

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020 VIA ZOOM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bohm called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Village meetings are being conducted in accordance with the recently amended provisions of the Open Meetings Act and the Governor’s Disaster Proclamation reissued June 26, 2020 and the Governor’s Executive Order 43 regarding Phase 4 reopening. In recognition of Section 12 of the Disaster Proclamation which provides that meetings attended by more than 50 persons are not feasible and the social distancing requirements, an in-person meeting is not practical nor prudent at this time. Therefore, the meeting is being conducted by audio conference.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Bohm, Members Pink and Towne

Absent: None

Chairman Bohm declared a quorum present.

Also, on the call: Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Administrator, Bob Irvin; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson; Trustee Sheldon

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER MEETING

Meeting minutes of September 9, 2020 were reviewed. It was moved by Member Towne and seconded by Member Pink that the meeting minutes be approved and placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. REVIEW FOREST BUILDERS PROPOSAL FOR THE POLLINATOR GARDENS AT WHIPPOORWILL PARK

Chairman Bohm said the Committee received a detail proposal for the pollinator gardens. Member Towne commented the description and the scope of the work was well done.

A motion was made to approve the Forest Builders proposal for the pollinator gardens at Whippoorwill Park. The motion was moved by Member Towne and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

Chairman Bohm said he had also received a proposal from Forest Builders for the 2021 pollinator gardens at the MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park for a later discussion.

E. UPDATE ON THE BENCH HONORING BARRY MACLEAN

Chairman Bohm said the bench installation is complete. Village Engineer Scott Anderson added the east side of the park has a slight swale and we will need to watch the bench area to ensure it

does not get washed out from the rains. Chairman Bohm said he will follow-up later with dedication details for the bench.

F. UPDATE ON THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE HAMILTON ESTATES PROPERTY ON RIVERWOODS BLVD

Village Administrator Irvin said the Village Attorney is reviewing the existing conservation easement for this property that was annexed in 1998. One of the matters the Village Attorney is reviewing the change of ownership that occurred in 2011. The Village Attorney is trying to determine if only the HOA can approve the stewardship or if it requires the majority of the subdivision residents to vote on this change too. Member Towne commented his concern of the liability of the HOA owning this land with an active trail. The Village should consider taking over the ownership of this land versus entering into a stewardship. Village Administrator Irvin replied at one time, the open space of this property enabled the subdivision for a higher density. This fact has been deemed to not be true. Village Administrator Irvin added he will follow-up with the Village Attorney about purchasing this land instead. Chairman Bohm said he will talk with Larry Falbe regarding the Village's consideration of owning this parcel.

G. UPDATE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF BRADLEY ROAD AND RIVERWOODS BLVD

Chairman Bohm spoke with Kelley Blake from ILM, they have agreed to maintain this area. ILM has agreed to add this location to the Village's agreement at the cost of \$75 per visit.

A motion was made to approve the ILM contract addendum to include the northeast corner of Bradley Road and Riverwoods Blvd at the cost of each visit to be \$75. The motion was made by Member Towne and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

H. DISCUSSION ON BUILDING A BERM ON THE VILLAGE LOT LOCATED ON ROUTE 60 AND ST. MARY'S ROAD

Chairman Bohm said DiTomasso Excavating, LTD. approached the Village as an interested contractor to build a berm on the Village corner lot. A proposal was received from DiTomasso Excavating LTD for the project. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said the Village had turned down the contractor who submitted a bid and proposed to pay the Village \$5,000 for this job. Member Pink asked if DiTomasso was going to remove the driveway. Chairman Bohm said he will follow-up with the contractor about removing the driveway. Member Towne said they would also need to remove various tall trees. Chairman Bohm commented the contractor did not want a limitation on a completion date. Member Towne commented a few specifications to include in the contract can be to not exceed 36 months, the trail access on Riverside Drive and to keep the two pillars. Village Administrator Irvin remarked the Committee turndown the bidder who agreed to the Village's specification. The wetlands in this area will need to be identified in order to start this project. Village Administrator Irvin suggested to provide the bid specifications to DiTomasso Excavating for him to agree to the Village terms. Chairman Bohm said we could contact Lima Contractors and ask if they're still interested in this project. The Village could reach out to Lima Contractors interest level. Village Engineer Scott Anderson commented to remove the driveway, he would estimate it to cost \$7, 500. Trustee Sheldon said the prior berm bids were turned down due to the Committee's concern of the long-term maintenance this corner required.

Chairman Bohm said the Committee's consensus is to approach Lima Contractors prior to DiTomasso's. Member Pink suggested to provide DiTomasso's the bid packet to ensure he agrees to the terms.

Village Engineer Scott Anderson said he will provide a blank bid specification to the DiTomasso.

A motion was made to provide DiTomasso's Excavating LTD the bid specifications. The motion was made by Member Towne and seconded by Member Pink. The motion carried.

Resident, Jess Ray (350 Melody Lane) said when a traffic study was done by Costco it was determined as a high area. Mr. Ray added the period in which this project is completed should also be considered due to the traffic impact on the surrounding residents.

I. UPDATE ON THE MACLEAN PRESERVE AT THE OASIS PARK CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Chairman Bohm stated MacLean Preserve park is being restored and a great amount of landscaping is being invested, therefore, the Village should consider this park to be placed into an easement to protect the land. Whippoorwill Preserve is in a conservation easement. Member Towne said he is against this idea of limiting any future Board members with entering into this type of agreement. Member Pink said she would consider this preservation after further research has been completed. Chairman Bohm said he would like to protect this land from future development. Trustee Sheldon stated when the Village purchased this land it was labeled as a park for preservation rights. Village Administrator Irvin said recent research done by Jim Ferolo found that no surrounding park district could annex this land and it would also require a vote of Mettawa residents to approved being annexed to a park district. This park has been zoned as open space. Village Administrator Irvin said the Village can explore other options to have this park preserved. Chairman Bohm said he would be content if the park was preserved in a way that should an opportunity to develop on this land be made, only the residents had a right to vote to decide on the outcome not the Trustees. The next step is to ask the Village Attorney, on how to preserve this land. Village Administrator said the super majority will be needed to sell Village property.

J. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman Bohm asked Member Towne about the Tindall Trail sign. Member Towne indicated the vendor will have it completed next week. Member Towne volunteered to install the sign.

Chairman Bohm said he received a report from the Poul's Nursery regarding the trees and shrubs that were planted last year. Poul's will be replacing any dried-out plantings per their warranty.

Chairman Bohm said he received a late proposal from Dunlap to remove three dead trees on Oak Hill Lane in the amount of \$2,500.

A motion was made to approve the Dunlap proposal for the three dead trees on Oak Hill Lane in the amount of \$2,500. The motion was made by Member Towne and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

K. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Member Towne and seconded by Member Pink to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk