Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Special Village Board Workshop
Tuesday, May 28, 2024
5:30 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 301

A. Call to Order – 5:38 PM

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Upon roll call by Deputy Clerk Cannova, President Senak and Trustees Christiansen, Fasules, Kalinich, Gould, Simon, and Thompson answered "Present."

Also in attendance: Village Manager Franz, Assistant Village Manager/Community Development Director Rodman, Public Works Director Buckley, Management Analyst Irizarry, Professional Engineer Daubert, and Police Chief Norton. Finance Director Brankin arrived at 6:25 p.m.

D. Audience Participation

There was no off-agenda audience participation.

E. Presentation

1) Glen Ellyn Metra Station and Multimodal Access Improvements Project - Continuation of Parking Review (Professional Engineer Daubert)

A public comment was read into the record by Deputy Clerk Cannova from resident Pete Ladesic about the angled parking along Crescent; he felt it was much more efficient for the public.

Professional Engineer Daubert then introduced participants for the review: Capital Improvements Commission Chairperson Szymanski, Client Service Manager Acklund with CBM Smith, and lead architect Sara Sutherland.

Professional Engineer Daubert reminded everyone that the team was under a lot of pressure from the State of Illinois to work through the project in a complete manner. He sought direction from the Village Board as to the preferred parking alternative so he and his team can complete the 30% design drawings, and then bring those back to the Board for approval.

Professional Engineer Daubert continued with a high-level overview of the project components, including parking lots, sanitary sewers and water mains, complete replacement of gas mains, as well as the continuing

Streetscape elements.

President Senak asked whether these items presented by Professional Engineer Daubert included current Streetscape budget. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that yes.

Ms. Sutherland offered context to why the project is being planned.

President Senak asked for an explanation of Metra's ridership standard requirements and their method of calculation. Ms. Sutherland replied. He followed up by asking if Metra has told the Village that the current depot does not comply to requirements. Ms. Sutherland replied and discussion ensued. Professional Engineer Daubert said that the grant money is based on adding capacity and explained how that impacts the process and the Village qualifying for the grant.

President Senak asked for confirmation that the Village has no written notice that the station is not big enough. Professional Engineer Daubert replied no. President Senak followed up by asking if Metra had supplied an oral statement to anyone that the station is not big enough. Professional Engineer Daubert replied no and recapped the discussions with Metra.

President Senak asked, that when Metra calculates square footage for the train station, do they include warming shelters, canopy areas, etc. Professional Engineer Daubert replied yes.

Trustee Kalinich said that this does not address the accessibility issue. President Senak asked after the specific issue. Trustee Simon said there are accessibility issues with getting into the station. Discussion ensued concerning ADA compliance.

Professional Engineer Daubert explained how the plan addressed site constraints.

President Senak asked how much maintenance responsibility the Village would have. Professional Engineer Daubert replied and gave history on this. Village Manager Franz added his thought on future maintenance issues and how these are addressed by other communities. Discussion continued.

Trustee Christiansen asked if Metra generally writes letters about the size of the station. Professional Engineer Daubert replied. She followed up by asking about the responsiveness of Metra concerning maintenance of the train station. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that they respond to serious issues quite well.

President Senak said that whether the Village would maintain the new train station would be a future discussion.

Trustee Simon asked, if someone slips and falls, who is responsible? Professional Engineer Daubert replied many factors are involved in each situation to determine liability. Trustee Simon then asked whether the Village is indemnified. Village Manager Franz replied. Trustee

Thompson asked who removes snow at the station. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that Union Pacific does snow removal. It was agreed to resume talk regarding parking.

Ms. Sutherland continued her presentation. Professional Engineer Daubert discussed why people would want an underpass and gave an example of an individual's perspective.

Mr. Acklund then recapped past activities connected with the project, including public workshops, Board meetings, and value engineering. He said that all these efforts will help to have success with IDOT.

Mr. Acklund reviewed a slide showing how the property is divided by ownership and emphasized that all standards have to follow IDOT. He said the team was two weeks away from submitting 30% design drawings but there was a caveat as the parking is only at 10%. He explained what delays would be caused by not attaining the 30% level.

President Senak asked Mr. Acklund to confirm that the question at hand was to pick between alternative one (1) and alternative two (2). The reply was yes, based on allowable tweaks.

Ms. Sutherland reviewed the parking for the proposed site plan that is at 10% as a baseline. She also discussed changes made due to the Board's concerns from the prior review.

