

**Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Public Works Committee  
April 25, 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	X
Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk	X
Bruce Hill, Novotny Engineering	X

The meeting was opened by Trustee Boyce at 7:13 a.m.

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

No public participation.

No action items.

Mayor Nugent introduced, David Carter, President and Angela Serafini, Area Manager, for Aqua Illinois. They wanted to introduce themselves to our board and give contact information to the village. Ms. Serafini would like to give a yearly update about Aqua’s capital projects at some point.

**Discussion Items:**

- **Enterprise Zone update** – Mayor Nugent stated that the Enterprise Zone was originally set up to entice commercial projects to come to Kankakee County. After a review it has been found that various forms of housing are needed in the county. The idea to expand the Enterprise Zone by adding areas that could develop residential homes is being proposed. All participating entities (Grant Park, Momence, Hopkins Park, Manteno and Kankakee County) need to approve the expansion before the project can move forward. The map has been drawn, but it can be changed but only if a viable project is proposed.

Trustee Martin had some concerns after hearing about the proposed expansion at a previous committee meeting. Trustee Martin spoke to various residents, businesses and the school and fire department. Trustee Martin stated that the general question was “why are we doing this”.

Mayor Nugent stated that the Enterprise Zone worked to bring commercial buildings to the area. Homes were being built in the late 1999’s and early 2000’s, but in 2007/2008 that stopped and since then the housing industry has not rebounded to the level that is needed in our community. This expansion proposal is being submitted to try and bring developers to the county to build more residential homes.

Trustee Crockett stated that the village needs to grow, but it should be controlled growth.

Trustee Martin stated that the concerns ranged from how will the school, fire department and even the public works department handle more responsibilities. Also, the residents he spoke to wondered why new people would get incentives and not those who have lived in the village for years.

Mayor Nugent stated he understands the concerns and we have had businesses in town who were not happy when we gave a new business that wants to come to town sales tax incentives, but don’t give existing businesses anything. Mayor Nugent stated that he understands that there will be some burden added to schools, fire department, police, etc., but there will be increased revenue over the years. Mayor Nugent stated this is a potential solution to the housing industry that is in distress.

Trustee Crockett asked if any larger builders had been contacted about this possible idea. Mayor Nugent stated that builders have been made aware of the potential idea. Trustee Crockett asked if the graduated tax incentive would cause a transient environment.

If there are more questions, the item can be placed on the Finance Committee in May for more discussion.

Trustee Crockett exited the meeting at 8:09 a.m.

- **Speed Bump Locations** – Mr. Hanley has found a smaller and cheaper brand of speed bumps. There are a few more areas where a speed bump has been requested: Meadow Path, South Creek Dr, Lincoln, Kurt & Jeffery, Brian and Windfield. Only Meadow Path, South Creek Drive and Lincoln meet the criteria that has been put in place for use of a speed bump. All streets in the village are a 20 mph zone. Mr. Hanley will order one for use on Meadow Path. Other areas will be investigated.
- **10000 N Road – Mill and Overlay project with Township** – The Township is waiting on the Railroad permit; as soon as that is received they will be starting the project.
- **EV Charging Station Update** – Weather has delayed the start of the project; they hope to try to start later this week.

- **Walnut Street Light Project** – Mr. Hill stated that the project is in the drafting stage. There should not be any issues with ComEd in getting electricity to the lights. Mr. Hanley stated that the poles that we currently have is no longer produced. The vendor is trying to find a similar pole to match what we have. The head is still being made.
- **Public Works New Facility** – Mr. Hanley stated that the roof is complete, there is still ridge, fascia, trim and gutters to finish. Doors are installed in the office area along with paint on the walls. Garage doors will be installed this week. Fence is installed. A flagpole has been erected. Irrigation will start next week. The structural details have been given to Tenco.
- **South Creek Drive Path** – Mr. Hill stated that a new permit (2<sup>nd</sup> application) has been submitted to ComEd. The controls will be located near the new drop site.
- **Thies Park Update** – Mr. Hill stated that the survey and topo are complete. He is working with a landscape architect to verify all needed amenities for this type of project. Mr. Hill hopes to have project ready for bid in early June with construction to start in August.
- **Parks Update** – Mr. Hanley stated that:
  - Asphalt sealant has been received
  - Boom mower will continue to be used
  - Mowing has started in all parks
  - Commendation to MYBSL for the work at Heritage Park ball fields and work on the ball field at Legacy Park.
  - The football field at Legacy has been aerated and more sand mixture has been put on the field.
  - RPZ's have been installed for summer water use
  - Fountains at Memorial Park and Square on 2<sup>nd</sup> are running
  - Legacy Park Concession Stand has an RFP out for design/build landscaping. They will be opened on Thursday. The site work RFP will be given out this week.

Trustee Dole exited the meeting at 8:25 am

- **Equipment Update** –
  - The Ford 750's are back at the department and in use
  - Getting more forklift prices: it is a budgeted item for \$50,000.

Motion by Trustee Boyce, seconded by Mayor Nugent to adjourn meeting at 8:29 a.m. Voice vote: all ayes, no nays.

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