

**MINUTES**  
**Public Works & Boundaries Meeting**  
**November 21, 2016 – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers at**  
**Tinley Park Village Hall**  
**16250 S. Oak Park Ave.**  
**Tinley Park, IL 60477**

Members Present:                   B. Younker, Chairman  
                                          J. Vandenberg, Village Trustee

Members Absent:                   B. Maher, Village Trustee

Other Board Members Present: None

Staff Present:                    D. Niemeyer, Village Manager  
                                          S. Tilton Assistant Village Manager  
                                          B. Bettenhausen, Village Treasurer  
                                          K. Workowski, Public Works Director  
                                          J. Urbanski, Fleet & Facilities Superintendent  
                                          C. King, Village Engineer  
                                          B. Bennett, Commission Secretary

**Item #1** - The meeting of the Public Works Committee Meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

**Item #2 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND BOUNDARIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2016** - Motion was made by Trustee Younker, seconded by Trustee Vandenberg to approve the minutes of the Public Works and Boundaries Committee Meeting held on November 1, 2016. Vote by voice. Chairman Younker declared the motion carried.

**Item #3 – DISCUSS COOK COUNTY UNINCORPORATED GRANT** – Village Manager, Dave Niemeyer stated a few years ago the Village received a proposal from Cook County to encourage the Village incorporation of unincorporated parcels in exchange from the County providing grant funds to make necessary infrastructure improvements (primarily water and sewer) in the areas annexed. For the last couple years the Village has focused on Kimberly Heights, as the other areas would have higher infrastructure costs of providing water, sewer and storm water collection systems.

Water and sewer costs in this area are estimated at \$3.25 million. The Village proposed using a one time grant of \$2.5 million from the County to offset costs associated with annexing the properties. The Village would contribute the remaining \$750,000 through a combination of Village capital funds and property owner contributions, including special assessment financing.

The Village held a 2 hour informational meeting with residents on this, as well as the effect the annexation would have on their taxes. The overwhelming response from residents was “no” to the annexation. The county has told us that they would need at or near 100% of the residents to agree to annex for the grant funding to be released.

The Village could alternatively submit a proposal to the County to utilize the grant funding toward some of the other unincorporated areas (Highland Avenue, Sayre Avenue, Standalone parcels). However, the

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needed infrastructure costs for these areas would be higher, and there would potentially be more code enforcement issues than had existed in the Kimberly Heights, proposal.

Trustee Vandenberg noted the Village should scrap the Kimberly Heights annexation. Village Engineer, Chris King noted that some of the other areas are in flood plains and that would be an additional challenge and the cost associated with that would be substantial. Trustee Vandenberg asked staff to consider the Sayre Avenue area for annexation due the potential Commercial development across the street at the Mental Health Center.

Trustee Younker stated that staff should look into charging the residents in the unincorporated areas for Police, Fire and Ambulance.

**Item #4 – DISCUSS SIDEWALK GAP PROGRAM** – Village Engineer, Chris King stated there are a number of gaps in the Village. The Priority sections for next year were established.

1. **Oak Park Ave – 171<sup>st</sup> Street to 169<sup>th</sup> Street.** The section being studied is Oak Park Avenue from 171<sup>st</sup> Street north to 169<sup>th</sup> Street. This section involves the business community on the west side and a residential frontage road on the east side.

**Status** – Topography is not required and a base map has been prepared.

2. **175<sup>th</sup> Street – Ridgeland Avenue to the TP High School.** The south side of the street is missing sidewalk and the existing sidewalk on the north side is not utilized by all students.

**Status** – Topography has been completed. Base geometry completed.

3. **Harlem Avenue – 170<sup>th</sup> Place to 167<sup>th</sup> Street.** Midlothian Creek Bridge has limited access on both sides. Right of way jogs in and out on east side. Trustee Younker requested adding the area up to 163<sup>rd</sup>.

**Status** – Topography is scheduled for the week of November 21. Topography is necessary to address drainage, determine crossing of Midlothian Creek and determine the scope of work IDOT would require so and an appropriate budget recommendation can be provided.

4. **80<sup>th</sup> Avenue – 183<sup>rd</sup> Street to 179<sup>th</sup> Street.** The Northern Tributary to the Union Drainage Ditch must be crossed on both sides. A high pressure pipeline exists and need to be located on the west side. Wetlands exist to the north of the PW Garage on the east side. Metra crossing required on east side if we want another crossing on that side. Way finding signs for the pedestrian network may be more appropriate on the east side.

**Status** – Topography is scheduled for the week of November 21. Topography is necessary to address drainage, utilities, determine crossing of Northern Tributary to the Union Drainage Ditch, wetlands, and determine the scope of work Cook County would require so and an appropriate budget recommendation can be provided.

Trustee Vandenberg noted that the most important thing is the safety to the residents. There have been a few accidents in the area to pedestrians. The budget needs to be worked on so these areas can be completed.

Trustee Younker asked if a bike path would be appropriate in some areas. Village Engineer stated it would have to be called a Recreational Path as there is less liability.

**Item #5 – DISCUSS 84<sup>th</sup> AVENUE/191<sup>ST</sup> STREET GRANT** – Village Engineer, Chris King stated the project was not selected for ITEP funding this year. All of the projects went to downstate communities. For the area north of 171st Street, the project is on the multi-year transportation list at SSMMA. The Village could seek to move the project into the 2017 or 2018 program if funding were to become available. If funding is not available, we might consider pushing another of our projects out of the program and back to the multi-year list (such as 191<sup>st</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and accelerate 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Village Manager, Dave Niemeyer stated we should consider SSMMA funding before we consider

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swapping the projects.

**Item #6 – DISCUSS HIRING OF STAFF ENGINEER** – Trustee Younker has asked staff to look at the pros and cons of hiring a Staff Engineer,

Village Manager, Dave Niemeyer stated that most communities the size of Tinley Park have one or more staff engineers. He gave some examples of pay ranges from other communities. The reason for doing this is cost savings and improved service that can result from having someone available in the Village on a regular basis. This does not mean the Village would no longer use consulting engineers, but their use would be reduced.

He noted if the Committee is interested in moving forward with this he recommends that the following happen before this goes to the Village Board for approval:

- A financial analysis of the costs of adding one or more staff engineers, including the cost of clerical and other administrative costs, versus the contractual engineering savings.
- A recommended job description and pay range
- A recommendation on where this position(s) would be placed in the organization chart and where offices would physically be located.
- A timetable for hiring and a recommendation on whether to do this internally or with a consultant.

Village Manager stated he would sit down with staff and come back to the Committee before Christmas with more information.

**Item #7 – RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** –

Resident #1

- I would like clarification on the dollar amount and issues to the residents of Kimberly Heights in order to get the water.
- The sidewalk gap is very dangerous on Oak Park Avenue in the area of Together We Cope.
- Would the Village be able to use the TIF to finance the sidewalk gaps on 175th?
- Kids from the High School will not cross the street to use sidewalks.

Resident #2

- Does the County think they can force annexation?
- Could there be an Ordinance to force responsibility to the residents of the unincorporated areas to pay for the cost of the Fire Department and Police Department?

Trustee Vandenberg thanked staff and other Trustees for accommodating his schedule and having this meeting at 3:00 prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

He also mentioned the outdoor furniture at the train station on Oak Park Avenue. It is in very poor condition and needs to be taken in. Staff needs to look into updating this furniture. The newspaper holders are also in very poor condition.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Trustee Vandenberg, seconded by Trustee Younker to adjourn this meeting of the Public Works Committee. Vote by voice call. Chairman Younker declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

bb

cc: *Village Board*  
*Village Manager*  
*Assistant Village Managers*  
*Village Treasurer*  
*Deputy Village Clerk*