

Chairman Parker remarked that he was impressed with how the Village's revenue is holding up compared to other communities. Director Batek noted that the Village's sales tax is stable, most likely due to a large grocery component within the Villages retail base.

V. Continued Discussion on Financial Profile/Scorecard Project

Commissioner Skirvin reviewed data compiled from comparative communities' CAFRs. He noted that in almost every comparison, Glen Ellyn is in the middle of the range. He also noted that the Village's debt is comparatively low.

Chairman Parker presented data on property taxes among the comparative communities. Glen Ellyn is on the high end for total property taxes, but on the lower end for property taxes paid to the municipalities.

VI. Presentation from Glen Ellyn Historical Society

Dan Anderson, from the Glen Ellyn Historical Society, gave a background presentation of the Historical Society and its relationship with the Village. He then presented the financial difficulties the Historical Society is encountering in repaying existing debt to the Village for the purchase of History Park property, including increased acquisition costs, lower than expected rental revenues, and a significant drop in donations since 9/11 and the current economic downturn. Mr. Anderson also noted the difficulty in fundraising to pay off existing debt versus fundraising for current operations and new projects. He explained that the Historical Society is proposing the Village forgive the existing debt and allow the Society to focus its fundraising on program operations and the development of the History Park.

Chairman Parker asked why the Village owns the History Park land. Executive Director Langford responded that it is common for the municipality to own the land and maintain it while the organization runs programs.

Commissioner McCloskey asked if the Park District is involved. Executive Director Langford replied that it is not.

Commissioner Geiselhart asked if the Village approached the Historical Society about purchasing the properties. Executive Director Langford responded that the property was listed in the Village's Comprehensive Plan for the History Park.

Commissioner Skirvin asked where the debt payments from the Historical Society go. Director Batek replied that they go into the Corporate Reserve Fund.

Commissioner McCloskey asked how much the Village is currently spending to maintain the properties. Director Batek responded that some costs are in the Special Programs Fund, while others have come from the Facilities Maintenance Reserve Fund.

Chairman Parker asked Director Batek for information about how forgiving the loan would affect cash flow.

Commissioner McCloskey inquired as to how the Historical Society would use the funds freed up if the Village forgave the loans. Executive Director Langford responded that they would focus on development of the History Park. Commissioner McCloskey suggested that it may be difficult for residents to see Village services being cut and then see History Park developments progressing as a result of the Village forgiving the loan.

After some additional discussion, Chairman Parker suggested that the Commission table the decision on a recommendation to the Village Board until the next meeting.

VII. Overview of Village's Special Programs Fund

Director Batek presented a brief overview of the Special Programs Fund. The fund is used to support both internal and external services and projects that have not traditionally been considered "core" governmental services that would fall into the Village's General Fund. Director Batek referred Commissioners to copies of the Special Programs Fund budget that he included in this month's packet.

Chairman Parker informed the Commissioners that he would be providing additional information on what the Commission's role will be in reviewing the Special Programs Fund.

VIII. Other Business

Next Meeting – January 8, 2010

IX. Adjourn

Commissioner Geiselhart moved, seconded by Commissioner Skirvin to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 AM. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:
Larry Noller, Assistant Finance Director

Reviewed by:
Jon Batek, Finance Director