

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK, ILLINOIS
201 Acacia Drive
Indian Head Park, Illinois 60525

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

September 10, 2020

“Pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2.06(3) minutes of the public meetings shall include, but need not be limited to a general description of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided and a record of the votes taken.”

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hinshaw

The regular meeting of the Village of Indian Head Park Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive, and was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Hinshaw. Due to the restrictions of the State of Illinois regarding gatherings of people during the Covid-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom.

ROLL CALL: Sharon Allison, Village Clerk (attended via Zoom)

PRESENT (and constituting a quorum):

- Mayor Tom Hinshaw (physically present)
- Trustee Sean Conboy (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Rita Farrell-Mayer (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Shawn Kennedy (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Christian Metz (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Brenda O’Laughlin (attended via Zoom)
- Trustee Amy Wittenberg (physically present)

ALSO PRESENT:

- John DuRocher, Village Administrator (physically present)
- Patrick Brankin, General Counsel, Schain, Banks, Kenny & Schwartz (attended via Zoom)
- Maureen Garcia, Village Treasurer (attended via Zoom)
- Linda Merrifield, Deputy Clerk and Administrative Assistant (physically present)
- Justin Fuller, Water Superintendent (physically present)
- Don Lorenzen, Public Works Superintendent (attended via Zoom)
- Nick Tantillo, Cable Station Manager (physically present)

VISITORS: 10 residents were physically present at the meeting.

Several residents were present on Zoom.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Hinshaw reviewed the rules pursuant to Public Act 101-0640 prior to the meeting.

Coronavirus:

The Cook County Department of Public Health has determined that Indian Head Park has 80 confirmed cases of Covid-19, 20 cases more than last month. We are still asking that everyone practice social distancing, wear a mask, wash your hands, and stay home if you are sick. An additional change has now been added—if a person is in a restaurant or business, while speaking, both the customer and the employee must both wear a face mask.

Sidewalks—4 main areas:

Acacia Drive—The road and sidewalk on Acacia Drive will probably be torn up and replaced with base surface done in two parts, the northern half and the southern half. After both parts of the road have been completed, the final layer will be added to the road surface. The sidewalk and road are expected to be done in the summer of 2021.

Plainfield Road—Phase I for Plainfield Road from the tollway bridge in Indian Head Park to East Avenue in Countryside has started. The Plainfield Corridor Study survey is on the Village's Facebook page and will soon be added to the website. You can see existing comments and make comments on the County's website, <https://wikimapping.com/improveplainfieldroad.html>.

Wolf Road—This Phase I project is from Plainfield Road south to 79th Street. This project has been approved by Cook County. The \$1,800,000 cost of Phase I will be paid by the County and is expected to take about 2 years. The goal is to build a "complete street." There will be several public meetings in 2021 to review alternatives, and provide comments and feedback.

Joliet Road—We have started the process of working with Senator Collins and the state get to this project moving forward. There are no milestones or time frames at this point.

I-294 Update:

Work in our area has been going on with the on and off ramps and tollway sewers. When the sound walls in the Village will be affected, the Tollway will send out letters to neighboring residents. This work will also be discussed at our monthly Village Board meetings.

2020 Census:

We are at 83% completion of the census in IHP. The deadline to complete the online census is September 30.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

One resident questioned the recent water rates that are affecting Village residents. Since the Village recently got a \$1.5 million from the federal government toward the water main project, could some of that money be used to reduce the water bills of the Village residents? Mayor Hinshaw stated that the money will be used for projects for the next 20 years. However, the Board will discuss this issue.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda as Established moved by Trustee O’Laughlin; seconded by Trustee Farrell-Mayer.

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2020
- B. Approval of Payables for the Period Ending August 31, 2020, in the amount of \$332,213.45
- C. Approval of Preliminary Financial Report Ending August 31, 2020

Financial Report was presented by Treasurer Garcia:
Cash on Hand on July 31 was \$3,148,156.62
Payables for August 2020 amounted to \$332,213.45
Total Revenues for August 2020 amounted to \$586,197.54
Ending Balance on August 31, 2020, was \$3,402,139.71

Motion carried by roll call vote (6-0). Trustees Conboy, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, Metz, O’Laughlin, and Wittenberg voted Yay. No Nay votes.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. ORDINANCE 2020-25—PUD ORDINANCE—70TH PLACE

A motion to pass Ordinance 2020-25, an Ordinance establishing the terms of a planned unit Development for the 70th Place area was made by Trustee Wittenberg; seconded by Trustee Kennedy.

Administrator John DuRocher led the discussion regarding this Ordinance. The location of this area is bordered by Flagg Creek, I-55, I-294, and Joliet Road, a total of 13 ½ acres. The purpose of developing this area is to use the property to benefit the economic atmosphere of the Village. The Planning and Zoning Committee hopes to entice high-quality commercial development. It has recommended a 3-tiered review board consisting of a PUD Committee, the Planning and Zoning Committee, and, finally, the Village Board. This review will let developers know what to expect in the Village and what the Village will expect of them. Three standards will be considered during the approval process: environmental safety, traffic study, and fiscal analysis impact.

Matt Goode, a developer with Venture One Real Estate, an industrial real estate management firm, attended the meeting and expressed interest in developing this property.

B. STREET REPAIR—ACCEPTANCE OF QUOTE

A motion to approve hiring All American Asphalt for road maintenance work for a cost not to exceed \$20,000. This is a sole source provider for the material used.; seconded by Trustee Kennedy.

Administrator DuRocher explained that All American Asphalt is the only source of this product that sealcoats roads. This repair is part of our annual maintenance program.

Motion carried by roll call vote (6-0). Trustees Conboy, Farrell-Mayer, Kennedy, Metz, O’Laughlin, and Wittenberg voted Yay. No Nay votes.

C. WOLF ROAD PHASE 1 STUDY—DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL OPTIONS

Mayor Hinshaw reported that Phase 1 of the Wolf Road repair project will take about 2 years to complete. This project will modernize Wolf Road to a “complete street”—a street with sidewalks, curbs, gutters, etc. During that time span, there will be at least 2 public meetings to hear alternatives presented for consideration. After this planning phase, total construction of the entire road project will take between 4-5 years (which includes the initial 2-year planning period). Then more decisions regarding roadside vegetation, fencing, etc. will need to be determined. At this meeting Mayor Hinshaw asked the Board to consider ways to go forward with decision-making for these matters.

Board members asked if the County or the Village would pay for the vegetation. Another member questioned if it would be wise to form a committee to consider the possibilities after the completion of Phase 1 or should we be looking forward to some of these decisions even prior to the start of Phase 1. Trustee Conboy expressed dislike for the idea of making Wolf Road a “complete street.” He believes that the result will be too much street and too little on each side of the road. It would change the main corridor of the Village. A healthy discussion among Board members ensued.

The final consensus was to wait to make decisions as to the options until at least part of the Phase 1 study is in action.

D. OVERNIGHT PARKING OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Administrator DuRocher explained that the Board overhauled an ordinance for overnight parking of commercial vehicles in February 2019. The 2019 ordinance specifically dealt with vehicles that advertise a business. Several residents complained after the ordinance began to be enforced. So DuRocher investigated the ordinances of neighboring villages and learned that all municipalities enforce their ordinances in different ways. He, therefore, leaves it up to the Board to decide how to enforce action in IHP. Attorney Brankin agreed to work with Administrator DuRocher to put together a more acceptable language to clarify this issue.

E. SHEDS/FENCES—NEXT STEP

As of the August 2020 Board meeting, it was decided that there would be no enforcement of the Ordinance against sheds/fences in the village for the next 6 months. At tonight’s meeting it was decided by the Board to form a committee of board members and several Planning and Zoning Committee members to evaluate going forward with this issue. Trustees Kennedy, Farrell-Mayer, and Wittenberg as well as several Planning and Zoning members will make up the Committee with Trustee Kennedy as Chair.

REPORTS:

TRUSTEES:

- Trustees Wittenberg and O’Laughlin reported that plans are in progress for a Movie in the Park Night with Seaspar on September 12. Coronavirus restrictions apply. Rain date—September 19. There will also be a 911 Ceremony at the City Hall in Countryside at 10:00 A.M. sponsored by the LaGrange American Legion. All are invited.

VILLAGE CLERK: None

VILLAGE TREASURER: None

VILLAGE ATTORNEY: None

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:

- For those in the area of the new garbage pick- up, please return the letter you received regarding tote sizes as soon as possible as SBC service will start on October 1. Mayor Hinshaw thanked Andy Ferrini for his service in getting the trash hauling/leaf vacuuming project working
- In April when the yearly budget was submitted, there was concern about the Covid impact on Village finances. We adjusted for lower revenues and higher expenses. Thus far, the Village is holding its own. Expectations are not as bad as we thought they might be.
- The Driftwood Lounge has been offering outdoor dining since Phase 4 has been in force in Illinois. Their ordinance ends on November 1. If an extension is to be sought, it will have to be addressed at the October Board Meeting.

POLICE REPORT: None

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Justin Fuller, Water Superintendent, reported that all 183 water hydrants have been checked and are in good working order. They are nearly finished being painted.
- Three college students provided great summer help to Public Works.
- Sanitary sewer line construction will soon take place in Old Town. This will take care of the issues that surfaced during the smoke testing several years ago.
- The pump house survey will be presented at the next Public Works Committee meeting.
- Storm water management is in EPA compliance.
- A water leak survey resulted in one minor issue which has been repaired.
- Our fleet of salt trucks and plows are gearing up for winter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

In regard to the Wolf Road project, one recent resident asked about what IHP wants to look like—in other words, its comprehensive plan. She was directed to the Village Plan which can be studied on the village website. With regard to better communication, she questioned the availability of The Smoke Signals. She will contact the village office to make sure her name is on the list. She volunteered to serve on the Fence/Sheds Committee.

A Zoom question regarding whether refunds from Groot for unused services would be forthcoming. The answer is yes.

A resident complimented the Board for its thoughtful consideration of all issues. He encouraged the Board to be considerate of its ordinance regarding overnight parking of business-owned vehicles. He volunteered to serve on the Fence/Sheds Committee.

Another resident recommended that the grant from the federal government for the Water Main Project might be used to purchase police body cams.

At 9:02 P.M. Trustee Farrell motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Trustee Kennedy.

Motion carried by voice vote (6-0).

**Sharon Allison
Village Clerk**