

VILLAGE OF HINSDALE

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010

MEMORIAL HALL

Chairman Laura LaPlaca called the meeting of the Environment and Public Services Committee to order at 4:00 P.M., Monday January 11, 2010, in Memorial Hall of the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale, IL.

PRESENT: Chairman Laura LaPlaca, Trustee Doug Geoga, Trustee Kim Angelo, Trustee Bob Saigh

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Deeter, Village Engineer; George Franco, Director of Public Services; David Cook, Village Manager; and Robert McGinnis, Acting Director of Community Development

Approval of Minutes – December 14, 2009

The EPS Committee reviewed the minutes from the December 14, 2009 meeting. Minor changes were addressed and changed. Trustee Angelo motioned for approval of the December 14, 2009 minutes as corrected. Trustee Saigh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Services Monthly Report

Mr. Franco stated 395 man-hours and \$8,579 for materials were spent to clear the roads. 161,000 gallons of water were used to fill the ice rink and the conditions for skating have been good. If weather conditions maintain, the ice rink could be used for weeks ahead. Chairman LaPlaca thanked the Public Services crew for their efforts in keeping the streets clear during the snowfall. The EPS Committee discussed a problem regarding sump pump discharges into the street which have created hazardous conditions. Mr. Franco stated he would check the ordinance to see what options the Village has to enforce and prevent future installations.

Schedule Annual IPM Review Meeting

Chairman LaPlaca stated she could not attend the February EPS meeting on the date currently scheduled. The Committee would have to agree upon a new EPS meeting date when all members could attend prior to scheduling the IMP review.

Engineering Monthly Report

Veeck Park Wet Weather Facility Update

Mr. Chester Kochan, a Clark Dietz representative, provided an update to the status of the Veeck Park Wet Weather Facility. He stated that backfilling around the storage tank has begun and may be completed in the coming weeks if the weather permits. Installation of the pumps and the SCADA system will be completed in the coming weeks. Training of the Village operators is being coordinated. Some backfilling, landscaping, sod placement and access road construction will be completed once the weather turns warmer. A general discussion took place over the status of the Veeck Park Facility, certain sections of the permit, and compliance with the IEPA once the facility is complete.

State and Federal Funding Opportunities

Mr. Deeter provided information regarding the status of certain applications and cleared up any questions that the EPS Committee members had regarding his report. Mr. Cook provided additional updates on the status of the Tiger Grant application.

Discussion of the Village of Hinsdale Sidewalk Policy for New Construction

Chairman LaPlaca provided a summary of why the Village is discussing the possible addition to the sidewalk policy. She briefed the Committee on the history of the current Village Sidewalk Master Plan. It was her intention not to change the master plan map but to add clarifying language and address how to implement the sidewalk policy when new construction occurs.

Trustee Saigh stated he was not looking to change the current sidewalk master plan. He wanted to add language to the current plan to try and avoid future confusion and issues with residents. The EPS Committee discussed in detail the current sidewalk master plan, the changes that have been made to the map since the Village Board approved it in 2006, and the current information that is on the Village website. Trustee Angelo stated the current map that is on the website could be confusing and misleading to residents. Trustee Geoga questioned what the differences were between the Sidewalk Critical Plan and the Sidewalk Master Plan. Mr. Cook stated the purpose of the critical plan was to schedule certain new sidewalk construction over a three-year period starting in 2007. The master plan shows all proposed sidewalk additions.

Chairman LaPlaca questioned if the critical plan would even be relevant today. Trustee Geoga questioned if the Village could enforce a mandatory sidewalk installation or require a resident to make a contribution to a sidewalk fund. Mr. Cook stated the Village could enforce this if it is drafted in an ordinance. The discussion continued over the types of information and regulations that may be needed for a sidewalk plan. The

discussion addressed the problems that could arise, the Village's priority, potential resident concerns, the petition process, and the committee's next step(s). Mr. McGinnis recommended that the proposed regulations would need to be reviewed by the Village attorney to confirm that the Village would have the authority to mandate sidewalk installation or contributions mandatory.

A Hinsdale resident expressed her concerns with the proposed sidewalk master plan ordinance. She was concerned that certain Village priorities may not be in the best interest of the residents. She suggested that the proposed ordinances should address more than just new construction projects.

The EPS Committee continued to discuss plans for changing the Sidewalk Master Plan and how to enforce the installation of sidewalk for new construction. Mr. McGinnis stated the best way to enforce this plan would be to create an ordinance and have the Village attorney review the details of the ordinance. Chairman LaPlaca stated she would meet with Mr. Florey to discuss the sidewalk issues. A proposed ordinance revision would be presented at the next meeting for the committee's consideration.

Request for Board Action

Award of Bid #1464 for the Service of the Downtown Landscaping Contract to McFarlane Douglass & Company in the Bid Amount of \$56,499.85.

Mr. Franco provided background information regarding this agenda item. He stated this would be exclusively for the downtown area. Mr. Franco noted that before the Village hired a horticulturist, the contract cost over \$100,000. This bid would be for plant material only. Village employees would install the plants. Trustee Geoga questioned if the Horticulturist position is full time. Mr. Cook stated the position is full time and was created 3 years ago when certain employees from Public Works retired. Trustee Geoga expressed his concerns with approving this item. Approving it now would lock in next year's contract amount at a time when the Village budget was still being developed. This would constrain the Village during the budget development process. Chairman LaPlaca requested this item be moved to the Village Board for discussion without a committee recommendation.

Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale by Auction of Personal Property Owned by the Village of Hinsdale

Trustee Angelo motioned for the Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale by Auction of Personal Property Owned by the Village of Hinsdale. Trustee Saigh seconded. Trustee Saigh asked about the condition of the Village vehicle fleet. Mr. Franco stated the Village has not reduced the number of vehicle but are putting more hours on each vehicle before replacing them. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Karen Barnard, 10 South Elm Street, expressed her concerns about a neighbor who only uses a wood-burning stove to heat their home. The neighbor uses the wood-burning stove continuously from September to May. She stated the smoke from the stove is a nuisance. The smell permeates everything, the smoke causes or aggravates health problems, and the soot lands inside and outside of the neighboring houses. She felt this issue could be addressed under the nuisance act of Illinois Law. She asked the EPS Committee to draft an ordinance to prohibit the use of using a wood-burning stove as the primary or sole heat source for a home.

Trustee Geoga questioned if Ms. Barnard had contacted an attorney. Ms. Barnard stated attorneys have instructed her to contact the Village and work with the Village in order to solve the issue. A general discussion took place over this item and how an ordinance could be enforced. Mr. McGinnis stated the neighbor's chimney was code compliant. He added that it would be difficult to determine when wood smoke would be considered a public nuisance. And, an ordinance as requested would be very hard to enforce. Chairman LaPlaca requested that Ms. Barnard and Village staff gather information from other communities to see how they are addressing this issue for discussion at the next meeting.

Adjournment

With no further issues to be brought before the Committee, Trustee Saigh moved to adjourn. Trustee Angelo seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Deeter
Village Engineer