

Committee of the Whole Meeting
Public Works Committee
January 23, 2024 – 7:00 a.m.
Village Board Room

Attendance

Committee Members:	
Timothy Nugent, Mayor	X
Tim Boyce, Trustee	X
Todd Crockett, Trustee	X
Diane Dole, Trustee	X
Joel Gesky, Trustee	
Samuel Martin, Trustee	X
Wendell Phillips, Trustee	X
Other Attendees:	
Chris LaRocque, Village Admin	X
Jim Hanley, Super of PW	X
Ryan Marion, Code Official	X
Sheila Martin, Treasurer	X
Al Swinford, Chief of Police	X
Jakob Knox, Marketing Dir	X
Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk	
Bruce Hill, Novotny Engineering	X

Trustee Boyce opened the meeting at 7:21 a.m.

MOTION: A motion by Trustee Crockett, seconded by Trustee Dole, to approve the minutes from November 28, 2023, meeting as presented. Voice vote – All ayes, No nays. Motion approved.

No public participation.

No action items.

Discussion Items:

- **Banner Ideas** – Mr. Hanley presented the three banner designs that the village currently uses. There are approximately 260 poles with a cost of \$65-70 for the green ones and \$135 for the red ones. The question was asked if a new design for the green ones should be considered. Mr. Knox will prepare new designs by working with Pathfinder Designs. Mr. Hanley will also check on a possible timeframe for a new banner. The committee will be updated at a February meeting.
- **Thies Park Project (Park Sign)** – Mr. Hanley asked if the committee would like to see the park sign updated to match the monument design that is in downtown. Mr. Hanley will get a cost estimate. Mr. Hill stated that phase 2 of the project bids will be opened on February 23, 2024, with an award date of March 4, 2024. Mr. Hill asked about lighting. The committee wants the parking lot and path to be lit. Mr. Hill will have conduit added for future use and with a 25' light for the pickleball courts. Mr. LaRocque reminded the

committee that parks are open until midnight and pickleball does make noise so the courts may have to be closed earlier to not disturb the neighbors. The bathroom design will be similar to Legacy Park.

- **Gateway Entry Signs for East & West Sides of Town** – Mr. Hanley stated that the village has completed two entry signs on Rt. 50 and is asking if the entryway signs on the east and west side of the village should be completed. Mr. Hanley had to receive permission from IDOT to put the current sign up at Co Highway 9 and 2nd Street. Mr. Hanley will look to see what is required and a cost.
- **MFT** – Mr. Hill provided a preliminary estimate of cost for various streets that have been ranked by need. South Spruce Street will be removed from the list at this time. All the Rebuild Illinois Funds should be spent which is approximately \$460,000. The total available between RBI and MFT is approximately \$1.3 million. The streets on the list minus Spruce Street could be completed this year with the funds that are available. The timing of updating Spruce Street is not good with the work on County Highway 9 that is going to be completed this year. IDOT is preparing a notification letter to residents on the northwest section of the I-57 project concerning a possible installation of a sound barrier wall. Mr. Hanley will try to get a copy of the letter for our records. This would not cost the residents affected anything. Proposed budget would be \$750,000 - \$800,000.

Trustee Crockett asked if MFT funds could be used for sidewalks. Mr. Hanley stated that sidewalks can be incorporated into the ADA corners. Mr. Hill stated that the funds cannot be used for lengths of sidewalk or as a stand-alone project. Trustee Crockett stated that sidewalks in front of St. Joseph Church might need to be addressed. Mr. Hanley will also look at a possible sidewalk along County Highway 9 from Maple Ridge to Sycamore. Mr. Hill suggested to talk to Kankakee County about a pedestrian access grant, as some counties help with those types of projects. Trustee Dole asked if Mr. Hanley could also look at sidewalks on Walnut between Cook and Adams.

- **Quiet Zone for Railroad Crossings Update** – Mr. Hanley has started the conversation with Kankakee County, IDOT, Railroad companies, ICC, and Federal RR Administration about creating safety measures at the five railroad crossings. Mr. LaRocque stated that the village's insurance was ok as long as all requirements are met. Mr. Hill has spoken to other municipalities that have instituted safety measures. A feasibility study should be conducted on all five intersections. The study would be submitted to the ICC with a follow-up meeting in mid-summer. There are two funding sources through ICC or through IDOT. Mr. Hill stated that it is a process.
- **Legacy Park Ice Rink** – Mr. Hanley has found some ice rinks that are using GLICE. He will try to talk to the communities and get some more information. Mayor Nugent asked that Mr. Hanley also contact the Village of Bourbonnais as they have a small portable rink.
- **POU/ROW Polices for Future Utilities** – Mr. Hill will have a meeting this Friday.
- **CH-9 Widening and I-57 Overpass Project Update** – Mr. Hanley stated that he is still waiting on cost estimates for the village from IDOT for the I-57 project. The County is

seeking right-a-way for the County Highway 9 widening. The County Highway project is planned to start later this year. This project is from Rt. 45 to I-57. There is a possibility that Rt. 45/52 intersection with Co. Highway 9 will have a traffic signal installed. The traffic numbers have increased.

- **Legacy Park South Parking Lot, Path & Pond** – Mr. Hill there has been a delay at HR Green due to an unplanned retirement of a surveyor and the weather. If the weather does warm up as predicted, they will get a canoe on the pond for a survey and then finish the topo. An updated schedule will be provided to Mr. Hanley.
- **E-chargers Use Report** – The report was available in the packet. Revenue of \$0 with expenses of \$80 for the month of December.
- **Parks Update** – The park equipment for the Windfield Park has been received and will be installed in the spring. Mr. Hanley will get some cost estimates for Hendrickson Park.
- **Equipment Update** –
 - Kobata is working great.
 - F350 purchased from Taylor Ford and lift gate will be installed.
 - Received the F550 with dump flatbed body. This truck has a plow too.
 - Equipment handled the snow well – quite a few mailboxes went down due to the heavy wet snow.

Trustee Crockett exited the meeting at 7:59 a.m.

- **Misc:**
 - Salt shed worked great - quite a bit of salt was used over the last few weeks.
 - The new building is working easier to get the trucks in and out. Heating is still an issue.
 - The police building had a thermostat issue and sump pump issue but working on them. The heated sidewalk is working well.

Motion by Trustee Dole, seconded by Trustee Martin, to adjourn meeting at 8:14 a.m. Voice vote: all ayes, no nays.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk