

Village of Gilberts
87 Galligan Road
Gilberts, IL 60136
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2010

APPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

President Zirk called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He proceeded to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call/ Establish Quorum

President Zirk asked Clerk Meadows to call the roll. Roll call: Members present: Trustees Clark, Mierisch, Zambetti, Farrell and President Zirk. 2-absent: Trustees Erbeck and Cullotta. Others present: Administrator Keller, Chief of Police Williams, Finance Director Blocker, Intern Beith, and Village Clerk Meadows. For members of the audience please see the attached list.

Presentations

Bark Park-Alissa Leznek

Ms. Leznek provided the Board Members with a power point presentation outlining ways in which a Bark Park would be established and maintained. In addition, Ms. Leznek discussed the estimated cost associated with establishing the park and potential funding options. At the conclusion of her presentation Ms. Leznek asked if the Board Members had any questions.

Trustee Clark inquired about the height of the fencing. Ms. Leznek believed the fencing would need to be at least eight feet tall.

The Board complemented Ms. Leznek on her presentation.

Trustee Zambetti recalled a past experience when residents recommended the Board allow them to design and construct a Frisbee Golf Park. The Village agreed and purchased the required equipment. However, the volunteers never completed the project and the Frisbee golf equipment is still sitting on the shelf.

Trustee Farrell questioned if the location options would service the Village as a whole. Ms. Leznek and some members from the audience replied yes.

A discussion followed with respect to a location option located on Raymond Drive. In Ms. Leznek's opinion the Raymond Drive location option is too secluded and poses safety concerns.

President Zirk stated that globally the Bark Park is a great idea. He recommended Ms. Leznek be pro-active and anticipate opposition. President Zirk suggested Ms. Leznek seek support from organizations that have an interest in the park space or use the space such as the Home Owners Association, YMCA, and the Renegades.

The Board recommended Ms. Leznek form a committee comprised of dedicated volunteers. Ms. Leznek reported that she currently does have a group of dedicated volunteers. However, they were not in attendance.

The Board questioned if the park would be sustainable. Ms. Leznek believed the park would be a sustainable and valuable asset to the Village and its residents. In addition, she believes the park would increase property values.

There was a discussion with respect to who would be responsible for maintaining the park. Ms. Leznek suggested that Public Works maintain the park. Trustee Zambetti reported that Public Works has limited staff and has a difficult time maintaining the current parks and ball fields. Trustee Mierisch suggested Ms. Leznek research how many man hours it would take to maintain the park. Trustee Farrell elaborated and recommended Ms. Leznek included in her research the annual cost of replacing the consumable commodities.

Trustee Clark asked if Ms. Leznek was recommending the Bark Park include lights. She responded no.

Trustee Mierisch recommended the Board provide Ms. Leznek with a timeline noting the additional research information they have requested and the dates she should report back to the Board.

The Board Members concurred that the proposed location in Gilberts Town Center (by the soccer and football fields) would be the area with the least negative impact on the community.

President Zirk summarized the discussion by recommending Ms. Leznek develop a business plan which includes the following:

- Provide the Board with the set-up cost including the fencing (discussion scheduled for 11/9/2010).
- Provide the Board with the operational cost associated with the day to day maintenance (discussion scheduled for 11/9/2010).
- Estimate the manpower hours needed to maintain the park (discussion scheduled for 11/9/2010).
- Form a committee (discussion scheduled for 11/9/2010).
- Provide the Board with information on what organization will be responsible for maintaining and managing the park (discussion scheduled for 11/9/2010).
- Provide the Board with evidence of community buy-in including support from the HOA, YMCA and the Renegades (discussion tentatively scheduled for sometime in December).
- Provide the Board with information on donation commitments (discussion tentatively scheduled for sometime in January).

Timber Trails Villas-contract for Police Services

Administrator Keller reported that the Timber Trails Villas HOA is requesting a contract with the Village for Police services to enforce traffic and parking ordinances on their private roads.

Mr. Albert Dzermejko, representative for the Villas stated that they are hoping to draft an agreement with the Village which will give the Police Department the authority to enforce parking restrictions. They have experienced problems with residents parking too close to fire hydrants and other street parking violations. Chief Williams reported that many municipalities have agreements with private organizations to enforce parking restrictions. He did not foresee any problems with the execution of such an agreement.

Trustee Mierisch asked if there was a cost associated with the enforcement. Chief Williams responded that the cost would be minimal.

Trustee Mierisch wondered if other HOAs would be requesting the same type of enforcement. It was noted that all of the other subdivision's streets are public.

Trustee Clark asked if the Village would need to erect signage. Attorney Tappendorf reported that any signage cost would be the responsibility of the HOA.

Attorney Tappendorf will draft an Ordinance authorizing the Police Department to enforce the parking restrictions for Board consideration. This matter will be placed on the next consent agenda.

Items for Consideration

Minutes from the October 5, 2010 Village Board Meeting.

President Zirk asked if there were any comments on the minutes. There were no comments. This matter will be placed on the next consent agenda.

September 2010 Treasurer's Report

President Zirk asked if there were any comments on the Treasurer's report. There were no comments on the report. This matter will be placed on the next consent agenda.

Items for Discussion

Police Program Options

Chief Williams provided the Board Members with a handout listing several community policing initiatives for consideration during the FY-2012 budget discussion. Chief Williams did want to focus this evening on the Enhanced D.U.I Enforcement Program.

Chief Williams provided the Board Members with an overview of the Enhanced D.U.I. Program and the benefits associated with the implementation.

President Zirk stated that he liked the direction in which the Chief was taking the department.

A discussion ensued with respect to towing fees. This matter will be included in the upcoming budget discussions.

Staff Reports

Administrator Keller reported that Elgin Recycling has submitted a request to amend their Special Use Permit. The Plan Commission is scheduled to conduct the public hearing on November 10, 2010.

Finance Director Blocker reported that there are 155 unpaid water bills.

Village Clerk Meadows reported that the 2nd Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, December 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees Reports

Trustee Mierisch reported that on October 21st she will be participating in a Table Top exercise along with C.E.R.T., F.P.D. and Sherman Hospital representatives.

President's report

President Zirk commented on Attorney Tappendorf's recommendation for the release of the executive session minutes. He noted that they have a difference in philosophy with respect to what minutes should be released to the public. In his opinion some of the minutes Attorney Tappendorf recommends remain confidential should be released to the public.

They will discuss the minutes in question and revise the recommendation if warranted. This matter will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.

Administrator Keller reported that the upcoming Village Board Meeting Agenda contains only routine items (minutes, bills and salaries). He recommended as a cost saving measure the Board consider carrying the few items over to the next regularly scheduled meeting in November. The Board agreed.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Trustee Clark and seconded by Trustee Zambetti to adjourn from the public meeting at 8:39 p.m. Roll call: Vote: 4-ayes by unanimous voice vote. Adjournment time: 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Meadows