

VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
ZONING AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, August 25 2008
Memorial Hall
7:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Smith, Trustee Orler, Trustee Cauley, Trustee Follett

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager David Cook, Deputy Chief of Police Kevin Simpson, Fire Chief Michael Kelly, Community Development Director Tim Bleuher,

Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the July 23, 2008 meeting and noted typographical corrections. Trustee Follett motioned for approval with corrections. Trustee Cauley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith noted that at the last minute an item was added to the agenda concerning the Salt Creek Club.

July 2008 Monthly Reports

Deputy Chief Kevin Simpson discussed the police department's monthly report for June 2008 with the Committee. In addition, he highlighted two awards the department was scheduled to receive. The first was an award received from the Illinois Training and Standards Board of Governors Award for Training for the Alive at 25 program, a course taught by Hinsdale officers to new drivers in an effort to reduce risky driving behavior.

Officer Louis Hayes Jr. was also recognized as the first place winner for the State of Illinois IDOT Behind the Safety Belt Award. The award is given out to the officer that develops the best arrest stemming from a traffic stop for a seat belt violation.

Deputy Chief Simpson updated the Committee on the department's safety initiative that coincides with the start of the school year and includes additional patrols, enforcement and assigning officers to each school in an effort to heighten the awareness of safety concerns.

Deputy Chief Simpson updated the Committee on the IDOT project located at Ogden and County Line road after Trustee Follett inquired last meeting about a change in the construction. Deputy Chief Simpson reported that the barrier that was originally planned and replaced with a median strip was an IDOT change, not one made by staff from the Village. The change was cited by the contractor of the project for safety and budgetary reasons but it had not yet been confirmed by IDOT.

Deputy Chief Simpson also reported back on Trustee Orler's concern surrounding the removal of the crossing guard at Eighth and Garfield. The police department held off on replacing the guard and plan on coordinating with Oak School to meet with the parents that may be affected by this change.

Deputy Chief Simpson provided an explanation in response to a question from a previous ZPS meeting in regard to the disparity between the number of parking citations issued and

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collections from the previous year. Research by staff indicated that when the new T-2 parking system was implemented a written warning was issued for every first meter violation instead of a normal citation, contributing to both a reduction in number of citations and fines.

Chief Kelly highlighted that the Fire Department was notified in July that they would be the recipient of a FEMA- Assistance to Firefighters Grant for 2008. The total amount of the grant is \$10,500.00 and the grant monies will be used to purchase two Carbon Monoxide Pulse Oximeters and two Hydrogen Cyanide Meters. Chief Kelly explained that these meters would be beneficial in both patient care situations and for firefighter safety. Chief Kelly acknowledged Trustee Orler's observation that the call volume for July 2008 was down compared to July 2007, however, there is no particular cause for the decline. Trustee Follett commented on the Police/Fire Day at the pool. Chief Kelly explained that this was a Park and Recreation program that Fire Department participated in and that it was very successful with the children.

Trustee Orler asked Director Bleuher to confirm that his department's revenue numbers coincided with the calendar year and not fiscal. Director Bleuher did so and noted that he was working with the Village's Building Commissioner and Finance Director to change the format to reflect the fiscal year and be consistent with the format that is utilized by the Administration and Community Affairs Committee.

Discussion and Consideration of the Final Draft Report of the Central Business District-Northtown-Parking Task Force

David Friedman, Chairman of the Central Business District-Northtown Parking Task Force, provided an overview of the group's process and findings, proposed district boundaries and six recommendations as they related to the 2025 Strategic Plan. Mr. Friedman stated that the plan was voted in favor for approval by his group by eleven to two.

Chairman Smith asked Mr. Friedman how much cost would be associated with the recommendations. Mr. Friedman responded by stating that there would be no associated costs to the taxpayers. Chairman Smith asked what recommendations would be asked to be given over to the Zoning Code Rewrite Committee and consultant, Camiros, in their effort. Mr. Friedman responded that the proposed design guidelines and land use regulations would be appropriate.