Professional Engineer Daubert continued by talking about the three different existing parking configurations and requirements for each. He then spoke about the sidewalk requirements as well.

Trustee Christiansen asked if Professional Engineer Daubert was saying that we are 6 feet short if angled parking is used. Professional Engineer Daubert replied.

Trustee Gould asked if that included widening on the north side as well. Professional Engineer Daubert replied with measurement details. Trustee Gould followed up by asking if there was a path on the south end of the parking lot to the platform for someone to walk on. Professional Engineer Daubert replied there was in the proposed conditions.

Ms. Sutherland continued her review of the parking in the proposed site plan. Professional Engineer Daubert said that the plan had picked up 30 spaces. Discussion continued about difference in the spaces and sidewalks in the two alternatives being presented.

Trustee Thompson asked about the ADA compliance. Professional Engineer Daubert replied.

Trustee Kalinich asked about reduction in the parallel parking.
Ms. Sutherland replied. Discussion ensued.

Outdoor restaurant seating in the parking spaces was brought up by Trustee Thompson and it was agreed that once the sidewalks are widened, this should be eliminated. Professional Engineer Daubert replied.

Trustee Simon wanted to clarify the differences between the two alternatives. Professional Engineer Daubert said the only difference was the on-street parking between Main and Forest. He added that there are room for modifications to the parking configurations and explained these to the Board.

Trustee Simon asked about where 15-minute parking spots would be located. Professional Engineer Daubert replied.

President Senak asked how much parking is needed on the north side of the tracks. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that a study would be needed to answer that. President Senak stated it was hard for him to evaluate the situation currently. Discussion ensued about the parking needs based on the types of businesses and how to gain additional spaces.

Trustee Fasules stated he was in favor of alternative two (2) with modifications that increase the angled parking. President Senak suggested building off that and polling the Board as to answering the question with alternative "one or two." He wanted to know if Trustees had additional thoughts or more information was needed.

Trustee Kalinich asked why there couldn't be a drop-off area. Professional Engineer Daubert said that it could be carved in but it comes at a cost of space. The Board wanted to see it in both alternatives.

President Senak asked if there was a belief whether alternative one (1) or two (2) were better. Mr. Acklund replied and spoke of promoting a walkable community and how this affects the plan and recommended alternative one (1).

Professional Engineer Daubert said the Capital Improvements Commission (CIC) also recommended alternative one (1).

Chairperson Szymanski said the project needed to be thought of in a future state and gave his thoughts on this. He addressed the underpass making it possible for the higher use of the south parking garage.

President Senak said that the CIC did a spectacular job of the deep dive on this situation, helping the Board tremendously.

Trustee Fasules asked Police Chief Norton if there is a serious traffic problem with Crescent and Main. Police Chief Norton replied, citing recent traffic information. Professional Engineer Daubert supplied more information regarding traffic safety on the area.

Professional Engineer Daubert finished the plan review.

Trustee Kalinich asked for clarification on which alternatives have two lanes. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that both are two lanes.

Trustee Simon wanted clarification that alternative one (1) is two true lanes of traffic and alternate two (2) is one lane of traffic with a backout area. Professional Engineer Daubert replied this was correct.

President Senak favored alternative one (1), as did Trustees Simon, Chritiansen, and Kalinich, citing that the width of the sidewalks needs to be increased and this alternative makes sure that will happen on the north side.

Trustee Gould said she was still favoring angled parking and gave her reasons for this; she favored alternative two (2).

Trustee Fasules said he was for alternative two (2) and gave his reasons.

Trustee Thompson said that not from a parking standpoint, but a socialization one, that alternative two (2) makes more sense right now, but perhaps in the future, alternative one (1) might be reached. He said if the State doesn't give the Village an exception, the Village would have to go with alternative one (1). So, he was for two (2) if it could be approved.

President Senak stated the result was 4-3 in favor of alternative one (1).

2) Refuse Contract - Evaluation of Proposals (Director of Public Works Buckley/Management Analyst Irizarry)

Kevin Flood, with Flood Brothers, gave a history of his family-owned business and time in the Village. He said that they had bid on the refuse contract but that he thought his team did not understand certain numbers involved based. He thanked the Village. President Senak told Mr. Flood that this meeting was a workshop and that no vote would be taken that evening.

