

**MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING**

**DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS**

**APRIL 14, 2009**

Mayor Sandack called the Workshop meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Village Hall. The Mayor led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Mayor Ron Sandack; Commissioners Marilyn Schnell, Martin Tully; William Waldack, Sean P. Durkin, Geoff Neustadt, Bruce Beckman; Village Manager Dave Fieldman; Village Attorney Enza Petrarca; Village Clerk April Holden

Absent: None

Visitors: **Press:** Cat Leyden, Downers Grove Reporter  
**Residents:** Bob Taft, 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Billiards, 2145 W. 63<sup>rd</sup> Street; Doward Dowsma, 6565 Main Street, #302; Marge and Ed Earl, 4720 Florence Avenue; Bob Barnett, 730 Maple Avenue; Bill Wrobel, DG Watch, 7800 Queens Court; Ted Barlas and Diana Jacobs, HRH, 333 E. Butterfield Road; Lea Wayne, 4943 Highland Avenue; Lisa Woodman, 500 Claremont; Christine Fregeau, 1918 Elmore Avenue  
**Staff:** Naneil Newlon, Director, Public Works; Dorin Fera, Traffic Manager, Public Works; Mike Baker, Deputy Village Manager; Doug Kozlowski, Director, Communications; Mike Millette, Assistant Director, Public Works; Brandon Dieter, Management Analyst; Stan Balicki, Assistant Director, Public Works; Dennis Burke, Risk Manager, Human Resources; Tom Dabareiner, Director, Community Development

Mayor Sandack explained that Council Workshop meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are video taped live and for later cable-cast over cable channel 6.

The Workshop meeting is intended to provide Council and the public with an appropriate forum for informal discussion of any items intended for future Council consideration or just for general information. No formal action is taken at Workshop meetings.

The public is invited to attend and encouraged to comment or ask questions in an informal manner on any of the items being discussed or on any other subject. The agenda is created to provide a guideline for discussion.

**MANAGER**

1. Active Agenda and Informational Items

- a. **Historic Landmark Designation for 4943 Highland Avenue.** The Manager asked Tom Dabareiner, Director, Community Development to discuss this matter.

**Tom Dabareiner**, Director, Community Development, provided background information on this request for historic landmark designation. He said that Lea Wayne is seeking this designation for

the property, which has a building exemplifying Victorian architecture. He showed the location of the site on an aerial overhead. Mr. Dabareiner said that Gustav H. Bunge, developer of the Tivoli Theater, and his family lived in the house at two different locations. Its original location was the site of the current Tivoli Theater, and it was moved from that location to its current address. He provided information on Mr. Bunge who was a founding father of the Downers Grove Sanitary District, a former Village attorney and elected official. Mr. Dabareiner showed a photograph from 1904 of the site, and the building remains relatively unchanged since 1904. The front has a classic Victorian façade with a porch, second story balcony, second story bay window, and cantilevered wall extension. The interior remains relatively unchanged as well with five-panel doors, transoms, doorplates, knobs, staircase carvings, floor radiators, fireplace mantles, and original wood flooring. The Architectural Design Review Committee considered this application and found that it complied with five of the criteria for landmark status. They recommended approval unanimously. Mr. Dabareiner said that the designation is voluntary.

**Commissioner Schnell** asked about the siding, and Mr. Dabareiner said it is not wood, but vinyl. In response to Commissioner Schnell, he said that the ordinance doesn't stipulate the exterior. This is a voluntary program, and the owners limit themselves to what they can do in the future on the property.

**Commissioner Beckman** said he was pleased to see this come before the Council. The details on the interior of a building are often lost, and the interior details of this site are evidence of historic preservation.

**Commissioner Tully** applauded the applicant/petitioner. This is the second petition to come before the Council. He noted that the role of government is to assist the petitioner in achieving their goals for their property. It is a voluntary ordinance. He is pleased that people are taking advantage of this ordinance. There is a benefit to being certified, as it can provide tax and grant benefits. He is glad that this tool is available to homeowners.

- b. **Claremont Drive – Main Street to Fairview Avenue – Permanent Traffic Calming.**  
The Manager said this traffic-calming project has been in process for a couple of years. Staff is seeking direction for design for traffic calming improvements.

**Mike Millette**, Assistant Director, Public Works and Village Engineer, said that this was initiated by a citizen petition on the basis of speeding in the area. Staff conducted a study to confirm the existence of the problem. Police did a study after which speed humps were installed. Speeds have dropped as a result of the humps. Deployment was extended and effectiveness was still there. Staff proposed installation of a center median, curb extensions and actual permanent speed humps. The Transportation and Parking Commission (TAP) recommended approval at its March 11 meeting with an additional flush-mounted rumble-strip median at Main Street. He showed slides of communities with the traffic calming devices in Portland, Oregon; Oak Park, Geneva on Randall Road, Main Street in Downers Grove, and 71<sup>st</sup> Street in Darien.

The Mayor noted that this is for internal design purposes only at this time.

**Lisa Woodman**, 500 Claremont Drive, said that the plan as presented seems to be about the best the residents of Claremont could hope for. She thanked Mike Millette, Dorin Fera and TAP for their hard work. Mr. Millette and Mr. Fera went above and beyond expectations.

**Bill Wrobel**, 7800 Queens Court, said that he attended the TAP meeting and it was nice to see all the alternatives which were presented. The speed humps are more like speed tables. The traffic

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calming devices outlined are the most efficient way to address the issue. Stop signs and crosswalks are no guarantee that drivers will stop or obey the signs. Traffic calming devices are cost effective and an efficient way to address the issues.

**Commissioner Neustadt** asked whether the barrier medians would be landscaped. Mr. Millette responded that they would have landscaping potential.

Commissioner Schnell asked whether there has been an increase in accidents seen in other communities that have these devices. Mr. Millette said they did not offer specifics but there was no mention of an increase in accidents. He indicated that staff looked at areas where there are devices and did not notice any increased damage. They will look at the angles and final design to design a safe system.

Commissioner Schnell asked whether people get used to having many different kinds of speed devices on one street. She said they need to get acquainted with what is there, and if an education process is necessary, she would like to see that done. Mr. Millette said that staff is prepared to do whatever is necessary for safety, as well as an education campaign. Commissioner Schnell added that if the high school uses Claremont, it would be an excellent opportunity to educate them. She added that they can probably only do one street per year due to the cost.

**Village Manager Dave Fieldman** said that this project is estimated to be \$60,000. There is \$90,000 budgeted. That will leave some money for other projects and staff will track requests for future budgets.

**Commissioner Waldack** commented that residents have been very interested in this issue. TAP did a good job of working with the public. Traffic speeds dropped significantly with temporary measures. This is a residential area and needs to be safe.

Commissioner Beckman noted that this is a good example of working cooperatively. He asked how this would be seeded and landscaped. Mr. Millette responded that they are currently talking about sodding. There may be an opportunity for residents to do landscaping.

**Commissioner Durkin** thanked Ms. Woodman and Mr. Wrobel for their commitment to this project. The Council learned about traffic calming devices at the National League of Cities. Claremont is a highly traveled street and can be dangerous. He hopes this can be implemented in this calendar year. He complimented Commissioner Schnell on her suggestion to involve schools in learning about this.

Mayor Sandack said that he often hears about speeding issues. Frequently residents are the speeders. He heard about Claremont, drove the street, and saw that one can easily drive fast on it. Staff has taken this opportunity to use Claremont as an example of what can be done. With the changes made with the Parking and Traffic Commission, staff now has the necessary tools to be innovative, and there has been good citizen involvement. The Mayor said that the Village has a good product and it is a good footprint for other projects for the betterment of the Village. He thanked everyone who played a role in this effort.

**Chris Fregeau**, 1918 Elmore, congratulated the staff, the Council and the residents. This shows a proactive stance of government at every level, and she is proud of the direction the Village is taking.

- c. **Parking Deck – Marking of Parking Spaces Including those Designated as “Compact Cars Only.”** The Manager said a visual was available as to where the compact car spaces would be. There is a sight problem with the larger vehicles. Compact car space designation will help address this matter.

Commissioner Neustadt said he believes this improvement will help vehicles and pedestrians regarding enforcement. Speeding is an issue from the top levels down. Mr. Fieldman said that staff is working on addressing speed issues in the deck.

Commissioner Schnell asked if there would be a legal definition of compact cars.

**Village Attorney Enza Petrarca** said there is no specific definition. The cars must fit within the marked areas.

Commissioner Tully said it is between 161” and 175”.

Commissioner Schnell said this needs to be enforced. She has seen some creative parking in her travels.

Commissioner Waldack said that one must park within the lines regardless of the size of the car.

- d. **Ordinance Amendments: Liquor Provisions.** Village Attorney Petrarca said this ordinance allows the consumption of alcohol at a billiard facility, not less than 6,000 square feet in space, with food service, and only open to people 21 years of age and older. There is one facility that would qualify – 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Billiards. The Liquor Commission considered this and unanimously recommended approval.

**Bob Taft**, 774 Linden, Darien, is the owner of 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Billiards. He owns two other locations, both larger than this facility. He has owned the property for ten years and is present to answer any questions the Council may have.

