

MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF ELBURN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW)  
AUGUST 7, 2023  
AT ELBURN VILLAGE HALL

Members Present: President Jeff Walter, Trustees: Ken Anderson, Bill Grabarek, Chris Hansen, Luis Santoyo, Patricia Schuberg, Matt Wilson

Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Village Administrator John Nevenhoven, Asst Village Administrator & HR Chris Ranney, Finance Director Doug Elder, Village Attorney Bill Thomas, Public Works Supt Phil VanBogaert, Deputy Chief Erich Schlachta

Others Present: Residents: LeRoy Herra and Thomas Gush, Jeff Freeman (EEI), and Susan O'Neill (Kane County Chronicle)

1. Call to Order – Mayor Walter called the meeting to order at 8:33 PM.
2. Roll Call – A roll call ensued.
3. Public Comment – Resident LeRoy Herra asked the Board a question about the LED lights that are to be installed on the buildings downtown. He wanted to know what happens if the LED lights get covered in snow. Mayor Walter said he didn't believe they would get covered due to their location on the building, but they would discuss it with the installer.
4. Discussion:
  - a. Water Works Master Plan –  
Supt VanBogaert led the discussion. The Village has sent out RFQs. After receiving the information back, there are 2 companies to compare: Fehr Graham (partnering with HRGreen) and EEI. Fehr Graham did score the highest; however, EEI has been more involved with the water in the Village. Discussion ensued on how to review the rankings and choose a company. Qualifications, content, and price are all considered. Trustee Anderson clarified the process. After having sent out an RFQ, you go with the first company, then the second. You do not play them off each other. If the Village doesn't want the first company's proposal, then that company is out. Attorney Thomas stated that the result of the RFQs ranks the engineering firms and then that carries over to discuss the bid proposals based on the ranking. VanBogaert and other Village staff are going to discuss the proposals/pricing and bring a recommendation to the Board for the engineering company to do the Master Plan. Mayor Walter acknowledged that Elburn does need a Water Master Plan and wants to ensure that everything the Village needs is included.
  - b. Crown Development Near I-88 & Rt 47 –  
Mayor Walter gave an update on the Crown Development and said there is a lot of discussion on social media. He has had conversations with the Mayor of Sugar Grove as well as residents. Crown currently has a proposal available for the public to view; however, nothing has formally been presented to the Village of Sugar Grove. Crown does own the land, and they are going to build something, but what is going to be built has not been determined.  
  
Mayor Walter has presented Elburn's concerns to both Crown and the Village of Sugar Grove. The first concern is regarding the additional truck traffic. Elburn's second concern is water. The Village of Elburn is on a deep aquifer. How will this company impact our aquifer? There is also a concern for residents that live down there and their shallow wells. Trustee Anderson brought up another concern about a potential TIF. In conversations that Mayor Walter has had with the Village of Sugar Grove, they are wanting a TIF.

The Board is still in the process of working out a border agreement with Sugar Grove. Some discussions have also been had regarding a western bypass. There will be a town hall informational meeting at the Lions Club regarding the Crown development. Mayor Walter will notify the Board when he has the date.

5. Other Business – Trustee Hansen discussed the topic of texting while driving in the Village. Illinois is a hands-free state, and it is illegal to text and drive. Elburn PD reports show a low number of those violations being enforced. The question was if it is possible to establish a Village ordinance prohibiting this behavior. DC Schlachta said that typically the Attorney General is not in favor of those types of ordinances because they deal with moving violations. Attorney Thomas said he would research this further and report back. Some members of the Board would like to establish a Village ordinance that calls for an enhanced fine for texting while driving if they can.
6. Adjourn – Trustee Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Grabarek and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Johnston  
Deputy Village Clerk