Chairman Smith recommended that the plan retain the current underlying zoning within the proposed boundaries in order for the Board to review. Trustee Orler requested that Mr. Friedman confirm that there were no proposed zoning change recommendations within the plan. Mr. Friedman did confirm this point. Trustee Orler noted that the design review recommendation might be given over to the Design Review Commission as a task in undertaking. Trustee Follett supported Trustee Orler's recommendation as it would regulate development in the downtown business district.

Trustee Cauley commended the group's effort and plan but was hesitant to pass it along to the Zoning Code Rewrite Committee and consultant because of concern that the plan contained sweeping zoning and land use effects. He stated that giving the plan over to the Village's consultant would be a waste of money. Trustee Cauley felt that the plan could be utilized as a reference guide for proposed development in the subject area.

Trustee Orler stated that the price set for the consultant was set at the initial agreement for hiring by the Village Board of Trustees and that this particular work's endeavor should be reviewed as well by them as they look at the downtown area within the overall scope of work. Trustee Cauley responded by stating that this was essentially giving the consultant a blank check with respect to what they would do with the plan. Trustee Follett voiced concern that if the group's work were only utilized in a reference guide and not in the zoning code, than it would not be utilized.

Julie Crynovich, resident and task force member, stated that having this work given over to the consultant was the first she had heard of this and that it was never brought up to the group. Trustee Follett responded by saying that she could not understand the fear over the village's consultant, Camiros. She went on to ask why this wealth of work by this group would simply be placed upon a shelf and not utilized by the consultant in reviewing the downtown business district. This document would manage development and be proactive as opposed to reactive as has been the case.

Jeff Keller, resident and task force member, said that he could not understand the committee member's overreaction to the request. He went on to note that this was a sixteen-month effort by the group and was a parallel process to what the consultant and other commission were working on.

Karl Weber, resident and task force member, said that having the consultant review the material was contrary to the Village's current budgetary status and that the 2025 plan was cherry-picked with respect to issues and avoided the real issues the Village faced.

Michael Meissner, resident and local architect, stated that the Village had to be proactive and address future and potential changes and that the plan should be given over to the consultant to look at all aspects of the plan.

John Bohnen, resident, said that the findings of this plan were largely based on the flawed 2025 plan and that the make up of the task force was not a good survey of residents.

Dave Friedman noted as chairperson of the group that the 2025 plan was only one aspect of the basis utilized by the group in formulating their recommendation and that he disagrees that the items from the survey were cherry-picked. He stated, as a resident, that the idea of the proposed cultural center downtown was so that the Village's downtown could compete with surrounding municipalities and their downtown attributes. He went on to say that this could act as an anchor for the downtown area and differentiate our downtown from others in the surrounding area. Lastly he noted that the land use recommendations should be better set now rather than piecemeal as development is proposed over time.

Trustee Cauley again asked if the document could be used as a reference material as development was proposed. Trustee Follett responded that it would not have any teeth as a reference document and that consistency would be a problem in how it is applied with Village staff turn-around.

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Chairman Smith noted that he disagreed with some findings of the group and proposed a change to the wording from “final plan” to “final report.” Chairman Smith went on to say the report should be available for reference by anyone including Camiros.

Trustee Cauley recommended that the material be adopted as a final report for official reference with respect to development in the subject area. Trustee Orler disagreed stating that much work had been done over the past sixteen months and that it should be formally adopted and given over to the consultant for use in formulating the downtown regulations.

Chairman Smith noted that the document should be reviewed and discussed at set public hearing of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Follett disagreed asking why the Board would dissect the recommendations of the group when the process was done over a time period of sixteen months. Trustee Follett went on to ask how much public input is enough if not sixteen months and that if more time were added to this process for income that it would not change the outcome of the document. Lastly, she stated that residents did indeed know what they were being asked in the 2025 Strategic Plan.

Trustee Orler made the motion to approve the “final report.” Trustee Follett seconded, Motion carried as follows

AYES; Trustee Follett, Trustee Orler

NAYES: Chairman Smith and Trustee Cauley.