Commissioner Beckman said he plans to support this; however, he laments the loss of an opportunity for younger people to take advantage of billiard facilities.

Commissioner Waldack said he also would support this. He is concerned, however, about the development of liquor licenses designed for one establishment. He is concerned that they are not more generic. He would like to look at special uses, etc.

Mayor Sandack said that, with respect to liquor licenses, the trend is one of control.

Commissioner Tully explained that this is control of highly controlled substances and is a privilege, not a land use issue.

Commissioner Durkin complimented Mr. Taft for bringing this forward. He is familiar with Mr. Taft’s Darien facility, and he will support this request.

Commissioner Neustadt said that the Tivoli Enterprises has pool tables for use by all ages.

Mayor Sandack said that dispensing alcoholic beverages is a privilege and not a right.

3. Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Intergovernmental Agreement with DuPage County relative to Resurfacing Maple/55th.** The Manager said this is a watermain project. The agreement establishes a cost-sharing arrangement with DuPage County regarding the resurfacing of Maple Avenue, from Springside Avenue to Dunham Road, and 55<sup>th</sup> Street, from Dunham Road to Main Street.
- b. **Police Station HVAC System Replacement.** The Manager said this expense is \$166,000 to replace a system which has presented on-going problems for the last four or five years. The equipment would be able to be moved to a new facility if necessary.

Commissioner Durkin said that knowing that this unit can be moved from the existing facility to a new facility garners his vote.

Commissioner Beckman commented that he appreciates the opportunity to do something to solve the problem at the present location.

**Deputy Village Manager Mike Baker** said this will be located outside of the Police Station on the east side behind a brick enclosure to shield it and to provide a noise barrier.

Commissioner Neustadt said this is a difficult building to air condition and heat. The average life of this equipment is 20 years and he will support this. It is desperately needed.

The Manager said items c-m are all competitive bid awards wherein the lowest responsible bidder has been recommended.

- c. **Bid: Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Elmhurst Chicago Stone Company of Elmhurst, IL, in the amount not to exceed \$26,515.60 for the supply of ready mixed concrete. This was competitively bid with one response meeting specifications. There is no clear reason for the lack of bid responses.
- d. **Bid: Roadside Ditch Reconstruction and Maintenance Services.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Western Gradall Corporation of Naperville, IL, in the amount of \$80,000 for approximately three miles of roadside ditch reconstruction and maintenance services. This was competitively bid with one response meeting specifications.
- e. **Bid: Debris Hauling & Supply of Crushed Limestone.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to E. Hoffman, Inc., Lombard, IL, in the amount of \$167,940 for debris hauling and crushed limestone supply services. This was competitively bid with nine bid responses.
- f. **Bid: Street Sweeping Maintenance Services.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Elgin Sweeping Service, Inc., Chicago, IL, in the amount of \$107,934.90 for street sweeping maintenance services. This was competitively bid with four bid responses.

Commissioner Beckman asked what is gained and lost in reducing the street sweeping cycles to contain costs. Mr. Fieldman said the number of cycles was reduced from 15 to 9 cycles. The

benefits are for water quality and to keep the inlets clear. They will still do passes at critical times to keep the inlets clear.

Commissioner Durkin said this is for an actual sweep, not removal of leaves and debris. He asked for a bid for sweeping and removal. The Manager said he will obtain that information.

- g. **Bid: Supply of Hot Mix Asphalt Materials.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Central Blacktop Co., Inc., LaGrange, IL, in the amount of \$65,000 for supply of hot mix asphalt materials. This was competitively bid with two bid responses.
- h. **Bid: Streetlight Maintenance.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to H&H Electric Company, Franklin Park, IL, in an amount not to exceed \$93,878.40 for streetlight maintenance services. This was competitively bid with five bid responses.
- i. **Bid: Fire Hydrant Painting.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Giant Maintenance & Restoration, Mundelein, IL, in the amount of \$47,130.80 for fire hydrant painting.

Commissioner Durkin asked about obtaining multi-year contracts for this item and streetlight maintenance. He would like the Village to take advantage of this economy with an option for multi-year contracting. Mr. Fieldman said he would have staff look into this.

Commissioner Waldack thanked the staff for the contractor evaluation. The previous low bidder failed the evaluation.

The Mayor said the lowest responsive bidder is being awarded the contract in this case.

- j. **Bid: Parking Deck Lighting.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Eco Parking Lights, Fishers, IN, in the amount of \$91,998 for the purchase of 285 induction fluorescent light fixtures for the parking deck. This was competitively bid with four bid responses.

Commissioner Neustadt said that the school district has done an extensive job of replacing bulbs and it has resulted in significant savings. He thinks this is an excellent way to save money.

