

Staff Responses to Council Questions
June 12, 2012

Agenda Item E on the First Reading (Liquor License Classifications) has been removed at staff's request.

6. Consent Agenda F. Motion: Award a Professional Services Contract for \$28,470 to Kenig, Lindgren, O'Hara, Aboona, Inc., Rosemont, IL, for 2012 Neighborhood Traffic Study – Area 2

Given the impact of DGN on the neighborhood, why does the study stop on the east at Main St.? Wouldn't it be more useful to include several blocks east?

The study area was determined based on related trips within a neighborhood that is surrounded by arterial streets (Ogden and Main) and the railroad tracks. This study area is larger than Downers Grove North area, and also includes Herrick Middle School and Pierce Downer Grade School. It is recommended that this area be the subject of the next traffic study because of the number of complaints and requests for changes to traffic signage the Village has received. Following the completion of the improvements at Downers Grove North, staff will monitor traffic operations east of Main Street and work with the School District to recommend changes if warranted.

This project is over budget in 2012 and will not complete until 2013. When is DGN expected to complete work AND make appropriate adjustments? When will the effects on traffic patterns and parking become stabilized? Why not adjust and budget for 2013?

Work is anticipated to be completed at Downers Grove North by the middle of August. Staff anticipates that traffic patterns and parking will become stabilized within a few weeks of the beginning of school. Staff receives many requests for traffic control changes within this neighborhood and believes it will be beneficial to systematically study the traffic this year and be prepared to implement changes in the late Spring or early Summer of 2013. Staff delayed this project in order to incorporate the changes in the area of Downers Grove North and is confident that the project can begin after their work is complete.

6. Consent Agenda G. Motion: Award a Contract to Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital, Downers Grove, IL, for Annual Fire Department Fit for Duty Medical Exams

How many generally respond?

In 2006 and 2009, the Village received five responses for the RFP.

Who was the other qualified respondent?

The other qualified respondent was Edward Hospital.

For how many years has Good Sam performed these services for us?

Good Samaritan has provided these services since 2009.

6. Consent Agenda H. Resolution: Authorize a Plan Consultant Agreement with the Horton Group

This is the second meeting of Council with only one more June meeting left. Contract is expected to take effect July 1. Why wait and assume Council passage, why not present this earlier?

By placing this item on the consent agenda for June 12, staff believes that sufficient time has been allotted to respond to any Council concerns and seek approval for the Contract prior to the July 1 effective date.

8. First Reading B. Bid: Award a Contract Not to Exceed \$1,734,912.38 to James D. Fiala Paving Company, Inc., Bolingbrook, IL for 2012 Resurfacing (B) Project

What steps will the contractor take to address the sod installation issues they experienced last time?

Staff will ensure that Fiala Paving has secured an acceptable landscape subcontractor prior to starting work. Fiala has performed well for the Village on several projects, and staff anticipates that they will continue to be cooperative on this contract.

8. First Reading C. Bid: Award \$954,210 to Am-Coat Painting, Inc., Homer Glen, IL for the Maple Avenue Water Tower Repainting Project

Is staff recommending the alternative bid?

Yes, staff is recommending the bid alternate. This work includes a fluorourethane exterior coating system and new interior condensate ceiling. Fluorourethane is a newer, ultra-high-performance coating that is projected to have a service life of up to thirty years. A large amount of the cost of this project is mobilization of equipment, labor and the installation of the containment system. Because of these fixed costs, the investment of \$58,400 to extend the life of the exterior coating from 15 to 30 years would provide a return on the initial investment. The alternate bid item consists of the installation of an interior ceiling that will collect condensation that falls inside the tank and direct it to a drain. This will reduce maintenance within the stem of the tank.

What is the schedule for the repainting of all of the water towers?

The Village repaints water towers anywhere from every 15 to 25 years depending on the condition of the tower. Staff is in the process of completing a tank management plan to more accurately schedule water tower maintenance. The Maple tower is scheduled for painting this year, and the Summit tower located near Fire Station 2 is scheduled for maintenance in 2013.

How will the emptying of the tower for internal painting affect water supply? Is staff concerned about the impacts of emptying a tank during the summer months with drought conditions?

Several hydraulic scenarios were modeled and evaluated using the Village's computerized water model as part of the planning process for this project. Based on the results of the hydraulic modeling the Village's consultant and staff are confident that water supply for domestic uses as well as fire protection will be maintained at acceptable flows and pressures for the duration of the project. The scenarios specifically included maximum hour and maximum day demands with the Maple Tank removed from service in conjunction with fire flows.

Campaign Disclosure?

The signed Campaign Disclosure Form is included as page 43 of the agenda materials for this item.

