

MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF ELBURN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW)  
MAY 3, 2021  
AT ELBURN VILLAGE HALL

Board Members Present: President Jeff Walter, Trustees: Ken Anderson, Sue Filek, Bill Grabarek, Chris Mondt, Patricia Schuberg, Matt Wilson

Board Members Absent:

Staff Members Present: Finance Director Doug Elder, Village Attorney Bill Thomas, Police Chief Nick Sikora; Building Commissioner Tom Brennan; Public Works Supt Phil VanBogaert; Village Engineer Julie Morrison

Others Present: Resident LeRoy Herra; Kane County Chronicle reporter

1. Call to Order – Mayor Walter called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM.
2. Roll Call – A roll call ensued.
3. Public Comment – None
4. Discussion:
  - a. Welch Creek Path and Sidewalks – Public Works Supt VanBogaert visited the existing path and it will take considerable work on developer Drew Frasz’s part to get it back into good condition. VanBogaert will meet with Frasz tomorrow. VanBogaert listed some other items that will need work when the paths/sidewalks are installed. The preliminary cost is \$165,900.

Trustee Filek took some walks in the area in question and now wonders if it would truly be a purposeful path for workers (from within the development) and area residents. Filek also noticed it is a remote/isolated location and is concerned it could become a “hang out” for juveniles—she has a different perspective now. Trustee Schuberg said she has the same feeling—she felt isolated when walking the path and saw a lot of potential in the path if the Welch Creek side and detention area was cleaned up. Schuberg likes the idea for “rougher” trails in the area but her perspective has changed as well for the estimated cost. It is not known what leverage the Village has to force Frasz to clean up the area. Mayor Walter discussed the proposal with Frasz who is agreeable to clean up the area if the Village moves forward—not sure he will be agreeable if the Village changes plans. Trustee Anderson pointed out the area is an emergency spillway, is all crushed rock and will erode when it is exceeded. Anderson believes it was intended as a local path for industrial park users. It was suggested the Parks Commission consider this area when prioritizing paths. There was consensus this is not the best use of the funds and there was agreement to shelve the project for now. Cambridge residents do not have the luxury of paths—for the most part, they walk in the street. It was suggested the Village ask Frasz to consider installing an ag path in front of his lots along South Street until the lots are developed and permanent sidewalks installed. The area is crowded with pedestrians, especially on weekends. A path along South Street would provide pedestrian safety. VanBogaert and Mayor Walter will discuss with Frasz.

VanBogaert said EEI needs a decision for the bidding process. Trustees agreed there is no point for a walking path on Thryselius either. For the Cambridge area, there is much more foot traffic going toward Route 47 (train, Reams, Alice’s, etc.) than in the industrial park. If given a choice, Trustees Schuberg and Filek prefer a walkway on South Street which will get much more usage and get pedestrians and bicycles off the street.

The industrial park is currently a dormant SSA. There are questions we should address with Frasz regarding the detention wall, etc. Mayor Walter will have Village Admin Nevenhoven look through agreements to see who will be responsible for pond and long range maintenance as well as when the annexation agreement expires.

There was agreement from the Board to postpone the path in the industrial park. VanBogaert will speak with Frasz and let him know the Village is not moving forward with the path in the industrial park and will ask if he would consider a temp path along South Street in front of his development.

At this time, all sidewalks and paths are off even on the south side of South Street but, perhaps if Frasz agrees to the temp path, we can do something to loop across South Street. It was suggested that since it is already engineered, include in the bid package as an option. The Board was in consensus of this—for just the sidewalk piece.

5. Other Business – Mayor Walter announced the 24 County Board districts will be reconfigured. Elburn is a higher population area and should not be impacted.
6. Adjourn – Trustee Mondy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Filek and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diane McQuilkin  
Village Clerk