

Village Board Report – October 2011

Welcome to the Village Board Report which is placed on our website monthly to keep you informed of actions taken by the Village Board on ordinances and other significant matters.

Heritage Commerce Center

At the October 4, 2011 Village Board meeting, the Board discussed infrastructure maintenance concerns related to a retention pond and road surface deterioration in Heritage Commerce Center. The developer was in attendance and indicated that the recommended remedies for both the pond and the road surface would be addressed this calendar year. The Village Board agreed that so long as the work was completed in accordance with the Village engineer's specifications, the Village Board would release the maintenance letters of credit. Prior to release of the letters of credit the work must be inspected and approved by the Village engineer, and any outstanding development related invoices would have to be paid.

Ordinances

Property Acquisition - The Village Board approved Ordinance 11-12-12, authorizing the acquisition of property commonly known as 3809 St. Johns Avenue. The Village pursued this property acquisition for right of way purposes. With this acquisition, the Village will have all of the right of ways necessary to pursue grants which will help fund future improvements to Church Street between Blitsch Street and St. Johns Avenue. Future improvements will include sidewalks, roadway enhancements and parking.

Promissory Note - Ordinance 11-12-13 was approved by the Board which authorizes a promissory note in the amount of \$122,000 for the acquisition of the above referenced property (3809 St. Johns Avenue). The terms will be a 5 year note at a rate of 3.5% interest paid in two annual payments.

Adult Entertainment – The Village Board performed a first review of Ordinance 11-12-14 which amends the Village's Zoning Code regulating adult entertainment uses within the Village. The proposed amendment further defines and restricts the uses to industrial zoning districts. The matter will be included on the November 1st agenda for final consideration.

Pedestrian/Bicycle Path

The Board discussed a proposal to construct an eight (8) foot wide pedestrian/bicycle path on property that previously housed ACM (at the corner of Chapel Hill Road and Johnsburg Road). The path would run between the intersection and Long Meadow Road in Dutch Creek Woodlands subdivision. The path would primarily be constructed through the generous donation of an easement by the property owner and donations by local residents of manpower and material. The Village will provide manpower assistance and base material at a cost not to exceed \$1,200. Plans for the path include the installation of poles at each entrance to prevent motorized vehicles from accessing the path. The path will also provide the Village access to sewer manholes for maintenance and cleaning.

Village Newsletter

The Board discussed the possibility of mailing newsletters to all stakeholders as was done in the past. In an effort to reduce costs, the Village began delivering its newsletter via email in 2010. Feedback indicates that the change to an email delivery system has negatively impacted the Village's efforts to communicate with the community. Mailing and publication options are being reviewed and information will be provided regarding the cost impact at a future meeting. Persons who prefer to receive their newsletter via email would still be able to do so should the Village revert back to mailing its newsletter.

Federal Grant Efforts

The Village received a status report from its federal lobbyists regarding future opportunities to secure federal funding for wastewater collection system expansion and the possibility of roadway and other infrastructure grants.

Paradise Cove

Rick Swanson of RM Swanson Architects was in attendance to review a concept plan for the development of the Paradise Cove property. Mr. Swanson proposed a mixed use development to include independent living, assisted living and memory care facilities; age restricted townhomes; and complimentary business uses which could include a restaurant, pharmacy and coffee shop. The development would require the extension of sewer to the property, the development of a water system, and the construction of a pedestrian bridge across the river. Mr. Swanson proposed to pursue the development in a public/private partnership fashion. The Village Board provided support of the concept and directed Mr. Swanson to begin the development process which will require the project to be reviewed by several committees such as Finance, Public Works, and Development and Governmental Affairs. The process will also require a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission.

For more information about this report and the above referenced matters, please contact Village Administrator, Claudett Peters, at 815-385-6023 or cpeters@johnsburg.org.