

**Village of Algonquin
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Held in Village Board Room
November 10, 2015**

AGENDA ITEM 1: Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

Present: Trustees: Debby Sosine John Spella, Brian Dianis, Jerrold Glogowski, Jim Steigert, and Village President, John Schmitt. Village Clerk Jerry Kautz was also in attendance

Absent: Trustee, Robert Smith

Staff Members Present: Village Manager, Tim Schloneger; Assistant Village Manager, Mike Kumbera; Public Works Director, Bob Mitchard; Deputy Police Chief, Jeff Sutrick; and Village Attorney, Kelly Cahill.

Chairperson Debby Sosine called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Audience Comments: None

AGENDA ITEM 2: Community Development

A. Consider Amending Section 12.09 B, Noxious Plants and Weeds, of the Algonquin Municipal Code

Reporting: Tim Schloneger

Code enforcement staff endures some property owners and/or occupants each year that only mow their properties once the Village has contacted them a 10-day notice to mow letter that the property exceeds the 8" height allowance. We also have owners and occupants that fail to maintain the properties at all. Each time we have these situations, the current code requires each occurrence be treated as a new violation and the 10-day notice is required to allow for abatement prior to being allowed to issue a citation and/or arrange for the necessary mowing. With this code change request, a first notice would serve as notice to the property owner and/or occupant for the remainder of the year as long as the property owner and/or occupant has not changed. Staff would be able to issue an immediate citation for any subsequent violations of the grass and/or weed height exceeding the 8" height allowance and staff would also be able to arrange for the required mowing for those who fail to mow at all without having to wait an additional 10 days which in the past has resulted in dealing with extremely high growths that are more costly to abate and a longer term negative appearance of such properties.

The consensus of the Committee of the Whole was to move this item on to the Board for approval.

AGENDA ITEM 3: General Administration

A. Consider an Ordinance to Increase the Number of F Liquor Licenses Availability by One

Reporting: Tim Schloneger

The Municipal Code for the Village of Algonquin allows for 8 Class F Liquor Licenses, with 7 currently issued. Upon the approval and issuance of the Liquor License for Coffee House Holdings, Inc. dba Starbucks Coffee #2626, this class will have no licenses available. If staff finds an open Class F then this item will not be on the Board agenda. Consensus was to forward on for approval.

B. Consider a Resolution Accepting the Police Pension Municipal Compliance Report

Reporting: Mike Kumbera

Pursuant to House Bill 5088, attached please find the Municipal Compliance Report for the Algonquin Police Pension Fund. The Police Pension Board is required to report annually to the Board of Trustees on the condition of the pension fund at the end of each fiscal year for tax levy purposes. This matter will be moved to the Board for acceptance by the consensus of the Committee of the Whole.

C. Consider a Resolution Determining the Amount of Funds to be Levied for 2015 Real Estate Taxes

Reporting: Mike Kumbera

Staff's recommendation for the 2015 Tax Levy is \$5,731,000. This amount is \$250,000 more than the 2015 tax levy. The Truth in Taxation benchmark for hearing purposes is 105 percent of the comparable 2014 tax extensions. This proposed levy is 104.6 percent of last year's extensions. As a result; there is no requirement for a public hearing under the Truth in Taxation Statute. Staff believes that Equalized Assessed Valuation ("EAV") in the Village will increase for the first time since 2009. The estimate of EAV for 2015 is \$813,000,000 which is 4.5% more than last year which illustrates appreciation of real estate values and new construction. The assessors in each county use a three year history of property values including sales experience in determining the reassessment or current valuation. Assessments generally lag behind current market pricing by 18 months, which explains the estimated EAV increase this year as opposed to prior years. The estimated tax rate for 2015 would be .705 per \$100 of EAV which is the same as 2014. Since there is a 21 day waiting period, consensus of the Committee of the Whole is to move this item on to the Board for approval at a meeting in December.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Public Works & Safety