Commissioner Tully agreed that lighting retrofits can result in huge savings. It reduces the cost and the consumption. He thanked staff for the detailed response regarding luminescence. He doesn't want to undermine the work done earlier to insure safety of the public. These lights give off a brighter and whiter light than the existing bulbs.

Commissioner Beckman commented that this is a 3-year payback period. He finds that to be acceptable. Staff will replace the bulbs. He asked if replacement of bulbs will be at one time or over a period of time.

**Stan Balicki**, Assistant Director, Public Works, said it would be phased in over a period of a couple of months.

- k. **Bid: Rogers Street Drainage Improvements.** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to J. Congdon Sewer Service, Inc., Carol Stream, IL, in the amount

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of \$181,001 for the Rogers Street drainage improvements. This was competitively bid. This is in conjunction with the Washington Park Stormwater Improvement Project.

Mayor Sandack pointed out that there were 11 bidders on this project.

- l. **Bid: 2009 Resurfacing Project (CIP Project ST-004).** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Brothers Asphalt Paving, Inc., Addison, IL, in the amount of \$2,980,773.96 for the 2009 resurfacing project. This is the Village's annual Roadway Maintenance Program.
- m. **Bid: 2009 Preventive Seal Project (CIP Project ST-004).** The Manager said staff is recommending a contract be awarded to A.C. Pavement Striping Company, Elgin, IL, in the amount of \$235,730.25 for the 2009 preventive seal project. This is a component of the 2009 Roadway Maintenance Program.
- n. **Renewal of Insurance Broker and Re-insurance of Property, Casualty and Excess Liability Coverage.** The Manager said staff is recommending the renewal of the Village's insurance brokerage contract with Hilb Rogal & Hobbs. Additionally, staff recommends purchasing re-insurance coverage for property, casualty and excess liability for the Village.

The Manager said this contract will be re-bid in 2010. In response to Commissioner Schnell, he said the new buses are reflected in the rates.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

The Manager said that on May 5 the Village will introduce the new Council and acknowledge Commissioner Tully. There will be a reception following the meeting.

### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Village Attorney Enza Petrarca said she was presenting five items to the Council: 1) A resolution granting historic landmark designation for 4943 Highland Avenue; 2) An ordinance creating an entertainment/recreational facility liquor license classification for a billiard hall; 3) An ordinance amending parking provisions for compact cars in the parking deck; 4) A resolution authorizing execution of an intergovernmental agreement between the County of DuPage and the Village of Downers Grove (Maple/55<sup>th</sup> Street resurfacing); and 5) A resolution authorizing execution of an agreement between the County of DuPage and the Village of Downers Grove (Prentiss Creek area street lights).

### VISITORS

**Bill Wrobel**, 7800 Queens Court, said he represented the Downers Grove Coalition for Managed Redevelopment, and they have supported the ADRC. They are elated that the Village is moving forward with historic preservation. He appreciates the involvement of the citizens and the support of the Council.

**Doward Dowsma**, 6565 Main Street, brought greetings from the City of Flowery Branch, Georgia. He and his family recently moved to the Village and are blessed to be part of Downers Grove.

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**Chris Fregeau**, 1918 Elmore, said that she has done some research on the DuPage History.org website. Stormwater issues are very old in Downers Grove. The Village was first incorporated in 1873 with less than 500 residents and \$600 for operating expenses. She read ordinances regarding sidewalks from 1873 and 1874. To have a safe place to walk and drive is valuable to everyone.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Commissioner Waldack said he would like to find the location of St. Bernard's cemetery in Downers Grove.

Commissioner Waldack then said this is the end of the campaign season. The good part is the interaction between candidates and the public. Over the past campaign season an issue raised was homelessness and how it is addressed. There are many causes and he believes they need to work on this. People need to be educated on homelessness. The Human Service Commission has discussed this and he would like to see them continue to address this.

Commissioner Schnell said that on Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a tribute to Buddy Holly to benefit SEASPAR. Tickets are on sale for \$20.00, and are available at SEASPAR. It is a very worthwhile organization.

Commissioner Tully welcomed Mr. Dowsma from Georgia to the Village. He noted the history of their former home in Georgia and said it is historically similar to Downers Grove.

Commissioner Schnell encouraged Mr. Dowsma to apply get involved in the Village Boards and Commissions by applying on line.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Tully moved to convene into Executive Session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss personnel matters and 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss pending litigation. Commissioner Durkin seconded.

VOTE: YEA – Commissioners Tully, Durkin, Beckman, Neustadt, Waldack, Schnell, Mayor Sandack

Mayor Sandack declared the motion carried and the Council convened into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.

April K. Holden  
Village Clerk

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