Josh Molnor, with Groot Industries, said that the service provided by Groot should be taken into consideration. He stated that they put much effort into the RFP. He said that he appreciates the staff and then reviewed items in the RFP that he felt were important.

President Senak asked if all of Groot's trucks used in Glen Ellyn would be powered by compressed natural gas. Mr. Molnor replied yes and that there would be no diesel use.

Mr. Molnor talked about the value of Groot owning their own landfill. He concluded by saying he was proud of the work the men and women of Groot do for the Village and hoped to continue.

Trustee Fasules asked what the Village could do to reduce the amount of furniture put out for refuse pickup. Mr. Molnor replied about recycling efforts and education in the school districts.

Village Manager Franz stated that the RFP process needed to be managed fairly and transparently and that this has been a thorough process which included a pre-proposal meeting.

Public Works Director Buckley presented on the RFP process to-date, including Village survey results. He introduced Management Analyst Irizarry to review the survey results and asked direction from the Board on how to proceed.

Management Analyst Irizarry covered key points, relating to price, overall satisfaction, and collection. She said that there were 594 responses, about 2% of the overall population.

Trustee Thompson asked if both contracts allow for the one day a year/every other year mass collection. Management Analyst Irizarry replied yes. Trustee Thompson said that the survey showed this to be residents' favorite event. Trustee Fasules commented about the type of items that were being put to the curb for the landfill and that offering this service too often would not encourage recycling. Discussion continued.

Trustee Kalinich said she appreciated the survey because although it was small, it was helpful. She added of the need to be mindful that proposed costs are directly charged back to residents, whatever is decided. She gave the collection day of the week as a way to reduce cost that might be considered. She pointed out that the Groot bid is lowest in all the categories on the RFP submittal.

Trustee Kalinich asked if there was a cost increase in rear door pick up service. Public Works Director Buckley replied yes. Trustee Kalinich cited a passage that seemed to conflict with this reply. Discussion ensued.

Trustee Gould wanted to see whoever wins the RFP to help the Village more with the composting program to achieve higher rates of participation. She felt the composting directions are confusing. Discussion continued on the details of the current composting program.

Village Manager Franz asked Public Works Director Buckley if any further direction was needed to move forward with the proposals.

Trustee Christiansen brought up an email from the Environmental Commission that stressed that composting and recycling were big concerns for them. The EC also wondered about financial savings dependent on the day or days of pickup.

Trustee Gould asked what the cost saving would be for a non-Monday pickup. Trustee Christiansen said that the EC preferred a Monday preference. Public Works Director Buckley confirmed that if different day/multiple day pickup realized cost savings, they should be considered.

Trustee Fasules commented that in the past, multiple day pickup had been implemented and that it led to garbage trucks in the neighborhoods all week long.

President Senak asked the Board if the Village should maintain Monday only for pickup. The consensus was yes but they would like to see what the cost savings would be for a single day pickup on a different day of the week.

President Senak asked if the Village should outsource the customer billing for the refuse and recycling. He stated that it's a numbers game and that it should be looked at for cost savings potential. He felt that this would probably increase the cost, so his answer would be "no."

Village Manager Franz stated that the Village receives complaints because they are perceived as providing the service, due to the billing source, when actually it is Groot, currently, that provides the service. Village Manager Franz said that Groot keeps a dedicated phone line for Glen Ellyn customers only but it still confuses people.

Trustee Simon commented that due to the small number of responses to the survey, she felt that if people had a problem, they would have responded.

President Senak asked if the Village should implement a new sticker-based electronic pickup. Trustee Kalinich asked if that meant electronic waste, which President Senak confirmed. Public Works Director Buckley replied that it can currently be done with a certain amount of pink stickers. Trustee Fasules thought that alternatives should be explored for this collection. Discussion ensued.

President Senak asked if the Village should expand its voluntary curbside composting program. There was unanimous agreement to expand.

Public Works Director Buckley asked for clarification of this. Trustee Fasules thought it should be included in the mandatory fees. Discussion continued about the details and cost of the program.

President Senak asked if the Village should keep clean-up week. He reiterated that from the previous discussion, everyone was in favor of this and that he was fine with every two years. The Board agreed.

President Senak asked if the Village should migrate to "pay as you throw." Public Works Director Buckley clarified that as this was not in the RFP, it was decided not to pursue this option.

Public Works Director Buckley said his team would take this direction and bring it back to a Board meeting for a vote before the current contract expires.

F. Adjourn – 7:13 PM

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