

Finance Commission Minutes

April 11, 2025

A. Call to Order

The April 11, 2025 Finance Commission Meeting was called to order at 6:59 a.m. by Chairperson Chris Goodman, at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 301.

B. Roll Call

Chris Goodman	Chair	Present
Lea Dan	Vice-Chair	Present
Anne Arnold	Commissioner	Present (remote participation)
Mike Graham	Commissioner	Present
Leo Hoerdermann	Commissioner	Present
Grant Lavery	Commissioner	Absent
Kevin Moffitt	Commissioner	Present
Brian Niksa	Commissioner	Present
Scott Waldbusser	Commissioner	Absent

Motion to allow Commissioner Arnold to participate remotely.

Motion: Chairperson Goodman

Second: Commissioner Moffitt

Ayes: Commissioners Goodman, Moffitt, Dan, Niksa, Hoerdermann, Graham

Nay: None

Result: Unanimous approval

Also Present:

Village Manager	Mark Franz
Finance Director	Patrick Brankin
Assistant Finance Director	Michele Chaparro
Village Trustee	Kelli Christiansen
Assistant Public Works Director	Justin Ross
Utilities Superintendent	Nick Burgoni
Student Observer	Eric Lowrie

C. Public Comment

None

D. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the March 14, 2025, meeting's minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes from March 14 ,2025 Finance Commission Meeting as amended	
Motion:	Chairperson Goodman
Mover:	Commissioner Moffitt
Seconded:	Commissioner Dan
Result:	Unanimous Approval

E. Lead Service Line Replacement

Finance Director Brankin began by outlining that approximately 11 million dollars in capital spending is required to complete the federally mandated lead service line replacement project. The project must be completed by late 2027. At present, there is no dedicated funding mechanism in place for this initiative. Finance Director Brankin noted that the water and sewer fund does have reserves, however, all monies in reserve are necessary to sustain the operations of the water and sewer fund as well as other capital spending.

Finance Director Brankin then introduced Utilities Superintendent Burgoni and Asst. Public Works Director Ross to further define the project. Superintendent Burgoni stated that Public Works has identified 400 lead replacements for both the public and private sections and about 1204 unknown service lines that still need to be verified. Following verification, Public Works is estimating that approximately 1136 lines, including both public and private service lines, will require replacement. Currently, Public Works is hoping to replace 20 lines on the public-side per year using in-house labor. Superintendent Burgoni provided an overview of the replacement process, limitations, planning, costs and potential saving from replacing 20 lines per year in-house. He also outlined the updated mandates, restrictions if using any IEPA grants or loans, and 2025 expected replacement schedule. Questions and discussions ensued regarding what recommendations that the Finance Commission could bring to the Village Board.

Chairperson Goodman clarified that the Village staff is seeking the Finance Commission's consensus on how the Village should proceed with the project and secure funding. Finance Director Brankin stated that the Village staff's recommendation is that the Village pay for the private side of replacement lines. The discussion then shifted to various fee structures and debt funding options that could assist in financing the project. Village Manager Franz suggested hiring a consultant to assist with securing loans and grants, particularly in the first year of the project. Utility Superintendent Burgoni provided funding projections to the commission and questions were fielded concerning funding and who should be paying for the private side of the project and how surrounding municipalities would be proceeding with the lead line replacement. Finance Director Brankin asked the commission if there was a consensus on a recommendation to the Village Board on whether the Village should fund the private portion of the replacement and whether a monthly fee should be instituted to generate revenue for the project.

Motion to recommend to the Village Board that the Village of Glen Ellyn pays 100% for the private portion of the lead line replacement costs.

Motion: Chairperson Goodman

Second: Commissioner Niksa

Ayes: Commissioners Moffitt, Dan, Niksa, Arnold, Hoerdermann, Goodman

Nay: Commissioner Graham

Following the motion, the commission discussed the second aspect of the recommendation-how to fund the project. Finance Director Brankin emphasized that staff is looking to the Finance Commission to make a recommendation to the Village Board on funding the project. The staff has focused on adding a monthly fee to the utility bills that would be a temporary fee. Once the project has been funded, the fee would be eliminated. Discussions ensued and questions were brought forward to define the recommendation. Utilities Superintendent Burgoni reminded the commission that there is a mandate that requires the village to replace 10% of the lines, approximately 113 lines per year effective immediately. It was also stressed that a recommendation does not have last for 10-12 years but just to begin the process because of the urgent need to fund the project. The commission continued deliberating on the recommendation, with Finance Director Brankin offering alternative suggestions. The goal is to present a recommendation or, at the very least, an update to the Village Board during the workshop scheduled for Monday, April 21, 2025.

Motion to recommend that the Village Board approve a \$6 fee per month per account which would be effective on July 1, 2025 and would sunset once enough revenue has been generated to meet the Village's financial obligations related to lead service line replacement. Included in the recommendation is that the Village Board approve the use of \$500,000 in General Fund reserves to begin funding lead service line replacement.

Motion: Commissioner Hoerdermann

Second: Commissioner Goodman

Ayes: Commissioners Goodman, Graham, Dan, Niksa, Hoerdermann

Nays: Commissioner Moffitt

F. Staff Report

The Grocery Tax will be on the Village Board workshop at 6 p.m. Monday, April 14th.

G. Chairperson's Report

None

H. Trustee Liaison's Report

None

I. Other Business

None

J. Reminders

- 1) Next Meeting: Friday, May 9, 2025, at 7:00 a.m.

K. Adjourn

Chairperson Goodman moved to adjourn, and Commissioner Niksa seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Submitted By: Colette Ameche, Recording Secretary