A. Consider an Agreement with Homer Tree Services for Surrey Lane Drainage Tree Removal Project

Reporting: Bob Mitchard

A Request for Proposals was sent out to eleven tree removal and environmental companies to perform tree removal on the Surrey Lane Drainage Project. The project will involve filling in the creek channel and creating a naturalized drainage swale, as well as rerouting the stormwater flow into new storm pipe, which will be located in the parkway in front of these homes. As part of the Army Corp of Engineer's permit to perform this work and modify the creek, the Village has to do mitigation and restoration of the creek and natural area east of these homes. This property is owned by the Village. This work requires brushing and removal of all invasive species in the riparian area as well as the entire degraded oak woodland, both of which will be restored as part of this project. Construction services for this project are included in the budget for this fiscal year. We are not planning on starting full construction until spring/summer 2016 as we are still involved in permitting with the Army Corp of Engineers. However, this project cannot be done without first performing the tree removal work. In May 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the Northern Long-Eared Bat as a federally threatened species, protecting it from actions that harm or kill individuals of the species. For this reason, no tree removal activities can be done between June 1 and July 31, which is the time when the bat roosts and mates in large mature trees. The area and tree removal on this project falls within this habitat specification. Therefore, we needed to go out for RFP and perform this work under separate contract so that it can be completed this winter and not cause a delay in the actual construction start.

The Village received two submissions, the lowest being from Homer Tree Services, Inc. in the amount of \$62,844.00. Homer is a large, reputable company whose primary business is land clearing (tree removal) operations. The Village is familiar with this company and their reputation for fast, complete, and quality work. CBBEL also performed reference checks on the company, all of which yielded the same responses. Therefore, it is the recommendation of public works that the Committee of the Whole take action to move this matter forward to the Village Board for approval to enter into a contract for the Surrey Lane Drainage Project Tree Removal with Homer Tree Services, Inc. in the amount of \$62,844.00.

The consensus of the Committee of the Whole was to move this bid on to the Board for approval.

B. Consider Amending Section 41.03, All Night Parking, of the Algonquin Municipal Code

Reporting: Deputy Chief Jeff Sutrick

Due to the construction of the Western Bypass and the designation of Main Street as a local road, a change is needed in the All Night Parking Ordinance (Chapter 41, section 03) in order to enforce parking restrictions on Main Street. As currently written, the 2 a.m. to 5 a.m. parking limit only applies to Illinois Route 31 and Illinois Route 62 and does not to Main Street. The proposed ordinance change will replace Illinois Routes 31 and 62 with "Main Street".

The consensus of the Committee of the Whole was to move on to the Board for approval.

C. Consider Amending Section 41.02, Parking on Main Street, of the Algonquin Municipal Code

Reporting: Deputy Chief Jeff Sutrick

There have been numerous changes to the parking configuration on South Main Street. These changes include the addition of diagonal parking on the west side of South Main Street between Crystal Creek and Washington Street and the addition of parallel parking spaces south of Washington Street. Due to these changes and also possible additional changes to North Main Street in the future, an update to Village Municipal Code, Section 41.02, Parking on Main Street, is warranted.

The consensus of the Committee of the Whole was to move on to the Board for approval.

D. Consider Amending Section 41.19, Speed Limits, of the Algonquin Municipal Code (reducing the speed on Par Drive)

Reporting: Deputy Chief Jeff Sutrick

Par Drive is a north-south residential street that runs through the Coves subdivision from Persimmon Drive south to the village limits south of Valencia Lane where it turns into a gravel road entrance into the Bakley Gravel Pits. The current speed limit for this road is 30mph for the entire length of the roadway. There are no stop signs located on Par Drive and public parking is allowed on the entire length of the roadway on both sides of the street. There are 48 residences which line the street from Persimmon Drive to Reserve Drive. Of these 48 residences, 35 have driveways which access directly onto Par Drive. There are seven streets which meet Par Drive at T-intersections and one cross street at Wintergreen Terrace which is a 4-way intersection. Cross traffic on Wintergreen Terrace stops at Par Drive with designated stop signs. South of Reserve Drive there are no homes, however there are 5 empty lots designated for townhomes. Illinois State Statutes allow the Village of Algonquin to alter statutory speeds from 30mph down to 25mph on residential streets. State Statutes and the Illinois Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices require that such altered speed limits be based on an engineering study that has been performed in accordance with traffic engineering practices. The engineering study shall include an analysis of the current speed distribution of free-flowing vehicles.

Based upon information compiled, Par Drive qualifies for a combined 40% speed reduction which exceeds the required 15% or more as established by IDOT to reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 25mphs. Also, Par Drive is not a feeder street.

The consensus of the Committee of the Whole was to forward on for Board approval.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Executive Session
None

AGENDA ITEM 6: Other Business

(1) Trustee Glogowski made a suggestion to possibly change Harrison and Route 62 to allow right turns on red except for rush hours. President Schmitt and others on the Committee of the Whole said let us give the current ordinance time to work. They want a pedestrian friendly downtown.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment

There being no further business, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted: Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk