

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 5:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013, IN THE MAPLE BOARDROOM OF THE HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Towne called the meeting to order, at approximately 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll, the following persons were:

Present: Member Armstrong (at 6:00pm), Member Lane and Chairman Towne

Absent: None

Also present: Mayor Urlacher, Scott Anderson, Village Engineer; Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Village Clerk. Chairman Towne declared a quorum present.

C. Approval of minutes from April 10, 2013 and May 08, 2013.

Chairman Towne moved to accept the minutes of April 10, 2013 and May 08, 2013 as presented and Member Lane seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

D. REVIEW OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR METTAWA 2025 UPDATE

Chairman Towne opened the discussion by stating that the zoning map needed updating, citing the addition of Costco, which was once zoned single family, and presence of LCFP instead of the zoned parcel as office research building and Oasis Park, which as a parcel once belonged to a group of individuals. Anderson noted that any changes to the zoning map should be reflected in the document throughout, as it will reference back to the old zoning status.

Member Lane did not see the point in noting the changes, but would go along with Chairman Towne's direction. Mayor Urlacher was also in agreement.

Chairman Towne felt strongly about the presence of a park map and documentation of designated parks, noting that this would ward off infringement of the outlying villages and prevent them from annexing Mettawa thru their own acquisition of land for a park district purpose. He further noted that Zimmerman, former village lawyer also recommended this.

Chairman Towne presented a letter he received from the LCFP, which he would like included in the Board agenda of the June 18, 2013 village meeting. It is encouraging the village to create a reforestation plan or a Plant a Tree Program. Chairman Towne suggested the idea of giving each resident a tree to be planted in lieu of the cash rebate. He felt strongly that the committee has a responsibility to the municipality to keep up with the attrition of trees due to age or disease and this practice is in sync with the Village mission. Chairman Towne stated that he wanted this idea to be part of the comprehensive village plan. Member Lane agreed with this suggestion.

It was moved by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Lane to recommend to the Village Board that they set up a village workshop session after first draft of COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR METTAWA 2025 is created. The motion was carried.

E. OASIS PARK BERM UPDATE

Chairman Towne reported that he met with three contractors who had submitted sealed bids for dumping excavation spoils at Oasis Park to create a berm, which were opened up at 5:00pm preceding the committee meeting. The three bids submitted were: Ehlers & Juhrend, for \$207K plus and additional \$31K for road repair; Mitch's Green Thumb for \$75K for 2013 to expand to \$125K if necessary in 2014; and Keno & Son for \$70K in 2013, to expand to \$130K if necessary in 2014.

Mayor Urlacher inquired about seeding the berm and associated costs. Chairman Towne replied that the berm seeding and landscaping is included in the payment to the Village.

It was moved by Member Lane and seconded by Chairman Towne to recommend to the Village Board that they accept the bid from Ehlers & Juhrend to pay the Village of Mettawa \$207K (and an additional \$31K set aside for road maintenance and repair) to accept the spoils of excavation and dumping at Oasis Park and resulting berm creation. The extra \$31K will be kept by the Village should it not be needed for repairs. The motion was carried.

Scott Anderson volunteered that he would advise Ehlers & Juhrend of the recommendation.

F. SUBMISSION OF WHIPPOORWILL FARM PLAN FROM DREW JOHNSON, OF MOLA; PAM SELF AND TESKA & ASSOCIATES

Chairman Towne reported that in discussion with Drew Johnson of MOLA, Johnson has rescinded his offer to create and furnish a landscape architecture plan. Chairman Towne only wanted a simple master plan that would seamlessly join the Whippoorwill Park and Whippoorwill Farm and protect the wetlands. He sought bids from Teska & Associates, and Pam Self, who was recommended by Teska & Associates.

Member Lane questioned the need for a park master plan to which Chairman Towne outlined the reasons for such a formal park creation. Chairman Towne wanted documented parks to prevent the annexation of Mettawa land by the adjacent villages seeking to expand their park district. If no plan is in place, this would leave Mettawa vulnerable to such a risk. Member Lane stated that he would be agreeable to such a plan if village attorney James Ferolo agreed that Mettawa would need it for protection against infringement. Chairman Towne further stated that the former village attorney John Zimmerman was also focused on creating such a plan and park map as well. Chairman Towne was also concerned about Oasis Park, which backed up to the Illinois State Tollway Oasis & truck stop, which would look very attractive to the state, should they need more space for the truck stop. Chairman Towne stated that the establishment of a park would prevent the State of Illinois from condemning and appropriating the property and expanding the truck stop. Mayor Urlacher also noted that the \$4500 to create the park plan was coming out of the fees that Ehlers &

Juhrend were paying the village of Mettawa, so this would not cost the village anything to protect the property.

It was moved by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Lane to recommend to the Village Board that they accept the bid from Teska & Associates for \$4500 to create a master landscaping plan uniting Whippoorwill Farm and Whippoorwill Park. The motion was carried.

G. MOLA COMMUNICATION

Chairman Towne reported that MOLA received many donations with their fundraising attempts, however, they cancelled the last two meetings with him. Larry Falbe is the MOLA contact and Chairman Towne noted that they were instrumental in getting the seeding done on the berm for Whippoorwill Park. Keith Gray (of ILM) also a resident was very helpful, since the seeds were hand broadcasted, not sprayed.

H. DISCUSSION OF A TRAIL WALK RE: MAINTENANCE

Chairman Towne reported that the trails washed out in a couple of spots. The bales that were places to prevent erosion caused ponding. He thought that Forest Builders could give him a bid to repair the trouble spots on the trail. Member Armstrong noted that Meadowwoods West to the railroad tracks looked very well. Chairman Towne suggested that before the next committee meeting, all the trails should be walked and the task divided up between Member Armstrong, Mayor Urlacher, Member Lane and himself. It was also noted that Novak needed to restore the trails located close to him, since they are created ruts with the development going on. Member Armstrong noted that near Scots Crest there is a culvert issue. The silt dam installed created a washout on the trail. Anderson recommended 1” – 2” of limestone to remedy the situation.

I. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE BOARD

Nothing to report.

J. ADJOURNMENT

With no further items discussed, it was moved by Member Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 6:09pm, seconded by Member Lane. The motion was carried.

Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Clerk

This document is subject to correction as noted on next meeting's minutes.