

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018, IN THE MAPLE ROOM OF HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sheldon called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Sheldon and Members Bohm and Towne

Absent: None

Chairman Sheldon declared a quorum present.

Also, Present: Village Administrator, Bob Irvin; Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson; Always Faithful Owner, Ed Casas

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL MEETING

Meeting minutes of April 11, 2018 were reviewed. It was moved by Member Bohm and seconded by Member Towne that the meeting minutes be approved and placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. DISCUSS ROUTE 60 ISLAND PLANTING

Chairman Sheldon said she would like the Route 60 island planting plans to be sent to IDOT to be reviewed and approved. Chairman Sheldon said the goal is to complete the island for the fall. Village Administrator Irvin said the full plan needs to be approved by IDOT before any permits are issued. Village Administrator Irvin said this project will need to be completed under the prevailing wages standards. Village Administrator Irvin stated the procedures for this project would be to submit the plan to IDOT, go out to bid and the approved contractors be issued a permit. Member Towne said once IDOT approves the plan we could consider the budget required to complete this project.

Village Engineer Scott Anderson said the island will need require some additional soil before any planting. We need to hear if IDOT will require traffic control during the project.

Member Towne said the Committee should send the plan to IDOT to receive the required approval on the project.

E. DISCUSS SIGNAGE FOR TRAILS AND HORSE CROSSINGS

Chairman Sheldon said Mr. Casas is attending this meeting to discuss his horse crossing signs. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said the two yellow horse crossing signs have been placed as requested by the Always Faithful owner.

Trustee Pink said she meet with Village Attorney Ferolo regarding the placement of horse crossing signs in the Village. Trustee Pink said placing a horse crossing sign mid-block on a

public road creates a high liability for the Village. Trustee Pink said if the Village stripped the road mid-block, the Village enters into a higher risk of responsibility for the horses crossing at this location. Always Faithful Owner, Ed Casas said under the state law, a driver cannot be sued by a horse rider. Mr. Casas said the normal standard of care is a designated access point to cross with horse crossing signs. Mr. Casas said when he purchased his property; he was told he had access to the road entrance in Rolling Meadows subdivision. Mr. Casas said marking a horse crossing location with only a sign is not adequate notification to warn a driver of a possible horse crossing, stripping the road is a greater notification.

Chairman Sheldon said the Village reviewed the horse activity when the trails were being built and signs were being posted on the trails. The Village needs to address horse crossings throughout the Village to protect our residents.

Member Towne said almost every property starting at Always Faithful down Old School Road to St. Marys Road are horse owners.

Resident, Pam Fantus (14253 W. Riteway Road) said a Village trail is available for horse crossing today on Bradley Road. Mrs. Fantus added to build a second trail on the easement of Rolling Meadows would be redundant and costly for the Village to maintain. Dr. Fantus said the location where Always Faithful horse crossing signs are being considered is a dangerous location due to the motor vehicles speeding down Bradley Road. Mrs. Fantus said Bradley Road should be double stripped to reduce the drivers from speeding and prevent passing.

Mr. Casas said a practical access to a horse crossing is essential. Yield signs for horse crossings, and road stripping will notify drivers to stop for the riders.

Chairman Sheldon said when a driver sees the railroad crossing stripped road, this heightens the drivers' awareness for a train. Placing horse crossing stripping on the road would create a safer road for the residents and the horse riders, which should be the Village's goal.

Member Bohm asked Mr. Casas if he would be content with a yield sign for horse crossing and the road stripping. Mr. Casas said yes.

F. DISCUSS HAY PROPOSAL FROM BOB HARADEN FOR 701 RIVERWOODS ROAD

Chairman Sheldon said the hay proposal from Bob Haraden was received by the Committee. Member Towne said Mr. Haraden would like to mow the hay shortly after June 1st. Member Towne said Mr. Haraden is not able to sell his hay if he bales it later in the summer.

It was moved by Member Towne, seconded by Chairman Sheldon to recommend approving the hay proposal from Bob Haraden for 701 Riverwoods Road. Member Bohm said he would prefer to change the mowing date to July 15th. Member Bohm said there are birds nesting in the area. Mowing early will impact the wildlife. Dr. Fantus said the Village is suppose to be an environmental friendly town.

Member Towne said farmers have been cutting for years in the earlier part of June. Village Administrator Irvin said Bob Haraden has been hired for the last few years due to the fact he has been a consistent farmer to bale our hay.

Upon a call of the roll, the following voted:
Aye: Chairman Sheldon and Member Towne
Nay: Member Bohm
Absent: None

The motion was carried.

G. DISCUSS PETITION FOR VACATION OF EQUESTRIAN EASEMENT IN THE ROLLING MEADOWS SUBDIVISION

Member Towne said this location has been investigated and discussed at Around the Town meetings.

Resident, Maria Rojas (14175 W. Old School Road) said she objects to any new trails being built around her home. Mrs. Rojas said she has spent enough on her property and the proposed trail would impact her greatly.

Village Administrator Irvin said since there are access points available around the current trails a new trail would not be necessary. Member Towne said the title report has not been investigated, the subdivision states that no lots will access Old School Road or Bradley Road. Member Towne said this statement leads to a possibility of the subdivision having a substandard road or a recapture agreement in the Village. This substandard will need to be investigated.

Chairman Sheldon said she would like to table this discussion until the Village's documentation and plat of survey has been reviewed.

Trustee Pink asked the Committee if Mrs. Rojas would need to change her driveway location. Member Towne said no, we are not asking anyone to change anything.

Mrs. Rojas said she would like all the property owners to be notified when further discussion will be held.

A motion was made by Member Towne, seconded by Member Bohm to table this agenda item to further investigate engineering, title reports and access to the individual lots and we will continue to notify the property owners. The motion carried.

Member Bohm said no discussion was held when the trails were being vacated on the south side of Route 60. Village Administrator Irvin said the Village had the documentation to vacate that trail.

H. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Member Towne and seconded by Member Bohm to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk