

VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
June 8, 2010

AGENDA ITEM 1: Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

Present: Chairperson – Trustee Jim Steigert; Trustees Brian Dianis, Robert Smith, Debby Sosine, Jim Steigert and President John Schmitt

Absent: Trustee Jerry Glogowski

Staff Members Present: William Ganek, Village Manager; Russ Farnum, Community Development; Bob Mitchard and Steve Ludwig, Public Works; Jeff Sutrick, Police; Kelly Cahill, Village Attorney; Mike Kerr, Village Engineer; Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk

Chairperson Steigert called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M. and established a quorum with all Committee members present except for Mr. Glogowski.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Community Development
No items to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM 3: General Administration

- A. Consider Ordinance Establishing Prevailing Wage Rates for the Village of Algonquin

Mr. Ganek reported that this housekeeping matter must be done once a year. The Ordinance states that municipalities pay those working on projects no less than the general prevailing rate of wages.

Staff recommends approval. The consensus of the Committee of the Whole was to move this on for approval at the next Village Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Public Works & Safety

- A. Presentation by McHenry County Department of Transportation of Proposed Randall Road-Algonquin Road Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI)

The following representatives for McHenry County were present to report their latest findings: Jeffrey Young, assistant county engineer; Walter Dittrich, design manager; Jennifer Mitchell and Julie Hoberg, transportation engineers with HDR.

Mr. Young gave an overview presentation regarding the CFI and showed comparative locations in the United States. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) did analysis on the intersection at Randall and Algonquin Roads finding that the conventional dual left turns plus three through lanes would be rated as a level “F,” but the CFI would bring it to a level “D.” During and after the presentation, questions were asked by the Committee of the Whole, with Trustee Sosine asking what effect the CFI would have on businesses. Mr. Young said there would be some businesses that would have to be displaced on the west side of Randall south of Algonquin Road and the east side of Randall north of Algonquin Road. Trustee Smith asked some pointed questions, one of which was if the cost was being picked up by the federal government. Mr. Dittrich said the entire project would be \$85 million. Federal, state, county, and

local funds would be needed to cover the total cost of the project. Normal range of a project the federal government is willing to give local governments is 50-80%, with the shelf life of appropriation being 20 years. Mr. Smith asked if it wouldn't be more realistic to add two left turn lanes on Randall in each direction for approximately \$30 million and do it sooner to relieve traffic now. He said the CFI seems to be a "pipe dream." President Schmitt responded by saying just adding two left turn lanes won't solve the long-range plan on the entire portion of Randall Road expansion improvements. He said traffic could get to the point where people don't want to shop on Randall Road in Algonquin. He also stated local leaders met with US Transportation Director Ray LaHood recently and that Mr. LaHood fully understands the long-term implications and importance of improving this intersection and the entire corridor. Mr. Smith wants to see relief soon in the form of additional left-hand turn lanes and not wait years for monies from the federal government. Ms. Sosine voiced concern regarding the traffic situation at Bunker Hill and how it affects the access to businesses. Mr. Young replied that with the CFI and the changes in frontage roads, the Bunker Hill flow would be much improved. He added that the CFI is overall much safer than just increasing the number of left-hand turn lanes. After the discussion, Chairperson Steigert thanked all for their enormous amount of information and reporting. The next comment time will be at the upcoming public hearings.

B. Discussion of Edgewood Drive Improvements and Proposed Multi-Use Path

Mr. Mitchard explained the proposed plan for Edgewood reconstruction from Route 31 to Hanson Road. At first he reported there were not enough criteria to get funds from the Council of Governments, but, with this new plan, it is number two on their list of future projects. It is very similar to the current Hanson Road construction project with curbs and gutter, and a bike path on the north side of the road. Trees were a concern, so engineering staff did a tree inventory. Tree preservation is a top priority. Steve Ludwig, our certified tree arborist, studied tree loss and the condition of trees in question. Mr. Mitchard stated there was a public input meeting held, and several concerns from residents were brought forth. Village Engineer Mike Kerr explained the minimum width for a collector road is 31 feet. The request from the federal government would be \$1.5 million for the road and \$3.5 million for the bridge area. Also, approximately 40 trees would have to be removed.

Some residents attended the meeting and wished to speak. Ms. Fran Benson of 217 Edgewood was concerned about getting late notification of the current information regarding the bike path. Mr. Farnum responded the proposed bike path is not on the current written bikeway plan, but information is available on the Village website. Her biggest concern is that the construction of the road would take more land in front of her property, the fourth time since she moved to Algonquin. Mr. Kerr replied that all land taken in this project is on public right-of-way and that it would be about four feet closer to the structure. Attorney Cahill also agreed with Mr. Kerr. Mr. Chris Kempf, an Algonquin Shores resident, asked if a bike path on the road was considered as he is a proponent of on-road biking. Mr. Kerr responded yes but it was not considered safe. Ms. Ruth Buntin, 281 Edgewood, was concerned about a guardrail on or near her property. Staff will work with her to come to some resolution. Ms. Bunny Kublank, 265 Edgewood, voiced that she wants no sidewalks installed and was quickly advised this plan does not include sidewalks. Mr. Schmitt and Mr. Dianis asked about tree loss and replacement. Mr. Ludwig said most trees removed will be west on Edgewood, with approximately 250 replaced. Mr. Mitchard added any new trees planted for the Ratt Creek restoration project will not be affected. Village costs are approximately \$1.2 million, with federal money making up the rest. Staff is looking for further direction.

It was the full consensus of the Committee of the Whole to move on to the Board to approve plans as presented and direct staff to move further on design.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Executive Session

No items to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Other business

No items to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Steigert adjourned the meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 9:15 pm.

Submitted: Jerry Kautz, Village Clerk