

VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Meeting Minutes  
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room  
December 9, 2014

**AGENDA ITEM 1:** Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

Present: Trustees Brian Dianis, Jerry Glogowski, Jim Steigert,  
Bob Smith, and John Spella and President John Schmitt

Staff Members Present: Tim Schloneger, Village Manager; Katie Parkhurst, Senior Planner; and Susan Skillman, Comptroller. Kelly Cahill, Village Attorney, and Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk, were also in attendance.

Chairperson Debby Sosine called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and announced those in attendance. A quorum was established.

**AGENDA ITEM 2:** Community Development

A. Reconsideration of Outside Display for Thorntons Gas Station (2014-09)/Southwest Corner of East Algonquin Road and Compton Drive

Ms. Parkhurst reported, after much discussion, the Village Board considered the petition at the October 28 Committee of the Whole meeting and approved the development via ordinance 2014-O-44 at the November 4 Village Board meeting. The Village Board approved outside display for propane with screening by five arborvitaes. At the request of Thorntons, the Village Board agreed to reconsider the outside display area. A formal motion was made at the December 2 Village Board meeting to reconsider the outside display area for Thorntons that is listed as one of the conditions in Ordinance No. 2014-O-44 and refer this matter to tonight's Committee of the Whole

Thorntons has proposed an area for outside display and sales for propane, ice, and seasonal items such as window washer fluid, firewood, salt, etc. The proposed area is located on the east side of the building, adjacent to the building. Thorntons has submitted two screening options for consideration. Staff is still recommending no outside display of any products be permitted in order to be consistent with the BP Amoco and Meijer gas stations on Randall Road.

Option A: Column/Fencing Option:

This option provides for 7-foot tall columns, constructed of brick with a stone base to match the building, with black ornamental fencing between the columns. The columns and fencing start along the wall of the building, cross the sidewalk, and then run the length of the building to define/enclose the outside display area. There are gates at either end of the outside display area. Landscaping, such as arborvitaes, are planted between the columns along the fencing to provide further screening.

Option B: Full Masonry Option:

This option provides for a 9-foot tall brick wall with a stone base and columns to match the building façade. The length of wall is 35 feet, just wider than 30-foot sales area. A header feature connects the wall to the building, above the sidewalk. Below the header there will be an ornamental gate leading into sales area on each end.

Option C: Ordinance No. 2014-O-44: (language below from ordinance approving Thorntons)

Propane sales, outside, shall be limited to the east side of the building. The propane shall be screened with a row of five arborvitaes. No other items shall be permitted to be displayed and/or sold outside. No additional signage shall be permitted on the building; price signs shall be permitted next to the propane for sale.

**Option D: No Outside Display Area**

Staff is recommending no outside display and sales area be permitted to be consistent with our code and policy for all other gas stations that are not allowed any outdoor storage and display.

During discussion it was noted that all members were in favor of option B with Mr. Smith stating he feels this option puts the village in a strengthened position if other companies request an outdoor sales area. When asked what products would be sold in this area, Thorntons' Tony Rubino responded that Ice, firewood, windshield washer solvent and propane would be stored, but no mulch in the summer. They also are not interested in a Red Box machine at this time. A Committee of the Whole poll was taken and it was 7 to 0 in favor of option B. After it was unanimous consensus to pass this item on to the Board for approval, Mr. Rubino then stated that since this is a new concept for Thorntons, they might request a signage variance that would require the procedure of a zoning hearing and approval of the Village Board again, so he will have to take tonight's decision back to his management for discussion. They may decide to return to the original plan in Ordinance 2014-O-44.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: General Administration**

**A. Presentation of the Financial Audit for Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2014 – Auditors McGladrey LLP**

Ms. Skillman presented the finished audit to the Committee of the Whole and introduced Linda Abernathy and Katie Barry from Auditors McGladrey LLP who would give a brief overview of the yearly audit. Ms. Abernathy first said how saddened she was to hear of Mr. Jack Walde's passing this year and what an excellent job he did for the village for many years. Ms. Barry then gave explanations to the various aspects of the audit of standard accounting procedures for municipalities. She said there will be two major changes in 2015/2016, not regarding funding but reporting procedures for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF). All in all, the village is in a much better position than other municipalities and definitely the State of Illinois.

On a side note, President Schmitt stated the village has good cash reserves at six to seven months but may at times dip to five.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: Public Works & Safety**  
Nothing to Report

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Executive Session**  
Nothing to report.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Other Business**  
Nothing to report.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment**

There being no further business, Ms. Sosine adjourned the meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 8:14 p.m.

Submitted: Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk