

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTERN SPRINGS
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, May 10, 2021

President Alice F. Gallagher, Presiding
Call to Order, 7:00 p.m.
James Horvath, Acting Village Clerk*

Board Members Present

Nicole Chen*
Alan Fink*
James John*
Scott Lewis*
Heidi Rudolph*
James Tyrrell*

Others Present

Ingrid Velkme, Village Manager
John Mastandona, Asst. Dir. of Finance*
Mike Kelly, Deputy Dir. of Fire & EMS*
Ellen Baer, Director of Admin Svcs*
Brian Budds, Director of Law
Enforcement Services*
Casey Biernacki, Deputy Village Manager*
Matt Supert, Director of Mun Svcs*
Marty Scott, Director of CD*
Aleks Briedis, Director of Rec*
Jefferey Koza, Director of
Engineering/Village Engineer
Pat Schramm, Director of Technology*
Elaine Haeske, Deputy Village Clerk*
Liam Sullivan, Municipal Services Intern
Michael Jurusik, Village Attorney*

*Electronic Attendance – Authorized by The Open Meetings Act, the CDC directive (social distancing guidelines) and Illinois Governor Disaster Proclamation dated April 2, 2021 (Restore Illinois Plan) and Executive Orders 2021-06 extending the Governor’s prior Executive Orders relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and his implementation of the “Restore Illinois” Plan (COVID-19 E.O. No. 76 as amended.”

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call as noted above.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Gallagher led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

READING OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS – DELETIONS

There were none.

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

President Gallagher provided a public health update. She also encouraged everyone to continue to shop local and to visit the French Market on Sunday mornings on Hillgrove Avenue.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Several residents addressed the Board regarding the Forest Hills sidewalk feasibility study and possible installation of sidewalks in the Forest Hills subdivision. Residents expressing opposition to the proposal to install sidewalks throughout the Forest Hills subdivision included Lisa Marco Kouba, Carolyn Bonistalli and Eric Peterson and each shared comment. Residents speaking in favor of the completion of the installation of sidewalks in the Forest Hills subdivision included Amy Tilles and Rod Frazier and each shared comment.

President Gallagher stated that the Board will not be making a decision whether to install sidewalks in Forest Hills tonight. This evening the Board will hear a report from the Public Works and Water Committee with regard to the results of the comments that we solicited from Forest Hills residents. This is just one more step in the long process of determining whether it is appropriate for us to expend the money to build out sidewalks in the Forest Hills area. President Gallagher continued saying that she wants everyone to know that no decisions will be made tonight but we will still take this matter under serious consideration along with all of the other critical infrastructure projects that we have looming within the Village. This project will have to take its place among all the other projects with regard to priority and determining what is most critical. President Gallagher thanked everyone for calling in and commenting. She said, as we heard tonight, there are many strong feelings on both sides of this issue, and we will attempt to continue to delve into this until we find a suitable resolution.

SWEARING-IN OF DEPUTY VILLAGE MANAGER CASEY BIERNACKI

SWEARING-IN OF DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING/VILLAGE ENGINEER JEFFEREY KOZA

Village Manager Velkme reported that earlier today, Acting Clerk Horvath swore Deputy Village Manager Biernacki and Director of Engineering/Village Engineer Jefferey Koza into office. Casey has been with the Village for ten (10) years. He began as the Municipal Services Intern and eventually became the Assistant Director of Municipal Services. He has an undergraduate degree in Engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a master's in

public administration from Northern Illinois University.

Jefferey Koza joined the Village on May 3, 2021. Jefferey's previous position was with the Village of Northbrook. He was the Capital Projects Manager there and prior to that he was in private consulting. Jefferey received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and is a licensed professional engineer with the State of Illinois. Village Manager Velkme extended her congratulations to both. On behalf of the Board, President Gallagher extended her congratulations to Deputy Village Manager Biernacki and Director of Engineering/Village Engineer Koza. President Gallagher said we are so happy with their promotion and their arrival in Western Springs, and we wish each many, many happy years here.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS DURING THE WORKSHOP PORTION OF THE VILLAGE BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

1) PROPERTIES AND RECREATION – TRUSTEE CHEN

A) Downtown Design Planter Proposal

Trustee Chen said that the committee met last Tuesday, May 4, 2021 and discussed several items. This planter proposal is an interesting change that will be made to our downtown area. A detailed memo prepared by Supt. Of Public Works Breakey and Forester Beresheim describes the current situation with the raised beds in downtown Western Springs. The old, raised beds that have been in downtown Western Springs on both Hillgrove and Burlington are not conducive to keeping thriving plants and trees happy. There have been problems with the existing trees which had to be cut down from their remaining root systems and these trees have been in a state of decline for some time. The trees have become root-bound in those small planter areas. The planters are also showing their age and they are beginning to fall apart. The Village's Forester has determined that the trees are at risk to the downtown area. They are shallow rooted and only have limited leafing in the canopy.

As such, there is a plan for the removal of the remaining trees and the raised planters, however, keeping the planting area ground level and establishing more green space without sacrificing sidewalks. Some mock-ups of the plan were included in the Board packet. The new plantings will remain on the same footprint but will become larger overall as we are removing the raised walls and leaving that area for planting. They plan to be planting a variety of trees which will thrive in urban settings. They will also leave room for annuals chosen for minimal maintenance. Finally, the plan is to light up the trees for a beautiful nighttime display to highlight our downtown boardwalk. Much of this work will be performed in house with trees being purchased through the tree consortium. This will not be a quick process. It will take us into next spring or fall to replace all the planters in town. This work had been planned but was put on hold due to COVID. It will be performed in house and has been budgeted.

Director Supert said no action is needed on this item, but staff is looking for concurrence from the Board on the design elements. With that concurrence, staff will begin moving forward with the potential purchases of the plant material with the consortium and potentially with our existing landscaping firm for the lower-level plants.

Trustee Chen said the committee were agreeable to this plan and found it to be a very well thought out plan. President Gallagher opened up the floor to comments and questions from the Board. President Gallagher said she had heard about this matter for many years, and she thinks it is a wonderful plan. Trustee Rudolph said this seems a well-researched plan by the experts who know best and rather than risk these deteriorating or dying, she would rather go forward with a proactive plan. Trustee Fink said this seems like a great idea. Trustee John said he agrees with Trustee Fink.

President Gallagher asked Acting Clerk Horvath to take a consensus vote on each Trustee's concurrence with moving forward with this plan.

Voting aye: Trustees Rudolph, Tyrell, Chen, Fink, John, and Lewis.
Board consensus with moving forward with this new downtown design planter proposal was obtained.

B) Historic Tower Architectural

Trustee Chen reported that staff is moving forward with the project to work on the historic tower soffits. Village Manager Velkme signed an architectural services proposal with 845 Design Group. The Village is planning to go out to RFP in May for this project. The project budget is Seventy Thousand (\$70,000.00) Dollars and staff hopes to have Board consideration of the award of contract in the June meeting cycle.

C) Fuel Tanks

Trustee Chen directed the Board to the memo in the agenda packet which included a very detailed report of the very complicated issue with the fuel pumps. They have now discovered that the underground fuel pumps, which we had thought had been grandfathered in by the State Fire Marshal, are in fact steel, which the Village knew, but the Fire Marshall's Office Records thought were fiberglass, must be removed. The pumps are not in compliance and we need to move forward with a proposal to remove these tanks. Staff obtained proposals to remove the tanks and the lowest cost proposal was received from Petroleum Technologies Equipment at a cost of Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred (\$13,400.00) Dollars. We do not have a choice; we have to take this action. In the coming months, staff will be looking at fuel tank alternatives for a future installation, whether they will be above ground and different items related to this whole fuel tank situation down at the Public Works yard. The committee

recommended that the Board move forward with the proposal to remove the fuel tanks on the omnibus vote list on May 24, 2021.

D) Capital Summary Report

Trustee Chen said there is no real update but just a reminder that this committee is following the West Underpass and Wolf Road Bike Path projects and we are still trying to close out the East Train Platform project.

E) Other

Trustee Chen noted that the committee discussed the BNSF tree removals at the May 4, 2021 committee meeting. Trustee Chen gave a shout-out to Public Works who cleaned up the partially “hacked” trees on the BNSF right-of-way the week of April 26 and brought the trees down to stumps. Staff is currently working with the BNSF to try to have the stumps removed. As a reminder, BNSF owns all that land including most of the parking spaces and they can do what they want with that and we were told that they did that tree work for safety concerns.

President Gallagher said she believed our staff finished the stump removals. Director Supert said that Village crews brought the tree stumps down to ground level. He said we are still coordinating with BNSF and we did have a meeting last week with BNSF to try to coordinate the final removal. We do anticipate that the arborvitaes that are near Hillgrove Avenue and Wolf Road will likely also be removed at some point by BNSF in the next year. That is still in progress and Director Supert will report further when he has more information. Trustee Rudolph asked if there would be an opportunity to have any other replacement that might be able to be planted there like nice flowers or shrubbery that would help change the appearance from the tree hacking.

Director Supert said that is part of the discussion they had last week. BNSF will not allow the Village to plant anything within 17’ of the rail itself. Their right-of-way and most of the areas that we see in the BNSF corridor is approximately a 100’ right-of-way so there are grass and green areas that the Village could explore in the future to put some plantings in. That section of the parking near Wolf Road in particular might be a little more difficult to work with because it is close to a crossing and that crossing has different site line requirements than other portions of the right-of-way. The BNSF did indicate that they are revising their landscaping guidelines so as soon as we get that information from them in the next several weeks, we can see what sort of options are going to be available to the Village.

2) PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER – TRUSTEE FINK

A) Illinois Tollway-Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement

Trustee Fink presented this intergovernmental agreement between the Village of Western Springs, the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (ISTHA), and the Village of Hinsdale regarding the pedestrian bridge over I-294 Highway adjacent to 47th Street (Spring Rock Park to Veeck Park). This project was discussed previously by the Board on several occasions. A draft agreement was included in the Board agenda packet. Two items to note, the Western Springs Park District is not a party to this agreement but has agreed to provide the ISTHA with access rights to Spring Rock Park for the construction and maintenance of the project. The Park District has been removed from the agreement as they are not contributing to any of the maintenance costs. Also, Western Springs and Hinsdale's annual contribution for routine maintenance items will be capped at Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) Dollars. Approval of this agreement by resolution will be on the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval.

B) Forest Hills Feasibility Study-Public Questions & Responses

Trustee Fink said that as President Gallagher said earlier, we are not coming with any final decisions. Our goal tonight is to discuss the study and to decide if we are ready to publish the final report on the Village website.

Director of Municipal Services Supert provided a brief introduction to the study for viewers so that they understand what this report is about. The Village completed a sidewalk feasibility study for portions of the Forest Hills subdivision last fall into this past winter. The purpose of that feasibility study was really to look to see if it was physically feasible to construct sidewalk in these areas within the subdivision and to determine what those impacts might be. That feasibility study was reviewed by the Village Board as well as several committees and put on-line approximately a month and a half ago. Staff then followed up and opened up a questionnaire April 5 which closed on April 30 to allow residents to submit questions related to the feasibility study. Director Supert then handed the presentation off to Municipal Services Intern Liam Sullivan who gave an overview of some of the findings and some of the answers and questions that were submitted as part of that questionnaire process.

Mr. Sullivan said we had 176 submissions in total including 52 identical submissions. As you can see in the report, there were 4 identical questions that were asked as well as the identical comment. For the question portion of the on-line form, there were 432 total questions submitted and of those, 223 were unique questions, which basically means that we took the identical questions and combined them into one question for the purposes of analyzing this. Of the 223 unique questions, 41 of them were about payment for sidewalks, 41 were about the decision-making process, 30 of them were about tree impacts, 28 of them were about existing policies, 22 of them were about funding and 61 were of the remaining categories. There were 15 different categories that the questions were broken down into.

Out of the 176 submissions, there were 158 total comments including the 52 identical comments. Of those, 54% of the people stated that they were in favor with proceeding with next steps, 5% did not give a preference either way and 44% stated they were not in favor of proceeding. Some of the reasons that people stated they were in favor of proceeding were increased property value, safety walkability, and wanting contiguous sidewalks. Of those 44% comments that were not favorable of proceeding, 66% of those comments stated that the cost of installation led them to that stance, 38% of those comments mentioned that Forest Hills already was safe without sidewalks, 28% of those comments pertained to tree removal, 9% of those comments were about maintenance concerns, 16% of those comments stated that funds should be allocated elsewhere, and 16% of those comments were pertaining to the aesthetics of Forest Hills.

Director Supert asked the Board for any questions, comments, or thoughts regarding the summary of the findings. Staff's goal, once the Board concurs on the findings of the report, would be to put this on the project page which is on-line at wsprings.com/foresthillsidewalk. President Gallagher then opened up the floor for discussion by the Board. Trustee Chen asked what is proposed for publishing. Director Supert said the summary document put together by Municipal Intern Sullivan is the document which includes questions and answers which were submitted between April 5 and April 30. He also included the raw data, so to speak, of the comments submitted as well as all of the questions submitted. Trustee Chen asked for confirmation that both of these had not been publicly published, the raw data and the synopsis of the staff that the Board just heard, is that correct? Director Supert said that is correct. The public comment period closed on April 30, Mr. Sullivan put the data together and it was presented to the Public Works and Water Committee for review and comment on May 7, and we are now bringing it to the Board this evening for comment as well.

Village Manager Velkme said the document is still in draft form until the Board reviews and accepts it. Trustee Chen said she does not have a problem with sharing that document with everyone with all the comments, but she defers to the rest of the Board, too. Trustee Tyrrell said he has no problem with sharing the document. We should get that information out there so that everyone can know but he said that the question that he had, we are looking at 54%, and these are the people that responded, and 44% are not in favor and 5% are undecided. That is pretty divisive for that area. Trustee Tyrrell said he would like to know, if possible, how representational was the questionnaire with the rest of the people who live in Forest Hills. Is there a way to tell, is this 10% of the people that live there, 20%, to put some kind of context on this so that we can have greater direction because this is a pretty hot topic?

Director Supert said that we do know that when we sent out the postcard mailing and the notification for this, there are 911 homes in the Forest Hills subdivision and as Liam mentioned, there were 176 submissions. There is no process where

we could limit just one submission per household, so if there were multiple persons living in a household, they all could submit a question or answer. Actually, anybody in the community could submit questions as this was an open document that was open to the entire community and the purpose of this questionnaire was to allow any resident in town to submit questions regarding the feasibility study. We do know how many homes are in the Forest Hills subdivision in total and we do know how many submissions we received. We would not really know a breakdown of the percentage of the homes that submitted in total of the subdivision.

Trustee Tyrrell said it really could not be more than 20% so we really do not have a great idea of all of the homes. He would have hoped for more than 1 out of 5 if that is what those numbers reflect. Director Supert said that as part of the process, a postcard was sent to every home in the Forest Hills subdivision, as well as posted on all of our standard media. We did try to reach out to everybody. Trustee Tyrrell said from his perspective, if the Board is going to make a decision on this, he would like to hear from more than 20% of the people who live in Forest Hills. Perhaps if there is more than can be done, yay or neighs, we would have a better cross-section or better representation of the actual people that live there other than 176 out of 911 homes. He understands that the postcards were sent out, but this is not a great showing for something that these people seem, very understandably, across the board with how they want this handled.

President Gallagher said that she agrees with Trustee Tyrrell and going forward there are still many steps. We are still in the very infancy of determining whether this project is something that we want to undertake but going forward, we need to send this back to the Infrastructure Commission most likely for further study, as well as the committee. Perhaps this is something that we look at in conjunction with our other infrastructure projects, to hold a Town Hall meeting some time down the road so that hopefully we can capture more residents so that we can hear from more of them with regard to their opinion on this matter and the other matters as well.

Trustee Rudolph said that she agrees as far as a town hall or a meeting. She added that having read the feasibility study, she found it to be very thorough and detailed, but she thought it was also fairly hard to digest for the average reader. You may have had people who were interested in it and would like to respond or have questions, but maybe you had a hard time in even digesting the study so she thinks having other forums to have Q&A and in a live setting and she is hopeful that we are able to, even if we were able to hold an outdoor meeting as we did in Spring Rock Park at the pavilion last year but something where we could have a two-way dialogue rather than relying on people's interpretation of the study. Trustee Rudolph said she thinks we need to make a lot more effort in terms of reaching residents in those kinds of ways. President Gallagher thanked Trustee Rudolph for her comments.

Trustee Fink said that he agreed with everything everyone has said. He thinks this is going to be a hot button topic and not a lot of people have responded to the survey but within, he thinks, that within Forest Hills, a lot of people are discussing it with their neighbors now. If we had to do the survey again or in three more months, I think we will have a much better response because it seems like the “for-sidewalk people” were organized first and now it is the “against-sidewalk” people getting organized. Trustee Fink said he would like to move this forward to the website for more discussion later if people want this. Trustee Rudolph said she would agree to putting this to the website, she did not know why we would not share the information.

Trustee Chen added that she read through it as best as she could with the comments, and she appreciated the specifics that we got about the gist of the comments, but the main issue is the funding. The Special Service Area has a special service assessment that has been discussed. Trustee Chen asked if that was going to go back to the Infrastructure Commission for further study. She said that she knows that we have a lot of other potentially capital heavy infrastructure projects on the docket. She asked for clarification as to what is meant that this will go back for study. Trustee Chen said she thought that the idea was that we wanted to get some number about the cost of this project, and we now have some number. Whether it is perfect is debatable. Trustee Chen said she is wondering about the next steps after all the commentary and after all the Town Halls.

President Gallagher replied that we have a wide range here and the idea is for the Infrastructure Commission to delve a little deeper into the study and see if there is perhaps some alternative to building out every single sidewalk, perhaps building out pathways to school or something like that to get our heads around a number that is a little more palatable. Also, to look at grants. President Gallagher said that she knows that the grant that we have used in the past, the “Safe Sidewalks to Schools”, or something like that is not currently available so that is not an option. Frankly, she thinks staff has looked at it a little bit and has not come up with any grant opportunities at this time so that is another thing that we would have to look at, perhaps at the committee level as well. These are just a few things that need to be addressed. Again, this is very early in the process. We are trying to get the feedback. Unfortunately, as Trustee Tyrrell mentioned, it is not as large a sample of the population in Forest Hills as we would have liked, and it still does not give us clear direction because it is close. It requires further study, along with our other infrastructure projects that require further study. President Gallagher said there is more to come.

Trustee Chen said she was just wondering what would be coming from the Infrastructure Commission and it sounds like they will be digging further into the data. President Gallagher said that is right, to see if there are maybe other routes that we could take instead of building out the entire community, perhaps.

Director Supert said President Gallagher hit all the major points. There has been a lot of conversation recently regarding sidewalks. The Infrastructure Commission has been looking at it for quite a while and I think that they will be looking at it again in addition to the Sidewalk Policy that was approved previously by the Village Board and is up online as well. It is all part of a larger conversation that is happening across various committees and commissions within the Village as well as infrastructure in general. Roadway, water, sewer, and, even Village facilities, is all part of that conversation. It really needs to be looked at holistically. President Gallagher said that staff has direction to go ahead and post.

C) Well No. 5 Contract Extension

Trustee Fink presented a no cost change order with Paul Borg Construction for the Well #5 project extending the project substantial completion date from May 15 to June 15, 2021. Staff and the committee did not have a problem with that change.

D) Elevated Tank Project Schedule

Trustee Fink reported that this project is currently on hold because the Village is waiting until we receive a Notice to Proceed from the IEPA. We need to receive that order this week because the bids expire on May 12, 2021. Although the bids can probably be extended, we are losing our window of time to get this project done. August is a high-volume water time and if we go much later, it will be too cold for the paint to cure. Hopefully, we will get the Notice to Proceed this week, or the project might be moved to next year.

E) High Service Pump Replacement- No Cost Change Order

Trustee Fink presented an additional no cost change order for the contract with Independent Mechanical Industries, Inc. to replace one high service pump at the water treatment plant. The change order is for additional time to cover any extended freight times, incidentals, and punch list items. The new completion date is August 31, 2021 (original date was July 31, 2021). The Public Works and Water Committee did not have a problem with this change.

F) Central Avenue-Parallel Parking Cost Estimates

Trustee Fink presented a proposal for the Central Avenue project which is happening in 2022. The project location is on Central Avenue just east of Spring Rock Park. The 2022 project is going to decrease the width of the street so we will no longer be able to park on both sides of the street. During community meetings, some of the community members wanted to see about changing the parallel parking spots from cement to paver block. Staff looked into this upgrade and the pros of the project would be that the paver block would look a lot better, and the parallel parking spots would be more visible, and one would be able to

better delineate the parking spaces from the street. The cons of this upgrade are that Public Works staff said they would need special snowplows to provide snow removal for the pavers and decorative pavers are not used anywhere else in the Village. The biggest consideration is that we had a preliminary cost estimate from James J. Benes & Associates that is approximately \$170,154. The Public Works & Water Committee discussed this upgrade and voted against this change. Since this is more of a cosmetic change, we would not be able to obtain grant money to pay for it, it would have to be 100% locally funded.

Trustee Rudolph said this is something that would help to mark the parking better, but it benefits the Park. She asked if there was any attempt to see if the Park District was interested in paying for it. This is kind of a big central park in town that gets a lot of use with soccer and increased use with the improved tennis facilities, and it could be something that could really enhance that for the Park District. Trustee Rudolph wondered if that is something that they would be interested in funding. Director Supert said he talked to the Park District back in January or February on this topic and they stated that they would not be willing to financially contribute. Trustee Rudolph said she understands and thanked Director Supert for his input.

G) Sidewalk Shaving Bid Tab

Trustee Fink reported that the bids for the 2021 Sidewalk Saw-Cutting Program were opened on April 8, 2021. The lowest qualified bidder was Safety Services & Assessment LLC at a base bid of \$19.95 per unit. The committee recommended that the contract be awarded to Safety Services & Assessment in an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) Dollars. This matter will be on the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval.

H) Televising Bid Proposal

Trustee Fink reported on a televising technical techs proposal which Village staff obtained from RJN Engineering of Wheaton, Illinois for the 2021 Clean and CCTV Technical Specifications Development project. This proposal is for the bidding of the work, for how to televise it, not to perform the actual televising, in an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Six Hundred (\$5,600.00) Dollars. Approval will be on the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration.

I) Consideration of Upgrade to Concrete Reconstruction on Hillgrove During Tollway Work

The Illinois Tollway has been working extensively throughout 2020 on the BNSF bridge replacement and is anticipated to begin improvements for the Village's storm sewer and water main in late 2021. The new water main and sewer will require the reconstruction of Hillgrove Avenue from approximately Prospect Avenue to the Public Works facility. With the Village's completion of the

Prospect Avenue project last year in concrete, Village staff approached the Illinois Tollway to inquire the feasibility if the proposed replacement on Hillgrove Avenue could be “upgraded” to a concrete reconstruction.

Illinois Tollway staff has provided a preliminary cost alternative for the cost difference from asphalt to concrete with the difference to be paid by the Village. The additional cost from for concrete in lieu of asphalt is estimated at approximately One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 72/100ths (\$178,388.72) Dollars. The additional funds for the upgrade could be accommodated in the Village’s Roadway Improvements Fund.

Trustee Fink said the “pros” of moving to concrete is that concrete will last sixty (60) years and asphalt will only last twenty-five (25) years and with all the Public Works truck traffic in that area, the concrete might last a little longer and, in the long run, be cheaper. Trustee Fink said that the Public Works and Water Committee discussed this upgrade and agreed with it. The committee is recommending the board approve the upgrade. Director Supert clarified that staff is not asking the Board to approve the One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 72/100ths (\$178,388.72) Dollar expense this evening. This is a cost estimate that the Tollway and their staff has put together for the upgrade to concrete.

Director Supert said that staff is looking for Board consensus on whether to proceed with the upgrade with the Tollway. There would likely be some sort of agreement or amendment to the Tollway intergovernmental agreement associated with this upgrade later this year. Then when the Tollway does finally bid and Village staff receives the final bid and specification prices, then we would know the final price on what that concrete work would be. Director Supert added that the actual work probably will not happen until late this fall at the earliest, but more likely, spring of 2022.

President Gallagher asked Director Supert to address how long-term building out the concrete as opposed to just replacing with asphalt, how that would affect us and our budget. Director Supert said that, as Trustee Fink mentioned, concrete does cost more upfront than asphalt reconstruction. Since Director Supert began with the Village in 2007, all reconstruction projects that the Village has done have all been done in concrete. That has mainly been done due to our funding sources and the life span of the concrete. For example, in the Forest Hills subdivision, many of those streets are original to the subdivision dating back to the 1960s and those streets are generally in very good condition. Director Supert said that he thinks this gives a nice testament to the longevity of concrete. The surface just maintains better and really because of that traffic flow that we have down in the west end of Hillgrove, including the in and out from the Recreation Center as well as the Theatre, overall, we feel the concrete upgrade would be an overall improvement to the maintenance that would be required over in that area. Typically, what we have seen with asphalt streets is, even with a reconstruction of

asphalt where you have that base that might be in good condition, the service coarse layer can experience deterioration, mainly due to salt infiltration from our plowing processes but also from sun exposure. You will see that those asphalt streets just get bleached out and then eventually they begin to develop potholes, cracks, and that sort of thing which requires just a surface level maintenance that has to occur over a scheduled period of time. Concrete typically weathers that must more effectively so in the lifespan that is why concrete, in Director Supert's opinion, is really overall a more effective investment.

President Gallagher added that our Public Works trucks use that section of road quite a bit. Director Supert said that is our access point into the Public Works facility which is located at the west end of Hillgrove.

Trustee John said that in general he is a fan of the concrete replacements. He added that his concern here is that looking at Prospect to the Public Works facility, is a pretty short area. He does not know if there are any homes on that route, maybe a couple, but from a citizen perspective, he wondered if could that One Hundred Seventy Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 72/100ths (\$178,388.72) Dollars help with areas of town that are known to be significantly more deteriorated with pot holes and that sort of thing versus an area that is really more commercial whether or not it is the Western Springs Service Club or the Western Springs Theatre. Trustee John said he does have a bit of concern that we are adding a One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 72/100ths (\$178,388.72) Dollar cost to something that, generally, would just be free, but not really directly benefitting homeowners and the challenges they are having with their streets.

Director Supert said that is an excellent question. He continued, saying to give a little perspective, when the Village does a grind and resurface of an asphalt road, that is typically about One Hundred to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100-200,000) a block. When we do a full reconstruction in concrete, that typically is approaching the Three to Three Hundred Fifty (\$300-\$350,000) Dollar cost so what is proposed here is basically the cost difference. The street would still be reconstructed either way, but it would be reconstructed in asphalt which is what is currently what is defined in the intergovernmental agreement with the Tollway or the cost difference to upgrade to concrete is the One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 72/100ths (\$178,388.72) Dollar difference. That additional expense could certainly be applied to other sections of roadway in the Village. It would not be able to complete a full reconstruction in another location in town, but it could certainly be part of a larger project as part of the Village's reconstruction schedule.

Trustee John said he is just thinking of the needs of where he lives as well as other parts of town where we know that these streets are not going to be rebuilt with concrete for many years due to the overall cost of that. His initial thought is that grinding or repaving, even a block, in a certain area where there are 15-20

houses would have a direct benefit to them versus going to this more commercial area where there is not a direct homeowner benefit. Director Supert said he wanted to make one clarification that the funds that the Village would use here would come out of the roadway referendum funds and, to date, we have not used any referendum funds for grind and resurfacing projects, and, because of that, that is consistent with our history of reconstructions with concrete. We want to make sure that the improvement that we do with the referendum funds outlasts the bonds for the funds. So concrete roads would outlast, I think the current referendum bonds are twenty-seven (27) year bonds, as mentioned before, a lot of those asphalt improvements, grind and resurface, would not last that twenty-plus (20+) years. To date, the Village has not used any of those referendum funds for asphalt. We have used them only for concrete improvements. Asphalt improvements typically within the Village so far have been done with Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds. Trustee John said those are just his thoughts.

President Gallagher said we are going to do a consensus vote on this matter tonight. Even though that is in a corner in the west end, it does see quite a bit of traffic between the Theatre and the Recreation Center, as well. Our residents do use that stretch of road quite a bit between Prospect and the west end of the Village. Trustee Rudolph added that if we are looking at that as a metric, she would wonder if those parts were used more than a lot of other parts of town because of the Recreation Center and the pool and the Theatre. That they are actually highly trafficked by a broader number of citizens than maybe some other areas, a possibility. Trustee Tyrrell said if he could second that, since he lives over there, from May until September, that is a very, very busy area with the pool, Theatre, and the Public Works facility. Trustee Tyrrell said that he would not have a problem putting these funds for that area because he does think that it is travelled probably more than most residential streets. Trustee John said, yes, but we are not comparing it to that. Asphalt is just fine for twenty-five (25) years. It is not like that area is going to be in poor shape, it is going to be in very good shape for the 25 years' time period and, again, he just does not know that that is the best use of the money in an area that is not residential.

Trustee Chen said that she appreciates Trustee John's concerns. She asked what the consensus was of the Public Works and Water Committee. Trustee Fink said the committee discussed the proposal and agreed to recommend moving forward with the upgrade. The committee's view was that if we looked at this over a 60-year period, concrete would be cheaper than doing asphalt twice. Director Supert added that this project is in place as the Tollway will be excavating the area for a new storm sewer and the current agreement with the Tollway identifies an asphalt reconstruction. The concrete reconstruction was considered because of all the traffic over in that area and the recent completion of Prospect Avenue in concrete. One of the things staff discussed was, would it make sense tie in that concrete to essentially end where the existing street in concrete on Prospect Avenue would end and bring it down to that area to unify it. Trustee Chen noted that we are getting a benefit because the Tollway is doing that very costly underground work

for the water mains and sewer work. So, we are just deciding whether we take the in-kind, which is the asphalt, or upgrade to concrete.

President Gallagher asked the Board to reach a consensus on whether they favored this proposal and Acting Horvath took a roll call vote to see if there was a favorable consensus to give staff direction to look at changes to the intergovernmental agreement to proceed with an upgrade to concrete for the Hillgrove Avenue reconstruction.

MOTION:

Voting aye: Trustees Lewis, Rudolph, Tyrrell, Chen, and Fink.
Voting nay: Trustee John.

The motion of consensus to give staff direction on moving forward with a modification to the Tollway intergovernmental agreement to proceed with an upgrade to concrete for the Hillgrove Avenue reconstruction passed.

J) Design-Build Storm Sewer Outfalls

Trustee Fink presented a proposal which Village staff is looking for concurrence from the Village Board on whether to pursue a Design-Build method for the Village's outfalls. In 2020, V3 Engineering was looking at the sewer outfalls for Flagg Creek for stormwater from 47th Street down through the south edge of the Ridgewood subdivision. They found three of the outfalls that were in poor condition and needed repair, but these were smaller outfalls in challenging locations. In some places, they would need to establish the public utility easements and it was just hard to get to them. This proposal is to waive the competitive bidding process for the initial design and come up with a design-bid structure where construction crews would have input while working with V3 Engineering to find the best and cheapest ways to get into these areas and repair them.

The study identifies that the proposed repair work for the three southernmost outfalls is approximately One Hundred to One Hundred Twelve Thousand (\$100,000 - \$112,000) Dollars. Staff is looking to waive competitive bidding process and find a different way to bid these out and repair them.

Director Supert said staff is looking for the Board to give consensus to staff to pursue a design-build alternative and staff would work with V3 over the next month or two, develop an engineering proposal as well as a potential project proposal and then once we have those final proposals, bring those proposals back to the Village Board. This would be in lieu of an engineering and competitive bid process.

Trustee Rudolph asked Director Supert for some clarification on the pictures included in the agenda packet. Trustee Rudolph said she does not really understand the property line. Director Supert said that one of the things that complicates this project and why staff is looking to do a design-build process is that the storm sewer outfalls, which you can see on the attachments in the report as well, are running through side and rear yards for some of the neighbors who, in this particular case, are in Ridgewood. They back-up to the creek. In the particular case of which we mentioned, we are also going to meet over the next month or two to coordinate with the Village Attorney and the Community Development Department. It was observed, while we were working and walking out in these areas, that quite a bit of private infrastructure, including fences, patios, sheds, etc. are built either extremely close to the existing storm sewer outfall or outside of the existing property line into the maintenance area where the Village is supposed to be allowed to do maintenance. These situations are going to have to be resolved and, in some cases, we are going to have to re-establish public utility easements but what the photo is also illustrating is how tight the areas are that we are going to need to work in. On the second page of the report in the agenda packet, after the memorandum, you can see some of our staff and high visibility clothing and that is where the storm sewer is located. Being able to get an excavator or back-hoe into that area to do that work is going to be extremely challenging. We also have overhead utility lines immediately adjacent to that area as well and that is why we are really looking to do the design-build process is to have that construction component involved in that design process to help us to maximize and more effectively get this project completed.

Trustee Rudolph said that sounds like a challenge and now she understands the pictures better. Trustee Rudolph asked if the residents realize the situation. Director Supert said staff has not had any conversations yet with the residents out there. They will be talking to residents once we get this process rolling, scheduling meetings with the residents, and we have to have various parties involved to resolve some of the issues and access components and so forth. Director Supert said we still have quite a long way to go on this, this is just the kick-off to get this project moving forward. Director Supert said staff does have a plan, as part of these outfalls, we are hoping to do just maybe three (3) of above sixteen-eighteen (16-18) total over a 5-year period with a program to address these. They might not all be as difficult to access as these ones, but from our initial review, many of the ones that are in Ridgewood specifically do have access challenges.

Trustee Rudolph asked for a refresher on the outfalls themselves and their role in our overall stormwater management because this is a very important topic for us with a lot of issues. Trustee Rudolph said she wants to make sure that she understands where they fit into this big puzzle.

Director Supert said that all of south of 47th Street is a separated sewer system which means we have storm sewer and sanitary. Almost all of that storm sewer

system, including the one that extends all the way east to Springdale, all drains to west toward Flagg Creek. So, we have storm sewer outfalls, which are essentially the end of the storm sewer pipe, and it discharges into the creek. Many of those are because the creek has erosion problems, debris problems, in very poor condition. So, we conducted a report last year to assess all of the outfalls that are within our system from 47th Street down and to prioritize maintenance on all of those. Trustee Rudolph thanked Director Supert for this explanation.

President Gallagher asked the Board for a consensus vote to give staff direction to move forward with the design-build approach rather than a design engineering and competitive bidding process for this work.

MOTION:

Voting aye: Trustees Fink, John, Lewis, Rudolph, Tyrrell, and Chen.

Voting nay: None.

The motion of consensus to give staff direction on moving forward with a design-build approach rather than a design engineering and competitive bidding process for this work on storm sewer outfalls was approved.

K) 2021 Grand Avenue Project-Bid Opening and Recommendation

Trustee Fink provided the Board with an update on the 2021 Grand Avenue Project which includes a concrete reconstruction of Grand Avenue from Lawn Drive to Linden Circle, in the Ridgewood Subdivision. The committee reviewed staff's recommendation and request to award a contract to lowest cost, qualified and responsible bidder G&M Cement in an amount not to exceed One Million Forty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-One and 69/100ths (\$1,048,931.69) Dollars. This is the project the Board discussed earlier in the year. The green infrastructure improvements (i.e., rain gardens) were removed from the project in late 2020 as the residents did not want them. The total cost of the project is comprised of additional money, in the amount of \$200,653, for storm sewer improvements, as well as \$848,278.69 related to roadway improvements. The bid was below engineer's estimates. Contract approval was added to the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval.

L) 2021 Rose/Grove Project-Televising

Trustee Fink said that we are hopefully working on Rose and Grove this year for the 2021 Rose/Grove Improvements project. Before we begin any road work, the sewers are televised to document the current condition and to determine if any repairs need to be performed prior to starting road reconstruction. Staff is requesting approval to use Hoerr Construction, who worked with the Village last year to televise Prospect and Clausen for the same purpose, to televise the sewer for the Rose and Grove reconstruction project. Approval of a proposal from

Hoerr Construction of Goodfield, Illinois for sanitary sewer clean and televising in an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Six (\$9,276.00) Dollars was added to the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval with the recommendation of the Public Works and Water Committee to approve.

M) 2021 Rose/Grove Project-IEPA Alternate Funding Schedules

Trustee Fink reviewed a memo from Deputy Village Manager Biernacki regarding the 2021 Rose/Grove Project – Alternate Schedules Pending IEPA Loan Funding. Currently, we are waiting on the funding for the IEPA loan. The project has gone to bid with a bid opening date of May 14, 2021 with construction planned from July to December 2021. If for some reason we do not receive the funding in a timely manner, we will have to reject all the current bids, re-bid the project in late 2021 and start this project in May of 2022. We are hopeful that the funding will arrive on-time so we can move forward with this project this year.

N) 2021 Rose/Grove Project-Phase III Construction Engineering Proposal-Baxter & Woodman

The Public Works & Water Committee recommended the Board accept a proposal from Baxter & Woodman for Phase III (Inspection Engineering) for the 2021 Rose/Grove Avenue project. The proposal is for a not-to-exceed cost of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy (\$149,970.00) Dollars.

O) High Priority Televising-Hillgrove

Trustee Fink said that are two areas in the sanitary and storm sewer piping that staff would like to televise. The areas are on Hillgrove just east of the Water Plant and on the 5300 block of Woodland. There have been instances of blockages recently and we have used Calumet City Plumbing in the past on an urgent basis to assist in locating blockages to assist in repairs. The committee recommended approval of a proposal from Calumet City Plumbing in an amount not to exceed Nine Thousand Eight Hundred (\$9,800.00) Dollars. Approval was added to the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval.

P) Ridgewood Oaks Detention Basin-Agreement

Village staff and Ridgewood Oaks Homeowners Association (HOA) have been going back and forth on this matter for the past four (4) years. Attorney Jurusik gave the Board an overview of the reimbursement agreement between the Village and the Ridgewood Oaks HOA. The reimbursement agreement commits the Ridgewood homeowner's association (HOA) to reimburse the Village for all of its costs, fees and expenditures incurred to date in bringing forward the Special Service Area (SSA) for the detention basin for this area. Everything that we worked on last year and brought forward to form the SSA, all that time cost and

money will be reimbursed. Ridgewood Oaks chose to put the project on hold. The reimbursement agreement covers any additional costs incurred by the Village: engineering fees, legal fees, etc. in bringing the project forward a second time with the goal being by end of calendar year 2021, we will finally form the Special Service Area out in that subdivision. We will anticipate the project being constructed in the 2022 budget year. Both the Village and the HOA must execute the agreement prior to moving forward with the SSA. The reimbursement agreement really is a commitment by the Ridgewood HOA that they will pay the Village for all of its time, money, and effort in bringing this project to fruition. If for some reason they do not, if they pull the plug a second time, they commit to pay the Village all of its out-of-pocket expenses by using their own condominium special assessment process so that there is a mechanism for the Village to get reimbursed for any of its costs should the HOA decide not to move forward with the project a second time.

Trustee Tyrrell asked Attorney Jurusik to explain the EPA component of this project. Attorney Jurusik said this project is actually the impetus of an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) enforcement action. The drainage basin itself is permitted by the IEPA. The Village is a co-permittee along with the Ridgewood Oaks HOA and because the basin no longer meets the capacity metrics, the capacity standards that are part of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) IEPA permitting requirements, we are trying to get this project built in order to satisfy a potential enforcement action from MWRD. That is part of this push by the Village. We do not want to be involved in an enforcement action where we have been the good neighbor “driver” of this project and trying to do the right thing which is to get the basin re-set and reconstructed back to its proper functionality. It will not only provide better drainage to the subdivision, but it would also provide some type of benefit to Ridgewood downstream in that neighborhood as well. There is a larger community aspect for stormwater drainage benefit but the real driver here is to avoid an enforcement action from MWRD who has the permitting authority over this basin.

Trustee Tyrrell asked Attorney Jurusik if the MWRD is alright with this if the project gets put on hold for another year and a half. Attorney Jurusik said the goal is to take this to MWRD, if there is consensus by the Board, now that we have the HOA Board at least tentatively agreeing to this process and this agreement. We will try to button up the agreement with the HOA and take it back to MWRD and indicate that in good faith we are moving forward with the project. Timing is such that we cannot do it in the 2021 budget year but at least we have put together a record and a history showing that the Village is taking significant steps to make this project happen in 2019, 2020 and now we are committing to doing it in 2022 as a viable project.

Director Supert said a commitment letter was received from the Ridgewood HOA last month and Director Supert said he believed we brought that letter to the

Board as well. President Gallagher said the delay is because of all the public hearings and the legal process associated with the SSA. Attorney Jurusik said that unfortunately is about a six-month process to form a SSA and we did go through that process last year. We did go through it as efficiently as possible, and we will do the same this year. The issue is we just have to retrace our steps and do the same notices, do the same intent to hold a public hearing ordinance, wait sixty days to conduct a public hearing, and then there is another sixty day wait, or objection period, so unfortunately, there is some due process and notice process that we must wade through. This is something that was not budgeted for year 2021 either because of the Village's priorities so we are looking at a 2022 budgeted project. That really allows us to take care of all the legal formation steps now that we have the reimbursement agreement buttoned up with the HOA. President Gallagher said she does believe that this is a priority as long as we are covered with our exposure with this project, but she thinks that between the procedural delays with making sure that we comply with all of the notices and public hearings, it is probably realistically 2022. If we can realistically get through that process in 2021, so that we are ready to move on this project as soon as the ground is thawed out, this project does have a public benefit as we have recognized in the past, to the homeowners in Ridgewood that live further downstream.

Attorney Jurusik said he believes that the reimbursement agreement, when it is signed by the parties, and then our initiation of the formation of the SSA, when we put MWRD on notice of those steps, he believes they will stand down and not file an enforcement action. Attorney Jurusik said he did not believe they would pursue that when they see us moving in good faith to get this project off the ground for a second time. Director Supert said staff did have a meeting with MWRD late last summer or early fall to let them know where we were coming out of the SSA process last year. They did not provide anything in writing to us out of that meeting, but they did indicate that the meeting was productive and as long as the Village and the HOA were making forward progress and good faith efforts on this project, that they would be willing to work with us. Our intent is, once we do have the reimbursement agreement fully executed, we will follow back up with the MWRD to provide them a status update and then kick-off whatever additional permitting process. Director Supert said one thing to note is that the previous MWRD permit that was extended did expire December of last year so we will have to work with MWRD on that process as we move forward. All indications to date seem to indicate the MWRD is willing to work with the Village.

3) PLANNING AND ZONING – TRUSTEE JOHN

A) Plan Commission Meeting Update:

1. KLM Development Group - 514 Hillgrove Avenue: DCO text amendments and a conditional use permit - May 11, 2021 public hearing

2. Proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan relating to 17 W. Ogden and proposed DCO amendments relating to impervious surface regulations - May 13, 2021 public hearing

Trustee John said the Planning and Zoning Committee had met recently and covered a number of things. Trustee John said that he wanted to call out three items from that meeting of interest. The first of which, which he would like to add to the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list is a possible Village code amendment for cottage food. A resident of ours has requested that the Village consider adopting new rules related to “cottage food” and “home kitchen operations”. Home kitchen operation is a person who produces packaged and non-potentially hazardous baked goods in a person’s kitchen that is a primary domestic residence for direct sale by the owner or family member. There are some other aspects to it. These are small businesses where an individual looks to sell food to other individuals. The Planning and Zoning Board looked at the laws and there are a number of other suburban communities that also have some more regulations that allow for the home kitchen operations. The committee would like to move forward with that because we have had no objectors and our health inspector is very familiar with these rules, including how they are implemented and how they are enforced. This matter will be on the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval.

The committee reviewed a conditional use permit (CUP) request for 514 Hillgrove Avenue. This is a vacant piece of land just on the east side of Village Hall. KLM Development has prepared plans for a new mixed-use building at 514 Hillgrove. The plan includes a three-story building with eight condo units, two ground floor commercial/office spaces, and indoor parking. This proposal will require consideration of a few Development Code Ordinance (DCO) amendments along with a requested CUP permit. The Plan Commission will consider this item on at a public hearing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on May 11.

The Plan Commission will also consider a proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan in relation to the property at 17 W. Ogden Avenue. This is the site of the former Mike and Henry’s Auto Garage. The proposal is an amendment to the CUP that will re-designate the site from single family attached to multiple family. This was a business before, but the actual designation was a single-family home. This would allow and encourage the eventual rezoning of this property from single family to multiple family so that a new townhome building could be constructed on the site. The Planning and Zoning Committee reviewed this concept and discussed the issue and recommend that it proceed

through the process. The Plan Commission will discuss this issue and hold a public hearing on May 13 at 7:00 p.m.

President Gallagher asked about the DCO amendments relating to the impervious surface which is part of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Director Scott said that matter is on the agenda for the Plan Commission for Thursday, May 13. Those two items were published together for the public hearing, but they will be discussed separately at the meeting. That is the idea of looking at some flexibility in relation to impervious surface and on residential properties.

4) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY – TRUSTEE LEWIS

A) Request to renew agreement with Municipal Systems, Inc.

Trustee Lewis said that we have a request to renew an agreement with Municipal Systems Inc. Municipal Systems Inc. offers a parking and compliance web-based software system that helps our Village officials' issue and track parking violations and other compliance tickets. The software also includes a full administrative adjudication system and managing citations from issuance to the local hearing process. Chief Budds has been very pleased with the system's performance in the past and the Public Health and Safety Committee is recommending that the full Board approve a two-year extension of the agreement at our next meeting. The cost will be One Thousand Two Hundred (\$1,200.00) Dollars per month for the first year and One Thousand Three Hundred Fifty (\$1,350.00) Dollars per month the second year. This matter will be added to the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list for consideration of approval.

B) National Police Week Proclamation –May 9th to 15th

Trustee Lewis read the National Police Week proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION National Police Week – 2021

To recognize National Police Week – 2021 and to honor the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy.

WHEREAS there are more than 800,000 sworn law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Western Springs Police Department;

WHEREAS there have been 58,866 assaults against law enforcement officers in 2018, resulting in 18,005 injuries;

WHEREAS, since the first recorded police death in 1786, more than 22,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty;

WHEREAS the names of 22,217 dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS 295 new names of fallen heroes are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to include the 295 officers killed in 2020;

WHEREAS the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be honored during the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's virtual Annual Candlelight Vigil in Washington, D.C. on the evening of May 13, 2021;

WHEREAS, the virtual Candlelight Vigil is part of National Police Week, which takes place this year on May 9th through May 15th;

WHEREAS May 15th is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of all fallen officers and their families and U.S. flags should be flown at half-staff;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Western Springs formally designates May 9th-15th, 2021, as: "POLICE WEEK IN WESTERN SPRINGS," and publicly salutes the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.

Village President Alice Gallagher said she would sign this proclamation this evening.

C) EMS Week Proclamation-May 16-22, 2021

Trustee Lewis read the EMS Week proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION
EMS Week

WHEREAS emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Western Springs proclaims the week of May 16-22, 2021 as:

“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK”

With the EMS Strong theme, **THIS IS EMS: Caring for Our Communities**, I encourage the community to observe this week and commend the devotion, contributions, and services of members of emergency medical services teams.

Village President Alice Gallagher said she would sign this proclamation this evening.

D) Pillars Proclamation – 100th Anniversary

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on January 24,1921, Marion Jean MacLeod was hired as the first community nurse in La Grange to conduct weekly well baby clinics with Dr. Gardiner, a volunteer physician; and whereas local welfare associations joined forces on May 20,1928, to begin providing social services to Berwyn families; and

WHEREAS, Pillars Community Health has demonstrated a tireless commitment to meet the changing needs of the most vulnerable residents of the western suburbs of Chicago, including piloting behavioral health programs in the 1950s, launching dental services in the 1960s, and opening a domestic violence shelter in the 1970s and sexual violence services in the 1980s—all at a reduced cost (or no cost at all); and

WHEREAS, Pillars Community Health has long recognized the inseparability of health and the social determinants of health and has helped lead the integration of physical, mental, and social services, as far back as the Great Depression and most recently in 2018 when they became one of the first organizations in Illinois to offer these integrated services under one banner; and

WHEREAS, Pillars Community Health believes collaboration and outreach are necessary to achieve social and health equity and has a history of working in partnership with dozens of area schools, hospitals, faith-based organizations, police departments, and nonprofits; and

WHEREAS, Pillars Community Health relies on more than 200 volunteers to run our domestic and sexual violence hotlines and childhood bereavement programs and employs more than 250 staff including doctors, dentists, social workers, and mental health clinicians; and

WHEREAS, Pillars Community Health's mission is to improve the health of our communities and empower individuals through compassionate, whole person care; and their vision is one of communities in which all people have access to the care they need, when they need it;

NOW THEREFORE, we do hereby commend Pillars Community Health on their 100th Anniversary and offer our gratitude for the positive contributions they have made to the community.

President Gallagher said she would sign this proclamation this evening.

5) FINANCE – TRUSTEE RUDOLPH

**A) Joint Finance & Public Works & Water Committee Meeting
Comprehensive Capital Plan Review Report**

Trustee Rudolph said she had a report from the joint Public Works & Water and Finance Committee meetings regarding a comprehensive capital improvement plan review that staff has been undertaking. On November 11, 2020, the joint committee reviewed the unfunded stormwater capital improvements. The high-level estimates that we have, and we saw at that time were somewhere in the range of up to \$50 million for those improvements. On January 21, 2021, the joint committee reviewed various funding mechanisms for such unfunded projects of this magnitude. The joint committee asked the staff to review the Village of Westchester, the Village of Wilmette and the Village of Downers Grove and projects that they had undertaken, and the funding associated with those.

On May 3, 2021, the joint committee met again and reviewed those multiple funding solutions to those unfunded projects in those three villages. Trustee Rudolph then reviewed the high points from that discussion followed by the recommendation at the conclusion of the meeting.

First, the Village of Westchester is nearby, as many of you know. They had identified approximately \$42 million project for roadway, water, storm sewer, and sanitary projects that were all unfunded. They placed a referendum question on the November 2020 ballot for a \$42 million public bond. The education for that began in September 2020 with two public meetings. That referendum passed in Westchester with 71% of the voters in favor of it and the bonds are being issued over the next three years.

The Village of Wilmette identified a \$68 million stormwater improvement project, also unfunded. They completed a study with a municipal financial consultant to review their existing water and sewer rate and the possibility of a new stormwater utility fee. Wilmette did decide to pursue that stormwater utility fee as it more accurately reflects each property's impact on the storm sewer system and provides a dependable and stable revenue source. We thought that was an interesting one and it was helpful to learn about how that worked. It took Wilmette multiple years to come to this decision and about a year of public education and implementation of the new fee as it was something that the residents were not familiar with and they had to come to an understanding of that and how it would impact each individual homeowner. Wilmette is issuing \$68 million in bonds for the next three years to fund these projects. They are home rule, so unlike Westchester, did not have a referendum required. Their new stormwater utility fee is the funding mechanism for the bond debt so that residents will see no increase on their property tax bills.

Our neighbor, the Village of Downers Grove, also identified a lack of funding for stormwater related projects in 2006 in a comprehensive capital plan. They also studied implementation of a stormwater utility fee back in 2011 with another similar municipal financial consultant. They also focused on public education for about a year, and they implemented the new fee in 2013. They posed a referendum question in 2016 to ask residents if the fee should stay in place to continue to fund the stormwater projects. About two-thirds of the residents voted in favor of that particular referendum. The fees are still in place in Downers Grove and running smoothly and, therefore, the stormwater projects are fully funded.

From the study and looking at these different villages and the different options, the staff is recommending that we procure an engineering firm through a Request For Qualification (RFQ) process to create a comprehensive capital improvement plan. This would be inclusive of roadway, sanitary sewer, water distribution, water production, street lighting, sidewalks, and municipal building improvements. The staff is recommending a follow-up financial study to determine the best funding mechanisms for all capital improvements and staff is recommending the Village follow the examples of Wilmette and Downers Grove and hire an engineering finance consultant to study a stormwater utility fee. None of

these studies are budgeted for 2021, so a budget amendment would be required.

Trustee Rudolph said that she thinks these recommendations make sense. She thinks that this is a very important way for us to look at and address the infrastructure and capital improvements that we have been hearing a lot about and helps us with a big picture view and avoids us “kicking the can” down the road for a future Board to deal with and helps us get on a path to start getting some of these improvements underway as obviously this is no small endeavor. Any version of this that we can imagine is going to take quite some time to implement. Trustee Rudolph said that was the recommendation from the staff and the joint committee did agree with the recommendation for these studies.

Trustee Tyrrell asked Trustee Rudolph how these fees work to cover such massive projects. Trustee Rudolph asked Deputy Village Manager Biernacki if he would address this question. Deputy Village Manager Biernacki said the stormwater utility fee is a fee that is based on the amount of impervious area, the amount of area on your property, in which stormwater cannot seep into the ground anymore so the house footprint or a driveway that is concrete or a deck. An area where the water cannot go into the ground naturally anymore. The water has to go somewhere, so it runs off into our stormwater system and that fee reflects that amount of water per home. The stormwater utility fee can fund only stormwater related projects and only storm sewer related projects like new sewer or underground detention, or above ground detention, or green infrastructure, things like that. It can only fund those particular improvements. Wilmette used it as a funding mechanism to payback debt on their bonds instead of funding the project so basically, they went out for a bond for \$68 million and they are using the stormwater utility fee to pay that debt on that bond. Downers Grove, on the other hand, uses it to just fund projects on an ongoing basis because it is a continuous fee, so they are continuously collecting every year from every property, so they use that to fund their projects as time goes on. Trustee Tyrrell asked if this was added onto property tax bills. Deputy Village Manager Biernacki said no, it is a separate fee on a resident’s water bill, as a separate stormwater utility fee. Deputy Village Manager Biernacki, who lives in Downers Grove, said the annual fee is \$144 for him to pay for the impervious area on his property, which shows up on his water bill.

Trustee Tyrrell asked how that translates into a massive project like this. He asked if this was servicing a bond if that is what this money does. Deputy Manager Biernacki said it could or it could be used to continuously fund projects annually. It would take a long time for us to fund \$50 million worth of work just using the fee so I think that will come out of our financial study after we do our comprehensive capital plan on

what would be the best recommendation, should we look at a referendum coupled with stormwater utility fee, or not. Trustee Tyrrell added that it is great that staff is looking into all these different financing avenues.

Trustee Rudolph said that it is interesting, too, in both Downers Grove and in Wilmette, they also encourage residents to implement their own sort of green infrastructure on their own properties and they get a credit back if they participate so, for example, if they put in the rain gardens, or even something as significant as putting in their own kind of underground water detention basin, they have several things that would qualify for credit so it seems to be a nice way of encouraging residents to play a role in the overall stormwater management. Wilmette uses the phrase, to get their residents to understand that was, it is the green and the gray infrastructure to help manage and mitigate the storm water issues.

Trustee Chen said she attended the meeting as an observer and what she found interesting about setting up a utility fee is that it would not be just like a “cap-x” referendum, where we are going to build something, but it builds a sort of maintenance fee into perhaps these “cap-x” projects related to storm but then have this sort of ongoing maintenance fee. This is something municipalities have to think about going forward, building the infrastructure but then maintaining it over the lifetime. She said she thinks it is a really interesting mechanism. We also learned in the meeting that we could perhaps go out for funds secured by the future collection of these fees. Trustee Tyrrell asked if the engineer that we might be hiring would lay this all out for us so that a layman like himself could understand how this comes down to what it is going to cost. Deputy Manager Biernacki said for the follow-up study that we are recommending for the stormwater utility fee, both Wilmette and Downers Grove used a municipal finance consultant that also was doing engineering work as well, so it is kind of a combination consultant. They would give us the guidelines on what our rate should reflect compared to our comparable communities around us. The end goal of the study would be to look at how it would impact us as an organization to implement the study, then as a community to implement the study and what that cost would actually be per home with each tier of impervious lot sizes.

President Gallagher added, to clarify, that it is two separate studies, correct Deputy Manager Biernacki? The RFQ that represents the comprehensive infrastructure study and then the separate financing study. Deputy Manager Biernacki said it is actually almost three studies. It is an engineering study that is to outline all comprehensive capital improvements costs so, for again, roadway, sanitary and stormwater, and then a separate study that will focus on that comprehensive capital improvement plan and how to finance all of those different facets of infrastructure and then the stormwater utility study is something we are

recommending as a separate study because it is a tried and true method that many municipalities have already started to utilize. It also requires an additional level of detail for just that specific fee. It would be the comprehensive capital and finance studies would be too comprehensive to really drill down on what that utility fee would look like.

Trustee Fink said that usually he would be against any fee that we would instill as a Village just knowing that is probably going to last forever and never go down, but he thinks we have some big problems with our infrastructure here and we need some way to at least start to finance it or at least to think about these projects. That is the only reason that he would be for it.

Trustee Rudolph asked if we need to approve the recommendations for the study like we have done with other items tonight. She asked what the next step would be. President Gallagher said she was not sure because the committee voted on the recommendation. Village Manager Velkme said she would recommend that we move ahead with a consensus vote because this does have a budgetary impact also. Attorney Jurusik said he would agree with Village Manager Velkme.

President Gallagher said we are going to take a consensus vote on three separate studies: the comprehensive infrastructure/capital improvement study, the comprehensive financial study, and the stormwater utility fee study.

1. Comprehensive Infrastructure/Capital Improvement Study

This would incorporate all the infrastructure issues that we have facing us in the foreseeable future.

CONSENSUS VOTE (Comprehensive Infrastructure/Capital Improvement Study):

President Gallagher asked Acting Clerk Horvath to take a roll call vote on whether the Board wishes staff to pursue such a study.

Voting aye: Trustee Rudolph, Tyrrell, Chen, Fink, John, and Lewis.

Voting nay: None.

2. Comprehensive Financial Study

CONSENSUS VOTE (Comprehensive Financial Study):

President Gallagher asked Acting Clerk Horvath to take a roll call vote on whether the Board wishes staff to pursue a comprehensive financial study.

Voting aye: Trustee Rudolph, Tyrrell, Chen, Fink, John, and Lewis.

Voting nay: None.

3. CONSENSUS VOTE (Stormwater Utility Fee Study):

President Gallagher asked Acting Clerk Horvath to take a roll call vote on whether the Board wishes staff to pursue a stormwater utility fee study.

Voting aye: Trustee Rudolph, Tyrrell, Chen, Fink and John.

Voting nay: Trustee Lewis.

6) GENERAL GOVERNMENT – TRUSTEE TYRRELL

A) Resolution Appointing a Delegate and Alternate Delegate To The Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA)

Trustee Tyrrell presented a draft resolution to appoint delegates to IRMA. IRMA is a member-owned risk pool of at least 70 local municipalities and other governmental agencies which have banded together to insure one another from liability for workmen’s compensation claims. Pursuant to our membership in IRMA, we are required to have a delegate and an alternate to represent us on the IRMA Board of Directors. Casey Biernacki, Deputy Village Manager, and Ellen Baer, Director of Administrative Services, will be respectfully our delegate and alternate. There will be a resolution on the May 24, 2021 omnibus to affect this change.

B) Request from Department of Fire and EMS: Annual Purchase of Occupational Health Services from Health Endeavors, S.C.

Trustee Tyrrell presented a request from the Fire Department for their annual purchase of occupational health services. Our Fire Department uses Premier Occupational Health of Bolingbrook for general occupational health issues. Premier, however, is unable to provide required pre-employment and annual physicals as are required under law. For the pre-employment and annual physicals, we have used in the past, Palos Health of Orland Park. Village staff has looked into an alternative provider for the pre-employment and annual physicals from a list of four vendors and they have selected Health Endeavors of Lombard. Health Endeavors, besides being the most reasonable of the other vendors, pricewise, has some unique features. Most notably, it can provide on-site services with a “doc-in-the-box” van which can pull up to our Fire

Department and actually do the necessary pre-employment and annual physicals right on the spot inside the van. The particular tests unique to firefighters can be done right there onsite. Another feature of Health Endeavors is that if one of our paid-on-call firefighters are unable to make the time slot that this van is in our parking lot, they can find out where the Health Endeavors van is in another municipality and go there to get the testing done. Conversely, other municipalities can send their firefighters to our Health Endeavors appointment time and the testing can be done there. Trustee Tyrrell asked Chief Kelly if there was any particular testing that can be done by this van. Chief Kelly said it is a full comprehensive firefighter physical that is required by NFPA standards so they will do a comprehensive medical evaluation. They have a doctor and also a technician that are in the RV. They will do an EKG, hearing tests, spirometry, which is for respiratory fitness. Based on age, you may have to do a stress treadmill and they can do that right in the van as well so it is a full comprehensive physical and they can get it done onsite and especially for our personnel, where scheduling is sometimes difficult because of their other full-time jobs, this is very convenient for them as well. Approval will be on the May 24, 2021 omnibus vote list.

C) St. John of the Cross Parish Raffle License Request

As some of you may know, St. John of the Cross has had an annual parish fest for many years, usually at the end of June. This parish fest, besides being a social gathering, is a major source of fundraising for the parish. Last year's fest was, unfortunately, cancelled due to COVID. This year's event will also not be held. St. John's has, in an effort to replace some of their fundraising, submitted an application for a raffle license so that they can run a three-week raffle with most of the tickets being sold at the church after masses and also at the Parish Center. Under State law, we must approve a raffle license before the event can be run and St. John's would like to run this raffle during the remainder of the month of May, starting tomorrow. Consequently, the raffle license request will be an action item this evening. St. John's is also requesting a bond waiver and waiver of the fee. We did this last year. In committee, we had no objection to this request by St. John of the Cross.

D) Resolution Authorizing the Approval and Execution of the Fourth Addendum to Employment Agreement by and between the Village of Western Springs and Ingrid S. Velkme

Trustee Tyrrell presented a draft resolution and fourth addendum to the employment agreement by and between the Village and Ingrid S. Velkme. This is probably the most deserving agenda item this evening. This resolution authorizes the approval of a two-year extension for our Village Manager Ingrid Velkme. Trustee Tyrrell said the Board did discuss this matter and approved wholeheartedly in a closed meeting on Ingrid's two-year contract extension. The Board in closed session felt unanimously that this should be extended to Ms. Ingrid

Velkme. Ms. Velkme's present contract expires with President Gallagher's first term on May 24, 2021. Since our Board is exactly the same, we will all be reconstituted as the new Board and one of our first orders of business will be to extend that two-year extension to Village Manager Velkme to keep serving us as she so well has done as our Village Manager. Village Manager Velkme thanked Trustee Tyrrell. President Gallagher thanked Village Manager Velkme for agreeing to serve us for another two years. President Gallagher added that we so appreciate Village Manager Velkme's guidance and leadership and thanked her. Village Manager Velkme said it is her pleasure.

CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AGENDA ITEMS DURING THE SPECIAL MEETING

- 7) **RESOLUTION 21-2613** APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF A RAFFLE LICENSE UNDER TITLE 3 (BUSINESS REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 12 (CHARITABLE GAMES, RAFFLES, BINGO AND OTHER GAMES OF CHANCE REGULATIONS (SECTION 3-12-3 (RAFFLES) OF THE WESTERN SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, FOR APPLICANT ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH FOR RAFFLE EVENT ON SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2021 WITH A LICENSE FEE WAIVER AND BOND WAIVER (Tyrrell)

MOTION

Trustee Tyrrell moved, seconded by Lewis, to approve Resolution 21-2613 Approving The Issuance Of A Raffle License Under Title 3 (Business Regulations), Chapter 12 (Charitable Games, Raffles, Bingo And Other Games Of Chance Regulations (Section 3-12-3 (Raffles) Of The Western Springs Municipal Code Of 1997, As Amended, For Applicant St. John Of The Cross Parish For Raffle Event On Sunday, May 30, 2021 With A License Fee Waiver And Bond Waiver.

The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting aye: Trustee Tyrrell, Chen, Fink, John, Lewis, and Rudolph.

Voting nay: None.

- 8) **OTHER**

There was no additional business.

- 9) **VILLAGE PRESIDENT GALLAGHER**

On May 6, 2021, Village President Gallagher, Village Manager Velkme and Director of Community Development Scott met with the Stop 5G group and the main topic of discussion was the bills currently pending in both the House and the Senate in Springfield. On April 29, 2021, President Gallagher wrote the Executive Director of the Illinois Municipal League to voice the Village's concerns regarding the proposed legislation and requesting certain provisions contained in our amendments be included in the bills that are being negotiated. President Gallagher also asked for support of these provisions by not only the Municipal League as an organization but also by its individual communities. In a follow-up conversation with the Executive Director, he assured President Gallagher that our concerns will be addressed. He will bring them up during the negotiations. To President Gallagher's knowledge, no negotiations have taken place as of yet. Our lobbyist tells us that, most likely, negotiations will not take place until later on this month.

10) VILLAGE MANAGER VELKME

No report.

11) VILLAGE ATTORNEY JURUSIK

No report.

ADJOURN

MOTION:

Trustee Tyrrell moved, seconded by Rudolph, to adjourn this meeting.

The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting aye: Trustee Tyrrell, Rudolph, Lewis, John, Fink and Chen.

Voting nay: None

This meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Village Clerk James Horvath