Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Village Board Special Meeting
Monday, July 15, 2024
5:30 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Galligan Board Room

A. Call to Order – 5:35 P.M.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Upon roll call by Clerk Cosby, 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, Economic Development Coordinator Hannah, Professional Engineer Daubert, and Police Chief Norton. Capital Improvements Commission Chair Steve Szymanski was in attendance.

D. Audience Participation

No off-agenda audience participation.

President Senak spoke about the shooting incident in Pennsylvania over the weekend at a Presidential candidate campaign event as horrifying and he condemned it. He continued to say that we, the residents of Glen Ellyn, can help stop incidents of violence by teaching our children how to get along and not bully people, by paying attention to our children and address any emotional issues they may be having, calling for professional help if you see something that doesn't seem right, and by restricting access to guns. Finally, he said that we need to stand up and say no when bigotry and hate is seen in our community, and that everyone can make a difference.

E. Glen Ellyn Metra Station and Multimodal Access Improvements Project (Professional Engineer Daubert)

RESULTS:	**APPROVED [4 to 2]**
MOVER:	**Trustee Fasules**
SECONDER:	**Trustee Kalinich**
AYES:	**Fasules, Kalinich, Gould, Thompson**
NAYS:	**Christiansen, Simon**

1) Motion to Approve Ordinance Number 7117, An Ordinance directing staff on the design of the Crescent Boulevard on-street parking and Main & Crescent Parking Lot configuration associated with the Glen Ellyn Metra Station & Multimodal Access Improvements Project in the Village of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, with Parking Alternate X (1, 2, 3, or 4) selected within the approved ordinance.

Professional Engineer Daubert introduced the team from CMD Smith, including Steve Pasinski, Matt Aklan, and Steve Hands, and gave an overview of the project. He added that implementation depends upon securing funding through grants and other resources, and that additional funding is still needed.

Mr. Steve Hands of CMD Smith spoke about project needs, the process to this point and the process to move the project forward. He said that the Metra station as it is today does not provide for the needs of the community, lacking in safety, accessibility, and shelters. He spoke to each of these in more detail. He said traffic flow would be improved, as well as parking.

He then reviewed the existing site plan, saying the station is undersized for current Metra standards. He then spoke of the improvements and changes that would be made to bring the station up to Metra's standards.

Mr. Steve Hands mentioned public outreach conducted to date, input from the Village commission, and coordination among agencies throughout phase one of this project.

Mr. Matt Aklan, Project Manager with CDM Smith, gave the status of the project to date. He added that the 30% design document is final and input from the Village on parking changes has been received.

Mr. Matt Aklan moved onto grant status, saying that there could be no further delays in securing grants for the project to move it forward. He mentioned that a maintenance cost estimate is also needed so that Metra knows the cost and will allocate additional funds to maintenance.

Mr. Steve Pasinski, Client Services representative at CDM Smith, continued by speaking about the parking plan for the project, saying that the process has been transparent and has resulted in two recommendations. One is to maximize parallel parking and the other is to maximize parking in general. He said they met with the Downtown Alliance to obtain input about the two parking options, adding that this feedback was invaluable.

President Senak asked whether the results of the feedback were available. Mr. Pasinski answered affirmatively, giving a summary of that feedback. President Senak asked whether the feedback had been provided to the Board. Professional Engineer Daubert replied it had just been finished so had not been shared, adding it was very subjective and he wasn't sure that it came from the correct people connected with the businesses. President Senak requested the feedback. Professional Engineer Daubert said he would get it to Village Manager Franz but that employee parking was the big issue for businesses.

Village Manager Franz said that as far as employee parking, the Village is working on a solution to this issue.

Mr. Pasinski continued by reviewing existing conditions, including design restraints to be considered when designing to current standards. He then moved onto the angle parking design exception that would be needed for this option, adding that it presents issues, which he explained. There are two exceptions needed from Metra for angled parking.

The team member reviewed the alternatives that had been developed, presenting four different scenarios and pointing out their differences. He then showed a chart comparing angled versus parallel parking. He also spoke about the sidewalk impact and ADA requirements that are benefited by the wider sidewalks.

President Senak asked about the sidewalk widths and their comparison to those on Main Street. Professional Engineer Daubert replied. President Senak asked about the size of the sidewalks north of the tracks on Main Street, as well as the east side. Professional Engineer Daubert replied.

Trustee Thompson asked about alternatives 1 & 2 versus 3 & 4 and a specific notation on alternative 4 and what it refers to and details on the other alternatives. Professional Engineer Daubert replied. Trustee Thompson followed up with another question about alternatives 3 & 4 along Crescent. Professional Engineer Daubert replied. Discussion continued about differences in the alternatives.

Jennifer Massarelli, owner of Enchantments, spoke of her appreciation that the engineers came to her store and described the alternative plans to her. She advocates keeping as many angled spots as possible. She went to other businesses to inform them about the alternatives and to make them aware that there would be a meeting discussing the parking plans. She said from a business standpoint that the businesses will be impacted if he angled parking goes away and would prefer the 5 spots less alternative over no angled spots at all.

Emily Henkels, resident, said that she works at one of the businesses on Main Street but was more concerned about the needs of sidewalk users than the cars and parking. She asked that priority be given to safe parking and spacious sidewalks for the safety of pedestrians.

Pete Ladesic, resident, talked about the way the project has been presented to-date. He said he started asking business owners about the proposed elimination of the angled parking and that they were not aware of this. President Senak wanted to know what the owners thought, and Mr. Ladesic said that they were not supportive of eliminating angled parking. He added that this needs to move forward with no delays. He added that what is best for the community needs to be taken into consideration. He suggested "over-noticing" people in the downtown of the plans for the CBD. He spoke about safety issues connected to parallel parking on the left side of the street.

Julie Spiller, business owner, stated she fully agreed with Mr. Ladesic. She advocated for maximum angled parking. She gave examples of why she doesn't think parallel parking is a good idea.

Jeff, owner of TKS design, said that alternative 4 was his favorite and really the only option, giving his reasons for this opinion.

Barb Lemme, with the Downtown Alliance, gave her opinion on the issue, saying that there has been lively discussion and that Trustee Gould had given a summary that was very easy to understand. In speaking for the Alliance, she said the Board should consider the concerns of businesses.

Sid Ahmed, manager of Bonita Bowls, gave his viewpoint on the parking issue and that he was for the maximum angled parking option.

Trustee Kalinich asked about the location of the bike rack and if there was a way it could be relocated closer to the tunnel. She commented that the plaza was mostly curved plantings and wondered if there could be more seating. She then asked about the pick-up and drop-off area. Professional Engineer Daubert replied it was the same for all. She then asked whether an elevator was to be included in the project design. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that there is no elevator at this time but could be discussed for future designs.

Trustee Kalinich wondered if there could be different access for businesses. She then asked about the 15-minute parking spots and hoped that could be incorporated as well. She asked of the length of time utilized for angled parking and perhaps that limit could be reduced from 3 hours.

President Senak asked if each of the alternatives comply with IDOT and ADA. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that 1 & 2 do, and 3 & 4 do as well, with an exception. President Senak followed up by asking if IDOT had to be involved in approval. Professional Engineer Daubert replied yes. President Senak also asked about the landscaping plans, specifically on Crescent. Professional Engineer Daubert replied, saying that once the alternative is decided upon, the landscaping can be roughed in more.

Trustee Gould asked about the next design phase and items to include, including the crosswalk. She also noted that the Main and Crescent island is similar to that of Forest and Crescent. She went on to state that adding turning arrows would make clear what is expected from drivers, and how the scale of items to be added going forward should be in line with the sidewalk.

Julie Spiller returned to the lectern to ask where the delivery staging area would be. Professional Engineer Daubert made a note of this.

Trustee Thompson had more questions about safety needs versus design needs between the alternatives. Professional Engineer Daubert replied that it was a design consideration that could be modified once the design alternative is decided. Discussion ensued about elements that could be included.

President Senak said that 1 & 3 include adding an extra sidewalk in the parking lot, and wanted to know if anyone was in favor of that in order to eliminate these alternatives from consideration. The Board agreed.

F. Other Business

G. Reminders

1) Village Board Special Workshop, Monday, July 22, 2024 at 6 pm
2) Village Board Meeting, Monday, July 22, 2024 at 7 pm

H. Adjourn – 7:00 P.M.

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