

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
Glen Ellyn Village Board of Trustees
March 9, 2009**

Call to Order

Village President Hase called the meeting to order at 8 p.m.

Roll Call

Upon roll call by Village Clerk Draths, Village President Hase and Trustees Armstrong, Chapman, Comerford, Ladesic, Norton and Thorsell answered, "Present."

Pledge of Allegiance

Village President Hase led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence

- a. February 24 card of thanks from Bells and Whistles Snackery to Village staff acknowledging the assistance they provided which allowed them to open the store several weeks ago.
- b. January 30 letter from Glen Crest Middle School thanking our Police Department for their kind consideration and support.
- c. February 16 letter from Wheaton Chief of Police Mark Field, expressing his appreciation for the assistance received from Police Officer Anthony Terranova with the apprehension of a suspect of a strong-arm robbery in Wheaton.
- d. February 25 letter from College of DuPage Police Chief Mark Fazzini sending his thanks to Sergeant Brian Beck and Police Officers Craig Holstead and Allan Villegas for their assistance in a recent incident at the school.
- e. February 27 email message from a grateful resident expressing her thanks to Police Officers Bradley Booton and Luke Elmore for assisting her family.
- f. March 1 email message from a grateful resident, thanking Village Forester Peggy Drescher for taking the time to investigate his concerns about excessive and improper tree trimming.
- g. February 10 email message from a Wheaton resident forwarding his thanks to Records Clerk Angelina Tellone for her assistance.

Audience Participation

Ethel Lynch, 663 N. Park Boulevard, thanked retiring Village Board members President Hase and Trustees Armstrong, Chapman and Norton for their years of service to her and to the Village and she also thanked the remaining Village Board members for their volunteer service.

Consent Agenda

Village Manager Jones presented the Consent Agenda; Village President Hase called for questions and/or discussion on the items on the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Comerford moved and Trustee Chapman seconded the motion that the following items included on the Consent Agenda be approved:

- a. **Minutes** of the following Village Board Meetings:
Pre-Board Workshop
January 12, 2009

Regular Workshop
January 19, 2009
- b. Total **Expenditures** (Payroll and Vouchers) - \$1,081,088.37. The vouchers were reviewed by Trustee Comerford prior to the meeting.
- c. **Ordinance No. 5737-VC**, an Ordinance to Amend Certain Sections of Chapter 6 of Title 6 (Police Regulations) of the Village Code of the Village of Glen Ellyn, Illinois Regarding the **Police/Fire Alarm Systems**.

This action updates the one-time alarm system permit fee to an annual alarm system fee, and implements a tiered fine structure for false alarm activations police respond to in excess of three per calendar year. These adjustments better reflect Village operational costs associated with alarm systems.

- d. Authorize payment to Bonnell Industries, Inc., of Dixon, Illinois in the amount of \$22,934 for two **replacement plow assemblies** damaged during the 2009/10 Snow and Ice Management Program.

This past winter two snow plows were damaged during normal operations. As these two plows are critical to our operations, replacements were ordered immediately while the claim process through our insurance pool was initiated. We recently received the new plows and have put them into service. Two invoices totaling \$22,934 have been received and require Village Board approval prior to payment. A reimbursement check has already been received in the amount of \$9,563 for one of the plows and we anticipate similar reimbursement on the other plow.

Upon roll call on the Consent Agenda, Trustees Comerford, Chapman, Armstrong, Ladesic, Norton and Thorsell voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

Rehabilitation of Well No. 6 at Wilson Avenue Pump Station

Public Works Director Joe Caracci presented information on a project to inspect, clean and disinfect one of the two standby potable water wells that the Village maintains as emergency backup should problems occur with the Village’s Lake Michigan water supply provided through the DuPage Water Commission. Well No. 6 is located at the Wilson Avenue Pumping Station near the Public Works Reno Service Center on Lambert Road. In 2008 testing revealed the presence of non-fecal bacterial contamination in the well. Control measures and efforts undertaken last year were only partially successful, and recent testing indicated a reoccurrence of the contamination.

Staff consulted with a firm specializing in well water quality problems, and after a site visit and additional sampling, the firm submitted a proposal for a series of measures designed to address the situation. The scope of services includes mobilization to the site, testing, pulling the well pump, wire brushing the casing, down-hole video inspections, chlorine solution cleaning, re-installing the pump, performing a proprietary treatment using a biocide, and final testing. Cost of the work as outlined in the proposal is \$33,354 not including any pump repair. Work is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2009.

Trustee Thorsell moved and Trustee Norton seconded the motion to approve a contract with Water Well Solutions of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin for rehabilitation of Well No. 6 at the Wilson Avenue Pumping Station in the not-to-exceed amount of \$40,000 (including a 20-percent contingency), to be expensed to the FY 08-09 Water Fund.

Upon roll call, Trustees Thorsell, Norton, Armstrong, Chapman, Comerford and Ladesic voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Sales Tax Increase – First Reading

Village Manger Steve Jones stated that in an effort to reduce the Village’s expenses for the current budget, as well as next year’s budget, the Village eliminated certain Village staff positions. He said that last week five positions were eliminated and one full-time position was converted to a part-time position; a number of employees reduced their hours; non-union employees were informed they would have no more than a 1.5% salary increase during the next year and the Village’s management team opted to take no salary increase over the next year.

Finance Director Batek presented information regarding the implementation of an additional 1-percent sales tax on retail merchandise sales within Glen Ellyn (excludes groceries, prescription and non-prescription drugs and automobile sales) to become effective July 1, 2009.

Director Batek stated that despite past financial health, Glen Ellyn is not immune to the global, national and regional economic downturn. Because of declining revenues, the Village is facing a projected \$600,000 general fund deficit for the current budget year that ends on April 30. In addition, forecasts for the next three years project an increasingly unsustainable gap between revenues and expenditures.