Motion fails on a two to two vote

Trustee Cauley made a motion to approve the final report as a reference guide for future land use decisions and design guidelines. Trustee Smith seconded. Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Chairarman Smith, Trustee Cauley

NAYES: Trustee Orler, Trustee Follett

Motion fails on a two to two vote.

Update on Review of Hinsdale Middle School Traffic and Safety Plan.

Deputy Chief Simpson provided a summary of the meeting on August 13, 2008 when representatives from the police department met with HMS Principal Ruban Pena, District 181 administrators, and a group of parents. The plan for the start of the school year was mutually agreed upon and included that additional safety measures be added to the Park and Chicago avenue crossing, having an officer present for the first two weeks of school to instruct students on how to safely cross the street, and monitoring all aspects of the safety plan to make adjustments as needed. In addition, the police department will be providing traffic safety instruction to both students and parents at the start of the school year that will coincide with the instruction of Operation Lifesaver and at the scheduled parents night.

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Lincoln and Ogden Road Closure or turn Restrictions Due to Line of Site Intersection Obstruction

Several residents spoke on the hazards surrounding the site obstruction and the dangers associated with using the intersection (pitch of the roadway and topographical factors) citing that they were in favor of a cul-de-sac, which would prevent the necessary removal of the tree in question.

The Committee recognized the impact that limiting turns or making the intersection a cul-de-sac would have on the surrounding streets and requested additional data be collected by staff and presented at the next meeting.

Review of Local Ordinance Regulations Regarding Outdoor Music and Noise

At the request of residents who had appeared at the Committee meeting to discuss this topic, it was continued to the September ZPS meeting because of the time constraints for those in attendance.

Purchase Request for a Portion of Land Located at 122 S. Monroe Street Commonly Known as Ehret Park

Director Bleuher provided an overview of the request and the non-supportive position of Parks and Recreation Commission. The Committee concurred with the position of the other and the item was unanimously denied.

830 N. Madison (Salt Creek Club) – Relocation of Two Paddle Tennis Courts – Request – Major Amendment to Exterior Appearance/Site Plan Review (O2008-31

(this item was moved up on the agenda due to time).

Chairman Smith provided an overview of the request and asked a club representative to concur. Jim Prisby, member and local architect, concurred that the two courts were moved due to discussion with DuPage County and mitigating the floodway. Trustee Cauley moved to approve the request. Trustee Follett seconded Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation to waive competitive bids for the Purchase of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment

The Committee moved to approve the purchase of SCBA equipment from Air One Equipment, Inc in the amount of \$19,750.00. Trustee Follett asked about the need to waive competitive bidding and Chief Kelly explained that there is really only one vendor that can supply this equipment to the fire department. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote

Referral to Plan Commission – Text Amendment to amend Section 503 E1 of The Village of Hinsdale Zoning Code, as it relates to Building Height, Building Elevation, Floor Area Ratio, and Lot Coverage

Director Bleuher provided an overview as to why the text amendment was before the Committee in that there were seven current cases within the residential districts where they had no Village venue to prove their case and that the Wheaton Circuit Court was their only option and staff felt that this was costly and burdensome to the residents. Director Bleuher also cited current

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regulations that were similar to those of the Zoning of Board of Appeals, which can be heard, but not in the single-family districts.

Kim Angelo, resident and member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, made a point that this same matter was brought before their commission in July but no follow up was provided from their staff liaison. He also went on to say that none of the specifics were provided for the seven addresses cited as examples. Director Bleuher responded by stating that after the initial ZBA hearing on the matter and the negative response of the ZBA to having them as applicant, Director Bleuher directed the creation of a new application, with staff as the applicant as these issues are current and dealt with from a staff level.

Bill Harlow, resident and member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded the fact that there was no follow-up to his commission and that in providing hearable venues within the residential districts could prove as problematic as each of the members resides within a residential district.

Trustee Orler motion for denial, Trusstee Follett second. Motion for denial passed unanimously.

Trustee Orler motioned to adjourn. Trustee Cauley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Bleuher
Community Development Director