

VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
July 8, 2008

AGENDA ITEM 1: Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

Present: Chairperson – Trustee Smith; Trustees Dianis, Glogowski, Spella, Sosine, and Steigert; and President Schmitt

Staff Members Present: William Ganek, Village Manager; Jenna Kollings, Assistant Village Manager; Katie Parkhurst, Acting Planning Director; Wade Merritt, Strategic Traffic Sgt; Bob Mitchard, Public Works Director; Bud Schuetz, Parks and Forestry Foreman; Kelly Cahill, Village Attorney

AGENDA ITEM 2: Community Development
No items to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM 3: General Administration

A. Consider Public Event Permit for “Taste of Saint Margaret Mary”

Mr. Ganek provided a brief overview on the annual request for a permit for the event. Mr. Glogowski added he has attended this function and it has always been run real well with little problems.

The Committee of the Whole recommended unanimously that the Public Event Permit for “Taste of Saint Margaret Mary” be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

B. Consider Resolution Requesting Permission for Temporary Closure of a State Highway for the 2008 Founders’ Days Parade

Mr. Ganek presented the annual request for the resolution asking the State to recognize the closure of Routes 31 and 62 for this year’s Founders’ Days Parade.

The Committee of the Whole recommended unanimously that the Resolution Requesting Permission for Temporary Closure of a State Highway for the 2008 Founders’ Days Parade be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

C. Consider Southwest Deep Sewer Recapture Agreement

Ms. Parkhurst provided an overview on the request for a recapture agreement from Par Development. This would help them recoup some of the cost of constructing the deep sewer, a large trunk main serving the far west side of the Village. Benefited properties include several from the Algonquin Corporate Campus.

Mr. Glogowski inquired about paragraph six, Ordinance. Mr. Ganek stated that this entire paragraph will be removed due to the Village not needing to approve an ordinance for this situation.

Mr. Dianis asked for clarification on item four on the staff memo regarding comments in the memo from Mike Kerr dated July 1, 2008. Ms. Parkhurst stated the changes were for basic items such as labeling parcels correctly.

The Committee of the Whole recommended unanimously that the Southwest Deep Sewer Recapture Agreement be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Public Works & Safety

- A. Consider Ordinance Amending Section 41.20, Stop Intersections
 - (1) Sleepy Hollow at Stone Ridge
 - (2) Compton at Lake Gillilan Way

Being no discussion was needed on this item, the Committee of the Whole recommended unanimously that the Ordinance Amending Section 41.20, Stop Intersections, be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

- B. Consider Resolution for FAU Route Designations

On May 20, 2008, the Committee was presented a resolution supporting the reclassification of certain routes within the Village. At this Committee meeting, Mr. Ganek presented a supplemental resolution adding one more route to that list. He added that the County Line Road designation (included in the memo and resolution) will be deleted from the list because it is considered an FAU route through Kane County.

Chairperson Smith wanted to clarify that this resolution does not limit the authority of the Village as far as imposing weight and speed limits, etc. Mr. Ganek stated that was correct.

The Committee of the Whole recommended unanimously that the Resolution for FAU Route Designations be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

- C. Presentation of the Response Plan for the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation

Mr. Mitchard and Mr. Schuetz presented to the Committee the Village of Algonquin's response plan for the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation. Through their PowerPoint presentation they described what the EAB is, how it grows, and specifically how it can destroy the Village's ash tree population. It is the intention of this policy to monitor the Village-owned trees, replace dead or dying trees, and slow the progress of the EAB throughout the Village. Mr. Mitchard specifically noted that it is impossible to eradicate the problem, but, through this plan, staff can ultimately slow the infestation, possibly lessening the financial effects on the Village and its residents.

The Village will be responsible for the safe removal of all Village-owned trees (including those located in parks and right-of-ways). Residents will be responsible for those trees located on their private property. Residents can remove trees on their own in accordance with Village Municipal Code (less than 10-inch diameter), and they will have to obtain a permit through the Village and hire a contractor that is certified in this type of removal for any tree 10 inches or greater.

Chairperson Smith asked if Village staff is certified to do the type of removal required. Mr. Schuetz answered yes. Mr. Smith then asked if the equipment used is compliant. Mr. Schuetz stated as long as the tree is disposed of on Village property in the appropriate way, they are in compliance. He continued by stating when they destroy an infested tree, they must get the size of

the chips down to less than one inch by one inch. In summary, there are several ways to dispose of the trees: they can be put through the chipper, the Village can hire a contractor to remove the bark and area immediately behind the bark and mill the rest for lumber, or the trees can be burned.

Chairperson Smith then asked if staff could provide a rough estimate on how much a resident can expect to spend to have these trees removed. Mr. Mitchard stated it can start at \$30 for the resident to remove it themselves (under 10 inches) and can escalate up to \$800-1200 to hire a company to remove a larger tree. Mr. Schuetz added those costs will be determined by the size and location of the tree.

President Schmitt asked how a contractor can use these trees for lumber. Mr. Mitchard explained that it is only the outer edges of the tree (just below the bark) that has the EAB. Once those areas are cut off, the inside hard wood is still good.

President Schmitt then asked, regarding the chemical products that are used to aid in preventing a tree from being infested, if they can be used in the summer (noting most say to use in spring or fall). Mr. Mitchard replied each product is different; however, they are most effective right before the tree starts to bud. This is the time when the tree is transporting the most water and nutrients to the branches. Mr. Schuetz cautioned that using these products at the wrong time could actually harm or kill the tree being treated.

Mr. Steigert asked if trees 10 inches or less can be infested. Mr. Mitchard stated any ash tree can be infested. Mr. Steigert then asked what if the trees are chipped down to less than an inch and the EAB are still not killed. Mr. Mitchard stated that at one inch pieces, there is nowhere for the EAB to feed; therefore, they die. Mr. Schuetz added the biggest problem will be with logs that do not fit the chipper. Mr. Steigert stated the tree removal specialists will then have to deal with the bark, and Mr. Mitchard added they will have to deal with the whole tree. Mr. Steigert asked if they will have a process that is verifiable to be compliant. Mr. Mitchard replied that will be a part of the compliance agreement and certification process. Those companies are required to carry with them their certificate as well as have a sticker affixed to their vehicle.

Mr. Smith then asked for clarification on homeowners who can remove the trees themselves. Mr. Mitchard replied residents can remove trees themselves on their private property up to a certain diameter without a permit.

President Schmitt asked if there is a section of the grid shown in the presentation where infestation has been detected, will the Village begin removing all the trees on Village property in that area. Mr. Mitchard stated that they will only remove trees that show decline or infestation. President Schmitt then asked if there are a lot of trees in an area and they are larger 10- to 12-inch trees, the Village can remove it, but will the Village have a way of disposing of it properly. Mr. Mitchard stated at this time it has not been determined how they will deal with it; however, there are options including burning the wood, contracting a company to dispose of the material, etc. Mr. Ganek added, in regards to available financial resources, reforestation will be several times the amount already budgeted.

Mr. Dianis asked how residents will be notified. Mr. Ganek replied staff will use the website and newsletter on a broad spectrum, and, in cases of specific areas, notices can be sent to each residence.

Mr. Dianis asked if the stump will be removed when a tree is taken down. Mr. Schuetz stated the stump has to be removed down to eight inches below grade. Mr. Dianis asked how the Village will monitor that requirement when residents remove their own trees. Mr. Mitchard replied that staff

cannot monitor every residence, but, by offering services to residents (after they remove the tree the Village can pick it up to put through the chipper), it will encourage them to follow proper guidelines.

Mr. Dianis asked if this will mean the eventual extinction of the ash trees. Mr. Schuetz replied no one can say at this point. Mr. Mitchard added that, in the future, scientists could engineer a type of ash tree that would be resistant to the EAB.

Mr. Smith asked how many companies are certified for this type of removal. Mr. Schuetz replied they do not have a list at this time but should be receiving one soon. Mr. Smith then made the suggestion that, if there is a limited amount of companies working in the Village, their price might be higher than normal; maybe the Village could set rates, saving residents some money. President Schmitt then replied that the Village should wait to see how many companies there actually are. If there are numerous companies out there, that tends to drive the prices down.

Mr. Dianis offered his compliments to Village staff on their presentation and thanked them for being proactive in their efforts to address the EAB infestation. Mr. Mitchard let the Committee know that Mr. Schuetz, and especially Mr. Steve Ludwig, the Parks and Forestry Superintendent, have been working on this plan for two to three years, making sure they are educated as the problem approaches. Mr. Ganek asked how many certified arborists the Village has on staff. Mr. Mitchard stated six. Mr. Ganek stated that is a large number for a village of the size of Algonquin.

Mr. Glogowski asked when a tree is removed and the stump is eight inches below grade, how big a hole will be left and will it be filled. Mr. Schuetz replied they follow the tree line down and grind the stump to a fine compost consistency. Mr. Glogowski then asked if a new tree could be planted right after removing the old tree. Mr. Mitchard stated yes, but only if funds are available for public tree replacement.

Chairperson Smith then opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Patrick Colcernian of 1011 Glacier Parkway asked how residents would be expected to afford to pay for the removal of numerous trees on their property if they have to go through a tree removal specialist. Mr. Ganek stated there are different options to look at if a resident does not comply with the removal requirement, one having the work done by a separate company and putting a lien on the property for the costs. Mr. Smith added that it should be determined on a case-by-case basis.

The Committee of the Whole recommended unanimously that the Response Plan for the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Executive Session

None necessary.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Other business

A. Mr. Patrick Colcernian of 1011 Glacier Parkway began by thanking the Board and all the departments of the Village for their work and dedication. He offered his compliments to former Assistant Village Manager Jeff Mihelich and wished him the best of luck in Arizona.

He specifically wanted to address the Committee in regards to the speed monitors that are installed throughout the Village (Bunker Hill, Highland). He believes, out of all the traffic calming devices tried, it works the best. He would like to officially request a monitor be installed on Glacier Parkway. Mr. Ganek replied that Glacier Parkway is on the list to be looked at with the other potential traffic and speed areas identified. Mr. Smith added that educating the public and the use

of speed monitors have been the best ways to reduce speeds throughout the Village's residential streets.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan Morgan, Recording Secretary