



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Special Village Board Workshop
Monday, February 27, 2023
6:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 301

A. Call to Order – 6:00 PM

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Upon roll call by Clerk Cosby, President Senak and Trustees Christiansen, Fasules, Kalinich, Gould, and Thompson answered “Present.” Trustee Payne was present also.

Also in attendance: Village Manager Franz, Assistant Village Manager Rodman, Village Attorney Mathews, Public Works Director Buckley, Finance Director Noller, Economic Development Coordinator Hannah, Village Engineer Daubert, and Fire Chief Clark.

Representatives of CMD Smith in attendance: Bob Cheval, Chris Martel, Steve Pasinski, and Sarah Sutherlin.

D. Audience Participation

E. Presentation

- 1) Glen Ellyn Metra Station and Multimodal Access Improvements Project - Project Update and Phase II Engineering Services

Village Engineer Daubert gave an update on the Metra Station project, Phase I. Representatives of CMD Smith were present to answer questions, as well as Committee Chairmen Szymanski and Ziegler.

Trustee Thompson asked if the mural in the current Metra Station can be moved to the new depot. Village Engineer Daubert replied it is in the MOA and there is a desired to save it.

Village Engineer Daubert reviewed revisions for the underpass, retaining wall and ramps design.

Village Engineer Daubert reviewed other ongoing tasks for Phase I, as well as an update on the construction cost and possible project funding sources.

Trustee Payne asked about the platform cost and where the funding comes from. Village Engineer Daubert replied and added that Metra would be responsible for platform repairs.

Trustee Thompson asked about funding as the project gets closer to “shovel ready.” Village Engineer Daubert replied.

Village Engineer Daubert moved on to details and deliverables for Phase II Engineering, emphasizing that the design includes more than the new train station and pedestrian underpass.

Steve Pasinski, Project QA/QC lead with CMD Smith, gave an overview of the team working with Village Engineer Daubert on Phase II. He also talked about how his team is uniquely qualified to take the lead on the project.

Bob Cheval, Project Manager with CMD Smith, walked through the target design schedule for Phase II and the importance of keeping the project moving to mitigate risks in terms of timing.

Village Engineer Daubert reviewed the engineering fees and costs estimated for completion of Phase II. He also talked about the budget impact of these numbers.

Chairman Szymanski spoke about the process taken by the Capital Improvements Committee to reach this point in the Metra Project.

President Senak asked where the \$12 million gap in funding would come from. Village Engineer Daubert replied. President Senak asked a follow-up question, to which Trustee Thompson interjected that the funding comes from the increased Food and Beverage tax. President Senak asked if this would be sufficient. The Board and President Senak continued the gap funding discussion.

President Senak asked if the Metra Station will be as relevant in the future. Village Manager Franz replied that a large part of the project is the pedestrian underpass, which is a safety issue that needs to be addressed as well as a way to connect the downtown for commuters, visitors, students and businesses.

It was agreed that financial projections and other data needs to be supplied to the Board so they can make informed decisions regarding Phase II.

Village Engineer Daubert talked further about additional funding that can be pursued. He also added that this is the “worst case scenario” and it could very possibly be engineered down but this should go forward to use the secured \$20 million in funding.

President Senak asked how long it will take to get the requested data to the Board. Finance Director Noller replied.

Trustee Gould wanted to know if the costs should be reviewed from the time the project was initially started, especially when considering how much Metra ridership is down.

Trustee Kalinich stated she was very in favor of the project and that the safety aspect of underpass is the major consideration in her support. She added that even if the scale changes, it should still include historic character and accessibility.

Trustee Payne is also in favor of the project, with the pedestrian tunnel being an important factor in his support. He also supports approving funding to keep the project moving forward.

Trustee Thompson also supports this project because of the safety issues and felt that moving forward would be a good decision.

Trustee Gould felt that the scope should be reviewed and aligned with goals.

Trustee Christiansen was in agreement with other Board members, particularly the safety aspect, but felt the bigger issue seems to be “are we a transit-oriented Village.” She also pointed out that the costs will only rise if the project is delayed.

President Senak gave his opinion on moving forward with the project and would like to see the data on how it will be paid for.

Trustee Fasules added his thoughts on where the tunnel should be, perhaps a different location. He felt that the discussion needs to be continued.

Village Manager Franz asked if the Board was willing to approve the project for one year to avoid losing the funding already secured. Village Engineer Daubert reiterated the critical timetable of secured funding.

The Board continued the discussion, along with Chris Martel from CMD Smith, about moving forward and funding.

There was disagreement as to whether to commit the \$1.6 million for Phase II immediately or if the discussion should be postponed for a month to give the Board time to consider all the data.

F. Adjourn – 7:31 PM

Mover: Trustee Thompson; Second: Trustee Christiansen. Unanimous vote to adjourn.