

Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn Board of Trustees
Workshop Meeting
August 19, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Demos.

Present: President Alex Demos: Trustees Clark, Elliott, Ladesic, McGinley (arrived at 7:15 p.m.) and O'Shea. Village Clerk Galvin, Village Attorney Mathews. Staff present: Village Manager Franz, Assistant Village Manager Stonistsch, Police Chief Norton, Planning and Development Director Hulseberg, Finance Director Wachtel, I.T. Director Binkerd and Glen Ellyn Volunteer Fire Company Chief Bodony.

Trustee Friedberg was excused.

Civic Center Space Needs Analysis Update

Chief Norton explained that process to evaluate space began in earnest approximately 18 months ago. Different options are being considered and the costs vary depending on the scope of the project. Options include adding on to the Civic Center, with and without building a parking garage, working with the Park District on the use of the Main Street Recreation Center (MSRC) and Spring Avenue Recreation Center (SARC) and considering the purchase of other property available for sale to build a new Police Department.

Chief Norton expressed concerns over safety and liability factors to be taken into consideration at the current location.

Chief Norton introduced Mr. Brian T. Meade, Design Director, PSA-Dewberry, Inc., 25 S. Grove Ave., Elgin, IL.

Mr. Dewberry whose firm has worked with over 85 Police Departments gave an overview of their report including: Delivery of Services, Assets – Investments, Risk Management, Safety – Security and Bottom up Approval.

Per Mr. Dewberry's report:

Regarding some of the options presented. Mr. Dewberry remarked that most Police Departments have secure parking lots.

The existing space at the Civic Center is 44,988 square feet. 37% is used by the Village, 33% by the Police Department. There is poor wayfinding for the public; some areas should not be accessible to the public.

Trustee O'Shea asked how much has the Village grown with regard to annexations since the 1990's to accommodate the expenditure. Chief Norton stated that when annexations occur, an increase in patrol districts require an addition of 5 sworn officers.

Mr. Dewberry stated that Duane Street could be restructured to add additional parking spaces.

Chief Norton stated that an additional 10,000 square feet at the Civic Center would not cut it. Requirements for holding prisoners, requirements for holding minors and safety and space concerns for evidence all require additional space.

To use the Civic Center one plan allows for a one story addition which would take the parking from 78 to 66 parking spaces. Another plan would add a parking deck.

Trustee Elliott asked why the gym could not be used for additional space. Chief Norton responded that when the Civic Center was acquired the promise was made to have space available for public use. Furthermore, this would make the Police Department spread out over 5 levels, which is not an efficient use of space. Concerns regarding prisoners and evidence would still be an issue.

Trustee McGinley asked about the Police Department utilizing the entire first floor. Manager Franz responded that Finance/Cashiers occupying the first floor is to provide customer convenience.

Trustee O'Shea asked what the plan is to finance and if this would require a referendum. President Demos asked if the Police Department moved if there would still be a presence at the Civic Center. Chief Norton responded that there would be an office at the Civic Center for reporting and interviewing.

Chief Norton also stated that possible off site locations for a new Police Department include: 5-6 acres near Park Blvd. and Route 56, an area along Panfish Park, one of three homes located along Park Blvd outside of Panfish Park is already Village owned and the Spring Avenue Recreation Center property. SARC is owned by the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Park District is undergoing their own Space Needs Analysis. An indoor firing range would be included in the plans for a new police department.

Chief Norton also added that the costs for new construction could be in the 13-16 million dollar range. Trustee O'Shea asked if the SARC property could be retrofitted. Chief Norton responded that it would not be cost effective. The building would be torn down. On a side note, Chief Norton added that the dog park would be retained in the back of the property.

Trustee McGinley asked if the gun range would be sound proof.

Manager Franz stated that if the Police Department vacated the Civic Center, the 3rd floor could be reconfigured to add commercial rental space. Trustee Ladesic responded that the office space might be appropriate for the Park District or District 41. Trustee Ladesic also commented that District 41 is also considering the re-acquisition of SARC.

Trustee McGinley asked what the next steps in the process are. Manager Franz responded that 7 different alternatives to the Village's space needs have been identified. Some options will require debt service for 20 years; others can be addressed in the Capital Plan. Trustee McGinley followed up by asking how do we make this decision.

President Demos responded that tonight was this Board's first exposure to the space needs at the Civic Center and the Police Department. It is agreed that this is a desperate need. The next workshop meeting should just focus on the space needs.

Trustee McGinley would like to know the costs to acquire and build on the SARC property and what the Civic Center would look like without the Police Department. Mr. Meade responded that once the Police Department moves out of the Civic Center things can stay where they are and as money becomes available departments can move around.

Chief Norton commented that they should know in December – January from the Park District if the SARC property is in play. Trustee O'Shea asked if there is a preference, to which Chief Norton responded there is no preference.

President Demos commented that the Board will have to determine if they want to proceed with renovations at the Civic Center or to build a new police department. The Board will need to have a plan to move forward. The Board will need to have another meeting.

Trustee Elliott asked about plans for leasing the 3rd floor of the Civic Center. Among his questions were costs, amount of rent and who would the Village be renting to.

Regarding a new Police Department, Chief Norton stated that they would form an ad hoc Citizen's Advisory Committee.

Reverse 911/Rapid Emergency Notification

Assistant Village Manager Stonitsch, IT Manager Binkerd, Police Chief Norton and Glen Ellyn Volunteer Fire Company Chief Bodony presented information on a Reverse 911/Emergency Notification to the Board.

This can be used before an event to warn, during an event to advise and keep residents informed and after to inform residents of clean up and additional refuse events.

In addition to storm events, such as the July 1, 2012 event and the April 2013 flood event this can be used for road/traffic notification, evacuations, criminal activity and post event bulletins such as those from FEMA. Also information such the recent boil order although that took place in unincorporated Glen Ellyn.

Currently the DuPage County Sherriff offers emergency notification but only to landlines.

Chief Norton stated they could partner with the schools.

Regarding costs estimates from different vendors: Nixle, Everbridge and Federal Signal, President Demos commented on Federal Signal's outstanding reputation. Chief Norton and Chief Bodony both responded that Federal Signal is their preference.

Trustee Elliott stated this is badly needed and would like to see the presentation shared with the School Districts and Park District.

GIS Presentation

IT Manager Binkerd and Nate Rock, MGP, Inc., 701 Lee St., Des Plaines, IL presented information on GIS Public Tool Delivery. Since joining the GIS consortium in May 2013, MGP has been working to integrate Glen Ellyn GIS data into the Office MapOffice product. This offers detailed property information through the Village's Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Residents can use this tool to access information such as school district, polling locations, based on address locations. Additional data that can be included: water main locations, and sewer lines for internal use by staff.

Manager Franz commented that Glen Ellyn is the 23rd member of the GIS consortium.

Ms. Cam Page, 206 Hill Avenue, Glen Ellyn addressed the Board regarding a new police department. Ms. Page feels that the Police Department needs to move. Ms. Page hopes the Village gets aggressive on annexation; it is time for the police department to move. One advantage is a move will free up parking and space in and around the Civic Center. Ms. Page also remarked that she would like to see the police department move to Newton Park, where she said the south half of Newton Park, across from the Post Office is underutilized.

Adjournment

At 9:27 p.m. Trustee Elliott moved and Trustee Clark seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Galvin,
Village Clerk