Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Village Board Workshop
Monday, October 3, 2022
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 301

A. Call to Order – 7:03 PM

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Upon roll call by Clerk Cosby, President Senak, and Trustees Kalinich, Fasules, Payne, and Gould answered "Present." Trustees Christiansen arrived 5 minutes later and acknowledged she was "Present." Trustee Thompson was absent.

Also in attendance: Village Manager Franz, Assistant Village Manager Rodman, Community Development Director Scott, Economic Development Coordinator Hannah, Project Manager Miller, Communications Coordinator Paplauskas, and Police Chief Norton.

D. Audience Participation

No audience participation.

E. Discussion on Public Art Initiative – "Glen Ellyn Letters" (Diana Martinez)

Diana Martinez presented to the Board an art project to create giant letters that spell out "Glen Ellyn" with iconic images on them. The letters would be mobile and therefore able to be moved to different locations throughout the Village.

The letters would be owned by the Village, and managed by Communications Coordinator Paplauskas, and oversee the letters being "checked out. They would have a longer shelf life than the planned chalk art, which gets washed away.

Trustee Payne asked about the cost and where the money would come from. Diana Martinez responded that it would come from a grant, fulfilling an already existing commitment.

President Senak was in favor of the project.

Consensus from the Board and President was to pursue the letters project. Iconic images to include the entire Village will be decided upon.

Village Manager Franz gave an update on the tunnel mural preparations. The surface should be prepared and ready for the mural by the end of the week.

F. Presentation on Emergency Preparedness and Civic Center Security (Police Chief Norton)

1) Emergency Preparedness Update

Chief Norton gave an update on Village emergency preparedness. He talked about its evolution over the decades, including the creation of the Incident Command System (ICS) and how variables within each incident changes the approach of any given plan. This led to the development of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), a framework for handling virtually any situation.

Chief Norton then explained the Village's role within the NIMS framework.

Chief Norton talked about the importance of conducting training and exercises that apply the process to real situations for the purpose of practicing scenarios. He gave examples of plans and exercises that have been developed in the past.

Regarding the media, Chief Norton said that during an incident, the press would be placed in the Community Room at the Police Station. This facilitates briefings and communication of the actual facts to the media.

Trustee Kalinich asked how the Incident Commander is determined. Chief Norton replied that it usually would start with him and work its way down the ranks. Her question came from concerns about what happened in Uvalde, Texas.

Trustee Kalinich asked for clarification of the checks and balances on the system. Chief Norton replied with examples of how the process works.

Village Manager Franz reinterred that the line of communication has checks and balances in place that are followed when emergencies arise.

Trustee Fasules asked about having someone in the position of Emergency Coordinator. Chief Norton replied this is being pursued and hopefully will be filled by January.

President Senak asked how the school's plan integrates with the Village. Chief Norton replied with details of the integration.

President Senak asked about the Milton Township CERT team (Community Emergency Response Team) and the Village's role in that. Chief Norton replied to it would be part of aftermath, and then gave details on how the CERT team would help. President Senak added that anyone can be a CERT member by signing up on the Milton Township website, and that he would like to have a Glen Ellyn faction of CERT.

Trustee Christiansen wanted to know what the role of a Trustee is in an emergency. Chief Norton and Village Manager Franz replied that a Trustee needs to be informed but not necessarily directly involved in emergency efforts.

President Senak asked about FEMA classes available and how many of the executive management team have taken these classes. Chief Norton replied and added that training for staff is on-going.

2) Civic Center Security Improvements

Chief Norton suggested that a consultant should be hired to look at whether a re-design plan should be explored to transform the Galligan Board Room or even the Gym into a public meeting space with enhanced security measures.

Chief Norton also spoke about developing an escape plan from the Board Room so that one is in place, if ever needed.

Trustee Kalinich expressed her concern that the gym makes the building a Civic Center and taking it away for another use would make the building exclusively a government building. That said, she was totally on-board with having an assessment of the Civic Center, as was the rest of the Board.

G. Discussion on Proposed Downtown Beautification Award Program (Economic Development Coordinator Hannah)

Economic Development Coordinator Hannah presented a proposal for a new Downtown Beautification Award Program.

Trustee Gould asked if there are things that should incentivize business owners to encourage these things happening. She wants the Board to think about this idea when it comes to TIF funds.

Trustee Fasules asked if the program would encourage violations, and if the money should be used to help businesses that have experienced negative effects from the streetscape development. That said, he thinks the program might be a bit premature.

Trustee Christiansen would like to take into consideration other uses for the money and evaluate them all.

Trustee Kalinich asked Economic Development Coordinator Hannah what the business owners ask for. Economic Development Coordinator Hannah replied that business owners ask for assistance with these types of projects. Discussion continued regarding the question of giving businesses money to compensate for the streetscape construction.

The conversation turned to outdoor dining options, and it was agreed that these should be explored further.

President Senak commented that the Village needs to seek economic development in the CBD rather than wait for them to come here. Assistant Village Manager Rodman replied that this comment was misguided and that Economic Development Coordinator Hannah and the staff actively recruits for the CBD.

President Senak suggested that a grocery store needs to be actively recruited. Assistant Village Manager Rodman interjected that is has been done and that the available spaces are not suitable for a grocery store.

President Senak asked Economic Development Coordinator Hannah what she does to recruit businesses. Village Manager Franz interjected that Economic

Development Coordinator Hannah has had a hand in almost all the restaurants that have come to the Village recently.

President Senak asked what has been done to attract retail businesses. Economic Development Coordinator Hannah replied with details of her efforts. President Senak asked what incentive tools she needs available to facilitate getting more businesses into the CBD. Economic Development Coordinator Hannah replied.

Trustee Fasules gave his thoughts on how to attract a small grocery store for the downtown.

President Senak complimented the job that Economic Development Coordinator Hannah has done and wanted to be sure she has all the tools necessary to attract restaurants and retail.

President Senak suggested that perhaps businesses could propose their own award program projects and then decide if their plans qualify and match the program.

Trustee Christiansen commented that it will be difficult to attract a grocery store to the Village.

The Board and President Senak had consensus for Economic Development Coordinator Hannah to proceed with the Award Program.

H. Presentation and Discussion of Comprehensive Plan (Project Manager Brandon Nolin with Houseal Lavigne Associates)

1) Project Manager Nolin gave a brief history of the draft process, including its goals and community input. He then presented Chapter 4 of the Plan.

A discussion ensued around the Downtown Zoning, specifically the change to 60-65 ft. buildings heights and that it should not be part of the comprehensive plan. There was agreement that it should be left at 45 ft. and let developers apply for variances.

Project Manager Nolin expressed his opinion that there is a risk of no development if the height restriction at 45 ft. is kept. The Board felt that the variance process would take this into consideration.

Village Manager Franz asked if there could be an incentive added for retail set-back to the plan.

There was agreement that the zoning height should not be changed from 45 feet, with the variance process kept in place.

Adaptive reuse was discussed as a possible way to use incentives to keep the character of the CBD.

Parking on page 21 was discussed, specifically the recommended ratios of parking spaces. The ratio is a starting point and should be kept in the comprehensive plan but should be rewritten as an example.

The discussion turned to the Potential Redevelopment Sites map. Trustee Christiansen wanted to take out number 4, and reword number 9 with more clarification, and change the "should" to "could." Also agreed to take out numbers 8 and 13. Project Manager Nolin explained that the map was agreed upon by the planning commission.

Project Manager Nolin reviewed the Stacey's Corner Subarea Framework. The conversation went to changing the wording of number 2 to add "could" to the dialog box and make it number 3.

It was agreed that the Roosevelt Road Subarea Framework should be reviewed by the Board and comments given to Village Manager Franz.

All other changes discussed will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

I. Reminders

- Village Board Special Workshop October 10, 2022
- Village Board Workshop October 17, 2022
- Village Board Meeting October 24, 2022

J. Adjourn – 10:25 PM

Mover: Trustee Kalinich; Second: Trustee Trustee Gould. Unanimous vote to adjourn.