



# Village of Fox River Grove

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Trustee Blohm called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. in the Municipal Center. Present at roll call were President Nunamaker, Trustees Blohm, Curtiss, Knar, Migdal and Wall. Also present were Administrator Soderholm, Management Assistant Bechler, Chief Lukasik and Village Clerk Brouder. Trustee Anderson was absent.

**Trustee Knar made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss residents' requests related to potential community improvements near the location of the new Public Works facility site. Trustee Blohm seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Blohm, Curtiss, Knar, Migdal and Wall – all “yes”. MOTION PASSED.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Celske would like to speak during the Public Works Facility discussion.

### **PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE REPORTS**

President Nunamaker shared a few of the proposals approved by the IML Legislative Committee that are being considered.

- Automatic appropriation for motor fuel tax and gaming distributions.
- Expansion of home rule eligibility to include all municipalities with 5,000 residents.
- Pension financial reforms that result in cost savings based on actual revenues.
- Define catastrophic injury in a consistent standard.
- Close loopholes that allow employers to exceed the current 6% cap on pensionable salary increases during the last 12 months of service.

Trustee Wall thanked Trustee Migdal and our Public Works Department for their assistance with the Fall festival. Trustee Migdal added that it turned out great and everyone enjoyed it. It was the best year for the Haunted Forest, they made about \$1,800. The hayride and bonfire were great, as well.

Trustee Curtiss reminded everyone that the Lioness Pasta Dinner is on Sunday at the Middle School.

### **1. APPROVAL: OCTOBER 15, 2015 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**

**Trustee Blohm made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting. Trustee Curtiss seconded.** Roll Call: Trustees Blohm, Curtiss, Knar, Migdal and Wall – all “yes”. MOTION PASSED.

### **2. DISCUSSION: PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY**

Mr. Celske made a request to the committee that they consider various community improvements near and around the area where the new Public Works facility is to be constructed. The neighbors expressed concerns related to the placement of the salt shed, tree removal, screening, lighting, road improvements, adding a sidewalk on Lincoln, paving Keystone, cleaning up the area at Lincoln Avenue and Creek Drive to make it more park-like, the times of operation during and after construction and the

dust and mess. The Trustees expressed that they could work with the residents on many of the issues.

The Trustees and staff stated that everything will be done to save existing trees on the site. With the exception of sidewalks being constructed on Lincoln Avenue, the Trustees and staff felt all the other community improvements could be considered in future Village budgets. Staff also felt that the operational restrictions would certainly be taken into consideration in the future as the Village wants to be a good neighbor. The items to be considered going forward include the following:

- Additional landscaping on the west side of Lincoln Avenue
- Clean up the park area at Creek Drive and Lincoln Avenue and possibly add an improvement (Gazebo/regrading)
- Be aware of dust during construction (Eckert's home)
- Possibly repave Keystone Avenue with a future road program
- Resurface Lincoln Avenue with 2017 Road Program

### **3. DISCUSSION: SIGN CODE**

The Trustees began a discussion on the sign packet. They discussed allowing maintenance to a non-conforming sign, which currently is not allowed. When maintenance issues are observed by the Village and the owner is notified, the owners are allowed up to six months to repair it. If it is not repaired during that time frame, the Village will assess a monthly fine.

A transfer of ownership would trigger the removal of the pole sign, within six months of the change.

Interior window signs cannot cover more than 33% of all window space. In some instances like Top Shelf and Sherwin Williams, though, the signs block the backs on the shelving they use for display. In a store like Tuesday Morning, they use the window areas as a display to attract their customers.

It was discussed allowing one sign per window with a sign on the side of the doors. The Trustees were good with one "open" neon sign. On an electronic sign, they would like to have a limit on the amount of light emitted from the sign.

### **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **5 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

### **6 ADJOURNMENT**

**Trustee Wall made a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole at 9:00 p.m. Trustee Knar seconded. All were in favor.**

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Suzanne Blohm, Chairman

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Date

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Donna M. Brouder, Village Clerk