In preparation for the challenges which lie ahead, the proposed budget for the new fiscal year 2009/10 which begins on May 1, 2009, includes general staffing reductions and essentially no increase in total personnel and related benefit costs. Significant cuts in contracted services, as well as a number of maintenance expense deferrals, would be implemented to keep the budget in balance for the coming year. Certain deferred expenses however, would return in future years and must be addressed in the near-term to avoid future financial problems associated with deferred maintenance.

In total, the preliminary proposed budget was out of balance by a total of \$2.6 million. Total expenditure cuts have been made to date of \$1.7 million compared to new revenue introduced by the proposed 1-percent sales tax at \$0.9 million for FY10. For every new revenue dollar generated by the home rule sales tax, there are approximately \$2 in corresponding expense reductions.

Director Batek said many communities in DuPage County have implemented a local sales tax, including neighboring Wheaton and Lombard, where a 1-percent local sales tax is already in place.

The Village has offered several opportunities for public input on the sales tax in addition to the public presentation this evening. A Special Village Board Budget Workshop meeting was held on Monday, March 2 in Room 301 and a Special Village Board Workshop meeting was held on Saturday, March 7 at 9 a.m. in the Galligan Board Room. That information was further communicated to the general public in the February 2009 Village Newsletter, as well as the availability of extensive information on the Village's website and also in the Village's e-mail newsletter.

The proposed sales tax ordinance is scheduled to be reviewed in a two-reading process with this being the first-reading, a non-binding straw vote of Village Trustees.

- a. Trustee Chapman moved and Trustee Comerford seconded the motion that on first reading of an Ordinance Implementing a Home Rule Retailers' Occupation Tax and Service Occupation Tax (Home Rule Sales Tax) be approved.

The following Glen Ellyn residents and/or business owners stated their concerns and opposition to the implementation of a 1-percent home rule sales tax:

Doug Samuels, 336 Center Street, owner Young's Appliances; Scott Ackerman, 1002 S. Gables Boulevard, Wheaton, Chamber of Commerce President; Mike Formento, 65 N. Exmoor, Chamber of Commerce; Richard Dunn, 470 Fawell Boulevard, No. 112, Chamber of Commerce; Tracey Kreiling, 405 Main Street, owner Bells & Whistles;

John Kreiling, 386 N. Main Street; Kathryn Hudson, 492 N. Main Street, owner Knicker's; Shari Shonkwiler, 423 N. Main Street, owner Shonkwiler Real Estate; Sarah Lynch, 663 N. Park Boulevard; and Diane McGinley, 293 Abbotsford Court.

Erik Peterson, 237 Lorraine, owner Elumin, Inc.; stated he was not for or against the home rule sales tax and thanked Finance Director Batek and the Village Board for their time and effort relative to the Village budget process.

Trustee Comerford stated that the Village Board was elected to serve four-year terms to make difficult decisions, and not to defer difficult decisions to the next Village Board. He also stated that Pension dollars are driven by state mandates and being fiscally responsible we maintain our reserves. Trustee Comerford stated he is in favor of the annual review and specific uses of the home rule sales tax and the home rule sales tax.

Trustee Chapman said she is in agreement with comments made by Trustee Comerford.

Trustee Ladesic said he was not in support of the home rule sales tax. He said the Village should find other ways to "make it work", support Village businesses and reconsider the recent Village ambulance contract.

Trustee Norton said the current Village Board should not burden the next Village Board by deferring approval of the home rule sales tax.

Trustee Thorsell said she has spoken with various residents and shoppers who stated the increase in sales tax would not deter them from shopping in Glen Ellyn. She also stated she would support a home rule sales tax of less than 1%.

Trustee Armstrong said he was against implementing the sales tax right now. He also said we could "trim more fat" from the budget. He also stated his serious concerns regarding the Village entering the ambulance business. Trustee Armstrong suggested we delay all road projects for one year to aid in balancing the budget, and not dip into Village reserves to balance the budget.

President Hase said the Village is facing long term problems regarding the budget and implementing a home rule sales tax is a difficult decision and that it would be unfair to defer this decision to the next Village Board. President Hase stated that the Village Board has a fiduciary responsibility to the residents of Glen Ellyn and that using reserves to balance the budget is a bad idea. President Hase said she was in support of the home rule sales tax.

Upon roll call, Trustees Chapman, Comerford, Norton and President Hase voted "Aye." Trustees Armstrong, Ladesic and Thorsell voted "Nay" on first reading.

- b. Trustee Chapman moved and Trustee Norton seconded the motion that on first reading of an Ordinance Providing for an Annual Review and Specific Uses of Home Rule Retailers' Occupation Tax and Service Occupation Tax be approved.

Attorney Stewart Diamond said that the state would keep an ordinance in effect until it was repealed and that this ordinance requires the Village Board to evaluate the home rule sales tax annually and indicates positive action be taken by future Village Boards.

Upon roll call, Trustees Chapman, Norton, Comerford, Ladesic and Thorsell voted "Aye." Trustees Armstrong voted "Nay" on first reading.

Reminders

- A Special Village Board Budget Workshop is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m., on Monday, March 16, in Room 301 of the Glen Ellyn Civic Center. The regularly scheduled Village Board Workshop will follow immediately afterward at approximately 7:30 p.m. in Room 301.
- The next Pre-Board meeting of the Glen Ellyn Village Board is scheduled for Monday, March 23, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Room 301 of the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.
- The next Regular Village Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23, beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Galligan Board Room of the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

Adjournment

At 10:40 p.m. Trustee Chapman moved and Trustee Ladesic seconded the motion that the Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees be adjourned. All Trustees present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Draths
Village Clerk