



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Glen Ellyn Village Board
Special Meeting
Monday, June 21, 2021
7:00 PM

Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Galligan Board Room

A. Call to Order

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Upon roll call by Clerk Cosby, President Senak and Trustees Christiansen, Fasules, Gould, Payne and Thompson answered "Present". Trustee Kalinich joined via Zoom.

Also in attendance: Village Manager Franz, Chief Norton, Finance Director Coyle, Professional Engineer Richard Daubert, Senior Civil Engineer Tom Topar, Public Works Director Buckley, Planning Manager Purvis.

D. Audience Participation

President Senak spoke regarding the tornado in Naperville, Woodridge and surrounding communities and acknowledged the fire department for providing back up support.

E. Presentation

1. Chief Norton will provide an update regarding the post covid plans for the Glen Ellyn Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks.

Chief Norton noted the food truck district, and the park district boat regatta would not be happening due to Covid restrictions. Chief Norton gave in detail the festivities for the Fourth of July including the Freedom 4 Run, indicating a portion of the proceeds will go to friends of the Glen Ellyn Park Scholarship Program. Chief Norton also gave details about the parade and fireworks at Lake Ellyn

Chief Norton answered questions indicated Diana Martinez as the Grand Marshal for the parade. Trustee Payne asked about the limit of runners for the Freedom 4 Run and if people could still donate even if they did not want to run. The answer was yes.

2. A resident wanted to speak about traffic safety on Roosevelt Road.

It was addressed the line for the drive thru lane at Starbucks extends onto Roosevelt Rd. during peak business hours.

President Senak indicated he will discuss this situation with the police department and with public works.

F. Central Business District (CBD) Streetscape and Utility Improvements Project Update (Presented by Professional Engineer Daubert) (Discussion Only)

1. Professional Engineer Richard Daubert updates the Village Board on the proposed lane configuration for the CBD Streetscape and Utility Improvements project.

Richard Daubert's objectives are to recap the geometric changes, summarize input from the police, fire and capital improvements commission as well as solicit direction from the village board.

Richard Daubert summarizes the deliberation that occurred with the Village Board in March regarding the design elements of the projects such as curb extensions, parking changes and turn lanes.

Richard Daubert goes into detail about curb extensions such as safety to pedestrians and supporting traffic. He also discusses things to consider when implementing curb extensions including not causing conflict with transit vehicles, maintain truck turning abilities, providing proper street drainage and other street maintenance.

Exclusive vehicular lane and a shared lane are defined.

The importance of not negatively impacting a truck's turning ability was done by Civil Tech overlaying turning templates for design vehicles and determining what vehicles could be accommodated at each intersection.

The three locations being discussed to remove right turn lanes are: Forest/Pennsylvania, Main/Duane, and Main/Crescent.

Richard Daubert discusses pros and cons of curb extensions.

Richard Daubert summarizes the presentation and states the police and fire did not have any concerns with the proposed improvements at Forest/Pennsylvania and the CIC supports the changes.

Richard Dauber's next topic is proposing to make the CBD more pedestrian friendly.

Implementation of roadway improvements that accommodate all users. These improvements would be supported by the Complete Streets Resolution.

The 2020-2022 strategic plan is specifically to make the downtown more walkable and pedestrian friendly. Economic benefits, diversity equity and inclusion considerations are also discussed.

President Senak asked if anyone had any questions.

Trustee Christiansen asked if the traffic study looked at the Sunday morning traffic due to traffic regarding people attending Church. Richard Daubert responded and stated, they didn't specifically look at Church traffic, but CIC indicated its important to look at the traffic counts during the week and not solely specific events such as Fourth of July or Jazz Fest.

Trustee Kalinich had the same question as Trustee Christiansen. Her second question was about the markings on the street. She states they are already confusing and wants to know if it will be remarked to be less confusing. Richard Daubert advised the street will be wide enough to be two lanes. He also stated there will be additional markings and signage at this location as well on Main/Pennsylvania.

