

**Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Public Works Committee  
February 28, 2023 – 7:00 a.m.  
Village Board Room**

**Attendance**

<b>Committee Members:</b>	
Timothy Nugent, Mayor	X
Tim Boyce, Trustee	X
Todd Crockett, Trustee	X
Diane Dole, Trustee	X
Joel Gesky, Trustee	X
Samuel Martin, Trustee	X
Wendell Phillips, Trustee	X
<b>Other Attendees:</b>	
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	
Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk	X
Bruce Hill, Novotny Engineering	X

Meeting was opened by Trustee Boyce at 7:24 a.m.

MOTION: A motion by Trustee Gesky, seconded by Mayor Nugent, to approve the minutes from January 24, 2023 meeting as presented. Voice vote – All ayes, No nays. Motion approved.

No public participation.

No action items.

**Discussion Items:**

- **Current Police Department and Current Public Works Department (Ideas & Updates)** - Hitchcock Design Group had prepared some ideas for the existing building. The Committee was not impressed with the designs. The addition of green space was not what the committee was expecting.

Trustee Crockett asked about the idea of a recreation building. Mayor Nugent stated that building the facility is not the issue, it is the operation and continued maintenance of the facility that needs to be considered. Trustee Gesky suggested that the park rangers could continue to work through the winter months if there was a building. Trustee Martin asked if the village could partner with the school district in using their facilities. It was stated that they have a waiting list now for individuals and organizations to use their facilities. Mayor Nugent stated that adding more personnel and operational costs could be a budget nightmare. Trustee Martin also suggested about allowing the Food Pantry to use the facility, moving them from the building next door to the village hall or a possible

incubator area for small businesses. Trustee Crockett suggested a museum for first responders or veterans. Mayor Nugent stated that all ideas are great, but how much do they cost and how will they function must be considered.

- **Banner Ideas** – Mr. Hanley prepared some ideas for banners to be used during the Hometown Hero program. The committee decided that the banners that have the emblems from the branch of service and patriotic sayings will be used for the additional banners.
- **Charging Stations Update** – The product is on hand and KPI is waiting on weather.
- **Walnut Street Lights** – Mr. Hanley presented a drawing showing the placement of lights from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Sidewalks need to be removed along with updating some ADA compliant ramps. Mr. Hanley will prepare costs and also reach out to the Legion concerning the plan.
- **Legacy Park (Concession Stand & Baseball Field)** – Mr. Hanley gave an update on the finishing of the concession stand. The islands have been completed with new columns and electric. Ceiling fans have been added. Ruder Electric has completed the keypads for the front and back doors and A-1 has been working on the electric strikes. The Wildcat Football will be allowed to keep some items in the kitchen area. Friends of the Library will be using the concession stand for the Movies in the Park.

MYBSL is asking to have the Pony Field updated at an approximate cost of \$10,000. Mr. Hanley will contact the Township about the costs. An agreement with MYBSL will be needed to use the field and then maintain it.

- **School Rock Art Project** – Mr. Hanley was approached by the school district about a rock art project where art students would decorate the rocks and they would be placed in different areas of our parks.
- **Public Works Site Update** – Mr. Hanley presented some aerial photos showing the progress of the building. (*see packet*).
  - Asphalt will be completed in the spring.
  - Working on gates and fencing
  - NiCor is close to a hook-up
  - ComEd still waiting on the three phase to be installed
  - Been working on pricing & layout for signage.

Mr. LaRocque stated that Aqua is coming next week to look at the current Public Works facility for possible purchase.

- **South Creek Drive Path Update** – Mr. Hill stated that the seed and blanket has been completed. Still waiting on ComEd hook-up, but is delayed due to the crews working in the Rockford area due to ice storm.

- **Thies Park – Pickle Ball Courts, Parking Lots, Lights, Whiffle Ball Field** – Mr. Hill presented a preliminary drawing showing the pickle ball courts, parking lot, whiffle ball field and a small detention pond. It also included an 8’ walking path. The approximate cost is \$1.5 million.

Trustee Dole exited the meeting at 8:10 a.m.

Mr. Hill stated that there could be a potential fall construction.

Trustee Gesky suggested switching the parking lot and pickle ball courts and then use Rockne Drive to come into the parking lot. Mr. Hill will also design it that way.

Trustee Martin exited the meeting at 8:13 a.m.

Trustee Crockett suggested adding sand volleyball courts with lights also.

- **Parks Update** – Mr. Hanley and Mr. LaRocque will speak to Trustee Martin about having the Properties and Recreation Committee meet to have a public forum to get the public’s input on recreational needs.
- **Heritage Park Path** – Mr. Hanley has looked at different areas of the path that need to be repaired. A possible 2” overlay on top could be completed or a full removal and redo. Mr. Hill stated his recommendation would be to patch until monies are saved to complete a redo.

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The parking lot will be resealed along with some of the older path areas.

- **Equipment Update** – Mr. Hanley some ideas for potential equipment purchases in FY 23-24:
  - 1 or 2 Polaris side by sides (UTV). They could be used in the parks to help keep the trucks on the paths. Mayor Nugent was not in favor of the purchase.
  - Ranger Pick-up Truck
  - Toro sidewalk sweeper with an added mower – approximate cost of \$50,000.

Mr. Hanley will get a price on the purchase of a lift.

- **MFT** – Mr. Hanley stated that with the funds from Rebuild Illinois and MFT funds we have approximately \$750,000. With the prices used from last year, not much could be accomplished with amount of money. It was suggested that the village just patch the worse areas and try to save on any major road repairs.

Motion by Trustee Boyce, seconded by Mayor Nugent to adjourn meeting at 8:36 a.m. Voice vote: all ayes, no nays.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk*