said residents can get more than one toter.
- G. Village Manager Irvin advised that a resident wants a large tree planted where the large oak on the Village Green was located.