President Senak asks when Forest Ave becomes consolidated, will the sidewalk be expanded on the West side of the street. Richard Daubert responds saying he would need to look at the plans, but he believes majority of the room will be gained with the furniture zone. The sidewalks will marginally stay the same. President Senak makes mention of Made in Italy and their outdoor seating indicating if the sidewalks were expanded in front of their business, the temporary seating could become permanent. Richard Daubert states if they consider this, then there would be a loss in street parking. Richards Daubert also states it would be hard to determine which businesses this would be done for.

Resident Mark Gebecoma asks if the removal of the lane will impact emergency vehicles and not allow other vehicles to move to the side; he also asked if this would impact snow removal. Richard Daubert responds by saying at this specific intersection, traffic is moving away from the downtown area and there are plenty of areas for vehicles to pull to the side. Richard Daubert indicated there is still about 27ft of pavement and the corners being generous. In terms of snow removal, Richard Daubert states there have been areas identified that have caused some challenges, not necessarily with curb extensions but with planters that extend into the roadway but assured public works has a good plan on how to manage these challenges.

President Senak asked the Trustee's if they are in favor or opposed of the proposed changes for Forest/Pennsylvania.

Trustee Gould states she has concerns with other intersections but is in favor of this one. Trustee Thompson agrees with Trustee Gould and is in support of the proposed concept at Forest/Pennsylvania. Trustee Christiansen is also in support along with Trustee's Kalinich, Fasules and Payne.

Richard Daubert discusses the next intersection at Main/Duane.

Richard Daubert discussed the current lanes at Main/Duane. He proposes removing the two southbound lanes and combining them into one, 14ft wide travel lane. Richard Daubert explains there would be no markings because the lane allows all the movements. It is also proposed the north end of the intersection would be widened from 14ft to 17ft. Other proposed changes include a curb extension at the southwest corner and east of Main street the sidewalks would be widened along Duane St.

The pros and cons are discussed. Pros are shortened crosswalks, pronounced pedestrian visibility, traffic calming and room for streetscape elements. The cons are potential for traffic impact and loss of room for on-street parking for truck deliveries.

The traffic analysis is discussed. It was found there is a low volume of right turns during peak hours. There was also minimal conflict between southbound right turning vehicles and pedestrians in the west crosswalk.

Richard Daubert summarized police noted occasionally southbound vehicles occasionally stop at Duane and an escape should be provided. Fire did not have any objections. The CIC noted it was a challenging decision but still wanted to make the downtown more pedestrian friendly.

President Senak wanted to confirm the CIC's recommendations of 2 commissioners opposed, two supportive of the original design and four supportive of the revised design. Richard Daubert stated one of the commissioners who was originally against the improvements at the May meeting was then in support of the improvements at the June meeting.

President Senak asked if the Trustees had any questions

Trustee Gould asked about the 2009 plan that referenced traffic back up when the train tracks are down. Trustee Gould wanted to know if the traffic problems from the gates being down would be addressed and didn't see data to support this issue. Richard Daubert said the main concern would be the bottleneck that would form with the elimination of the turn lanes, however while the gates are down for an extended period, that would eliminate the flow of cars coming across the tracks and therefore eliminate the bottleneck. He stated Civil Tech did not find there were conflicts between vehicles and the crosswalks that would cause them to stop. Trustee Gould stated when the gates come up there would be frustrated drivers driving south if there are pedestrians present. Richard Daubert reminded the right turning movement was a low percentage.

Trustee Kalinich wanted clarification on which lanes were being discussed and wanted to know if the southbound lanes would still have the right of way and Richard Daubert confirmed she was correct.

Trustee Thompson asked Richard Daubert at the intersection with vehicles going southbound, when they are turning to go east on Duane, if there would be enough room for vehicles to go around the car and continue traveling southbound on Main. Richard Daubert said its difficult to know if the vehicle would be in the correct location. He suggested that there should be some markings on the roadway and being the vehicle was in the right location there would still be room for a car to go around.

Trustee Thompson agrees residents are familiar with turning at this intersection but not visitors and trucks who may impede vehicles from going around. Trustee Thompson asks what the solution would be if the proposed changes weren't working. Richard Daubert suggested moving the curb over to provide the additional room however Richard Daubert stated allowing cars to go around other cars could potentially create a safety issue.

Trustee Payne expressed a lot of concern with the proposed changes. Trustee Payne asked if it was considered keeping the turning lane however still doing the extension by the Prairie Path. Richard Daubert stated they did not look at it but stated providing more room for streetscape elements such as trees.

Trustee Christiansen stated a lot of people cross on the north end of the intersection despite the crosswalk being by the Prairie Path. She is concerned with the wider sidewalks it would encourage pedestrians to cross illegally. Richard Daubert said it is possible and suggested using a barrier such as a planter or trash can to eliminate people crossing unsafely.

President Senak asks for the Trustee recommendations

Trustee Fasules stated he also has the same concerns as Chief Norton. Trustee Fasules thinks everything should stay the same.

Trustee Kalinich is also not in favor of the changes. She is concerned about pedestrians crossing the street along with the blockage with the train tracks. Trustee Kalinich wants to leave the intersection as it is.

Trustee Payne is not in support of the proposal and wants to leave it as is.

Trustee Thompson states he wants to leave the intersection as is.

Trustee Gould supports leaving the intersection as it is.

Trustee Christiansen supports leaving it as is but suggests improving the sidewalk by Einstein's due to people walking in the street when it becomes crowded. Richard Daubert states they could do the improvements to only the east side of main street.

Trustee Kalinich suggested the southbound lane be also the right turn lane and leaving a left turn lane as well. Richard Daubert stated having the straight and through would be better because the right turn movement is a low volume. Trustee Kalinich suggests because the traffic is limited on the right turn, if cars are normally going around the left turning car it would be clearer to where cars should be.

Village Manager Franz asks if Richard Daubert wanted to ask the board about improvements only on the east side or if was going to discuss it with the design team and CIC. Richard Daubert stated the commission discussed it and recommended both sides of the street however discussing it only for one side was an option. Trustee Fasules wants to keep the turn lanes and accomplish widening the sidewalk.

Trustee Fasules mentions not eliminating the right turn because people turn into the parking lot.

President Senak asked Chairperson Samanski if they want this issue to go back to CIC and said after deliberation it can be brought back up.

Richard Daubert discusses the intersection Main/Crescent.

Richard Daubert states there are two parts of the intersection that need to be discussed. The north end of the intersection is the first one. There are 3 existing vehicular lanes, exclusive left turn lane south on Main St and east on Crescent, exclusive through lane to continue through the intersection and an exclusive right turn lane to go west on Crescent. The second area of the intersection to be discussed is the west end of the intersection. There is an exclusive right turn lane and an exclusive through lane.

The proposed changes on the north end would include to consolidate the right turn lane and the through lane. At the west end the proposed change is to eliminate the turn lane and combine it with the through lanes. It is also proposed to add curb extensions at the northeast, northwest and southwest corners of the intersection. Also proposing to widen the sidewalk on Crescent east of the intersection, which will shorten the crosswalk.

The benefits are discussed; shortened crosswalks, pronounced pedestrian visibility, room for streetscape elements, additional on street parking and traffic calming. The negatives are discussed such as eastbound right turning traffic will back up with the extended gate down time with freight trains and some eastbound traffic that will be impacted.

Richard Daubert explains Civil Tech looked at how the intersection performed when the gates are not down. They then looked at the videos to see what would happen when the gates are down for an extended period. They noticed it only takes four vehicles to stop for no vehicles to be able to get into the right turn lane. At the west end of the intersection, they noticed when the gates were down for an extended period, out of 17 vehicles that stacked up at the intersection it only impacted 5 vehicles during the extended gate down.

Richard Daubert summarizes police and fire's review of the proposed changes. Police were not convinced that the changes wouldn't cause traffic to back up and suggested implementing a trial and using cameras to monitor the improvements. Chief Clark with the fire company did not have any objections of the removal of the right turn lane but noted it was important to add striping on the street to encourage vehicles to be in the proper lanes.

Certain business liked the additional parking spots however other businesses on the east side because the right turn lane is used for the delivery trucks. There could be striping indicating it was to be used for loading purposes.

President Senak asks Trustee's if they have any questions

Trustee Fasules wants to how the mockup of the changes would be done. Richard Daubert replied with the board's permission, they would put in a temporary traffic control device and close off the eastbound right turn lane. The westbound turn lane is almost already set up with the temporary dining. Data would also be completed. Trustee Fasules asks why the mockup wouldn't be set up exactly like the changes that are proposed. Richard Daubert says it could be done but putting the cameras up for a long period of time would be expensive. Trustee Fasules is curious what the expense is going to be and thinks it could be worth it. Richard Daubert talks about the best time to collect the data.

Trustee Gould asks is it is just a streetscape plan and not an objective to improve traffic. Richard Daubert says some of the changes are slight improvements and the biggest challenges are implementing two-way traffic in the CBD. He says they did not look at eliminating parking spaces to improve traffic because he did not think they will be supported. His first thought would be added parking spaces and shortening crosswalks. Trustee Gould is still concerned with the freight train effects. The total count of trains was 94. This count has declined since 2019. The trains are getting longer and down slightly because of Covid. Trustee Gould wants to know if there is a device that could go on the gate that would document the date and time the gate went down and for how long. Richard Daubert responds by saying the video could be looked at and ICC has the gate down time.

CiviTech noted they did not see a lot of vehicles impacted by the gate down time. To improve this intersection Richard states extending the southbound right turn lane that's closed for dining. When traffic backs up on Main St. to Pennsylvania, vehicles will go to Glenwood to Crescent and head east to avoid the backed-up traffic which adds delays to Main St. The less conflicts would make Main St. more efficient. Trustee Gould says everything seems to focus and "zoomed in" on this intersection alone and wants to know when all the changes would be looked at "zoomed out" and looked as a whole. Mark Franz says looking at the proposed changes as a totality and they all improve traffic flow. Richard Daubert reviews the changes and study that was done by CiviTech to downtown Elmhurst. There was a 50-80% of the traffic that was predicted to be generated.

Trustee Kalinich thanks for the time committed to collecting the data. Trustee Kalinich wants to start by marking the lanes in the road as the first step for the examination of the intersection. Trustee Kalinich also states she sees cars and pedestrians not clear there are lanes going straight and it impacts people crossing crescent on the eastside street and cars on Main St. going south. Richard Daubert and Mark Franz say they will look into it further.

Trustee Thompson is unclear what will happen with delivery trucks and would like to see more of a plan. Richard Daubert says he has talked with the business and has found deliveries typically happen in the morning time and blocking off spaces specifically for loading zones in a certain time frame. Trustee Thompson also suggests certain pick up and drop zones for Uber and Lyft. Trustee Thompson also states he is concerned about Crescent eastbound through the main intersection and if the "bump outs" will increase vehicles making illegal moves to go eastbound when they are stopped.

Chief Norton responds and acknowledges that vehicles make illegal moves and although does not condone it, is concerned if those moves are not available it will create more of a grid lock

Richard Daubert says the curb extension on the north side of the street will serve as an obstruction to vehicles going through the center lane. It was discussed not doing the curb extension on the southwest corner and still have additional parking spaces.

Trustee Christiansen says the right-hand turn lane from Crescent to Main St is a default drop off zone and then illegally cross Main St. Trustee Christiansen is concerned about pedestrian safety and how backed up vehicular traffic will become.

Richard Daubert says they took that into consideration. Shortened crosswalks will help along with potentially adding planters or other obstructions. He also stated adding the parking spaces would allow vehicles to pull over and park to let people out.

Trustee Christiansen asks about Glenwood station and wants to know what the traffic would look like with the changes. Richard Daubert says the morning peak hours were calculated to generate 6 vehicles, and in the afternoon peak hours, 5 vehicles in the intersection.

A comment through Zoom from Julie Spiller. Julie wanted clarification where the parking spaces would be. Three spaces are in the existing right turn lane where there is outdoor dining is. The right turn lane would be 3 parking spaces that could be used for deliveries on Main St. Julie said she talked with FedEx and UPS throughout the week because there have been issues with deliveries and she was told no one has reached out to FedEx and UPS. Julie stresses the importance of getting their input. Julie also discusses multiple projects being built and the right turn lane being needed.

President Senak wants to know if the board wants to go with the CIC's recommendation and do a mockup and then brought back once data is available.

Trustee Kalinich answers she is supportive but wants to know what cost is involved. President Senak asks if she would be comfortable leaving that decision regarding costs and cameras to Chairperson Szymanski. Trustee Kalinich responds yes and reinforces she would like to see lane markings on the street.

Trustee Gould supports the mockup.

Trustee Fasules wants the recommendation from the CIC for the cost and length of duration but believes the board should have the final approval.

It is indicated that Chairperson Szymanski can provide the information to the board that Trustee Fasules is asking.

Trustee Payne states he is concerned about southbound on Main. Agrees once the mockup is proposed, the board should get the final approval.

Trustee Christiansen approves the mockup and advises not to do it until Main St. is fully open.

Trustee Thompson is in favor of CIC reviewing the plan and brought to the board with final approval of length and expense.

President Senak states he believes the real problem is with the railroad tracks. He states providing residents with real time information of the frequency and duration of the trains will allow them to make their own decisions and alleviate some of the problems that have been discussed.

2. Professional Engineer Daubert will present the proposed Phase 1 Schedule for the CBD Streetscape and Utility Improvements project.

A video by CiviTech is played indicating the expectations and stages of construction for the CBD streetscape improvements.

Trustee Gould asks if there is any communication for the delivery companies. Mark Franz stated a notification was sent out for the Apex project and intends to get a more direct contact. Trustee Gould also mentions Uber drivers and communicating with the company for drop off and a pickup location. Mark Franz said he will get in contact with the marketing contact.

Trustee Payne wants to know if they are locked in for 2022. President Senak states the board has the authority to change the construction schedule along with the sequence of the construction.

Trustee Fasules wants to know when it goes to RFP and asks Richard Daubert how to RFP three phases. Richard Daubert responded saying the bid will only be on the first phase and competitive bidding would open in October.

Trustee Fasules expresses concerns if the Apex gets delayed what would happen with the finances.

Trustee Thompson states the plan is well thought out.

President Senak asks if there is any option to expedite construction and what the cost would be.

Julie Spiller asks for the project on the southside of the tracks to be expedited

G. Recreational Cannabis (Presented by Village Manager Franz) (Trustee Thompson)

1) Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 6878, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 6839 to Extend the Moratorium Passed November 12, 2019, to September 28, 2021

Trustee Kalinich wants to make sure the trustees are ready to have the discussion and not wait until September. President Senak agrees and wants the board to take a final vote, but it may be in September due to schedules.

The floor is opened for public comment. In summary majority of the comments want to extend the Moratorium and are opposed. One comment stated he thinks if there is a legal store to buy from, the illegal element will be taken out of Glen Ellyn.

A roll call vote is taken. All Trustees are in favor.

Trustee Christiansen speaks on voting back in December.

Trustee Fasules speaks he is for the moratorium and it doesn't stop anyone from still appealing the zoning codes.

Trustee Christiansen thinks with the moratorium in place, developers would pass on Glen Ellyn.

President Senak states extending the moratorium will give the new trustees a chance to come up to speed and by September a final vote will be done.

Trustee Thompson moved, second by Trustee Fasules, to approve the extension of the moratorium to September 28, 2021.

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 1]
MOVER:	Trustee Thompson
SECONDER:	Trustee Fasules
AYES:	Fasules, Gould, Kalinich, Payne, Thompson
NAYS:	Trustee Christiansen
ABSENT:	

H. Reminders

- 1) A Village Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

I. Other business

Chief Norton makes announcement the phone system at the civic center and police department is currently having a glitch, but 911 emergency services are still working.

J. Motion to Adjourn

Trustee Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Trustee Fasules.

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	Trustee Thompson
SECONDER:	Trustee Fasules
AYES:	Fasules, Gould, Kalinich, Payne, Christiansen, Thompson
ABSENT:	

Respectfully submitted, Caitlin Tabor

Reviewed and Approved by Emily Rodman, Assistant Village Manager/Deputy Village Clerk