8. First Reading D. Ordinance: Approve a Final Planned Development Amendment to Plan Development #19 to Permit a Third Monument Sign at Good Samaritan Hospital

Were the residents on 39th Street near Fire Station 3 notified of the public hearing?

The resident at 1041 39th St (immediately adjacent to FS 3) received a notice in the mail. The other residents on 39th St, west of Highland Avenue are outside of the 250 foot notification radius. There was a sign posted right at the corner of 39th and Highland Avenue. Staff did not receive any comments from the residential neighbors prior to the hearing and no residents spoke at the hearing.

How will this sign be illuminated? How far away will the sign be seen? Is there an example of this sign somewhere in the area?

Portions of the sign will be illuminated internally. A similar sign exists at the hospital's 39th Street entrance. Two photographs of that sign are attached - one taken during the day and one at night.

The proposed sign would be visible approximately 550' south of the site, 400' west of the site, 990' north of the site and 120' east of the site. The visibility of the sign varies due to grade changes and density of the trees. The sign text is readable beginning at approximately 400'. The proposed sign is located to provide directional signage to visitors and patients, especially those arriving from the west and south. It also provides signage to direct users to the fastest route to the emergency room to those arriving from the south, west and north.

Manager Report

Why doesn't Council have a CWTC at Rotary Grovesfest?

Coffee with the Council has traditionally been held during on the third Saturday of the month, and was held on this day even when the Village responsible for hosting Heritage Festival. In the absence of Council direction to do otherwise, staff has scheduled the event on the same date/time that Council members and residents are accustomed to attending it.

Non-Agenda Related

Is the 2% decrease in ComEd rates in addition to the savings under aggregation?

Yes, the 2% rate cut that was announced by the Illinois Commerce Commission last week is a rate cut on the delivery side of the ComEd bill. All ComEd customers will benefit from the 2% decrease; however, the delivery rates will increase again in January when the rate increases from the Smart Grid bill begin to take effect. Attached is the Chicago Tribune article regarding the rate cut.

ATTACHMENTS

Photos of Good Samaritan Monument Sign

Chicago Tribune Article on ComEd Rate Decrease



www.chicagotribune.com/business/breaking/chi-comed-bills-to-drop-25-this-month-after-icc-ruling-20120604,0,4553317.story

chicagotribune.com

ComEd bills to drop 2% this month after ICC ruling

By Julie Wernau

Tribune staff reporter

5:33 PM CDT, June 4, 2012

Electricity bills for Commonwealth Edison customers will drop 2 percent, or about \$1.70 per month, starting in June as a result of a ruling last week by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

The reductions are largely the result of a lower rate of return for the company under a new formula that will be used to set electricity rates. At the same time, \$2.6 billion in investments ComEd plans to make under the new formula are not included in consumer bills.

Those decreases could be the last customers see for a decade. Rates are expected to go back up in January 2013 as ComEd undergoes a 10-year upgrade to the electrical grid to include "smart" devices and so-called self healing lines.

At the same time, Commonwealth Edison Co. will receive faster and more frequent returns on the investments it makes in the electricity grid under the new formulaic approach to setting electricity rates. Issues once hashed out in lengthy court-like proceedings, such as ComEd's profit rate for shareholders, how charitable contributions should be treated and whether pension is an asset or an expense, are now set according to a formula.

Controversial legislation backed by ComEd that became law in October mandated that electricity rates be determined according to a formula to encourage investment in smart grid technology and other capital improvements. Ultimately, the change means millions more in profit for ComEd and more certainty it will have its costs recovered.

Meanwhile, ComEd said Monday it will ask for re-hearing before the ICC and appeal last week's decision to the Appellate Court if necessary. The commission lopped more than \$168 million from ComEd's current revenue before approving the new formula rate plan.

ComEd had asked for a rate update under the formula that would have reduced revenue by \$44 million, an approximately 0.2 percent reduction for consumers.

But the ICC made additional changes to the company's proposal, the largest: a determination that

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pension contributions are an expense item and not an asset on which the company has the right to receive a return.

ComEd President and CEO Anne Pramaggiore said Monday that the ICC overstepped its authority in making the change and that if the decision isn't overturned it will create a "multiyear problem" that will slow the rate at which the company can improve the grid. The law as enacted in October, she said, required the ICC to allow the company to make a return on its pension assets.

"The cash flow that we expected to be there to fund the next wave simply isn't there," she said. "We've hit a serious snag and we'll have to work through that or it's going to slow us down."

David Kolata, executive director of consumer advocacy group Citizens Utility Board, said the request for a rehearing was not unexpected.

"We will continue to work to make sure consumers get a fair deal," he said. "Smart grid done right can provide real value, and we look forward to working with ComEd to ensure that we have the best smart grid plan in the country."

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