



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES May 21, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Wallace called the Committee of the Whole meeting of May 21, 2024 of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bartlett to order on the above date at 7:27 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chairmen Deyne, Gandsey, Gunsteen, Hopkins, LaPorte, Suwanski, President Wallace

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Village Administrator Paula Schumacher, Assistant Village Administrator Scott Skrycki, Sr. Management Analyst Samuel Hughes, Human Resources Director Janelle Terrance, Finance Director Todd Dowden, Director of Public Works Dan Dinges, Assistant Public Works Director Tyler Isham, Village Engineer Nick Talarico, Planning & Development Director Kristy Stone, Assistant Golf Pro Paul Galvan, Police Chief Geoff Pretkelis, Deputy Chief Rob Sweeney, Deputy Chief Will Naydenoff, Village Attorney Kurt Asprooth and Village Clerk Lorna Giles.

3. TOWN HALL: None

4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. BUILDING AND ZONING, CHAIRMAN GUNSTEEN

1. Town Center Concept discussion

Chairman Gunsteen introduced the item.

Public Works Director Dan Dinges stated, We have been working on a Metra grant to do some landscape enhancements south of the tracks by the depot museum. In the capital program, we also have the sidewalk on the south side of Railroad Ave. from More Brewing, east to Main St. We also had town center. We have had issues with the fountain, and the pavers need some work over there as well, so we ended up working with the landscape architect who did work on the Metra grant to come up with a concept plan for town center. In the concept, there is no longer a fountain; it is more of a stream. There would be a running stream with walkways throughout. We are also looking at on the north side, a stone wall with a message board sign there, perhaps a digital sign.

Chairman Gandsey clarified the location.

Mr. Dinges stated, A local artist is looking to donate some art that we want to either incorporate in the town center area or Metra area. A lot of this is specialty type items, and we have talked to other communities that have done other projects similar in their downtowns. One of the things we are finding is they are going towards more of a design-build where you hire an architect or landscape designer and contractor early on to work on the water features, etc., because you don't necessarily want the low bidder



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES May 21, 2024

bidding doing those items. He wants to get feedback from the board to see if they are comfortable with that type of process. There would be a consultant/landscape architect, and then we would bring on a contractor. We have had some initial discussions with a contractor to see if it was feasible, Martam Construction, who has done the downtown Algonquin project. We have been in contact with Algonquin to see how they went about their remodel. It made sense to include the Metra project, town center, and the south side of the railroad in the same project to get economies of scale, and it enhances that whole area at the same time.

Chairman LaPorte thought it was important for that area to match. He asked if the AT&T area could be included.

Mr. Dinges stated they are difficult to work with, but that might be something they would be willing to do in the future.

Chairman LaPorte stated he would like to make sure the signage does not take away from the beauty of the park.

Chairman Gunsteen asked how tall the rock structure will be.

Mr. Dinges stated it would be like a seat wall.

Chairman Gunsteen would like us to remove the wood platforms.

Mr. Dinges stated we have already shared that comment with the designer. We want low-maintenance materials.

Chairman Gunsteen asked about the fountain.

Mr. Dinges stated typically you would hire a maintenance contractor that does algae control, and you use chlorine to treat it.

President Wallace asked about the old fountain and making sure nothing cracks over the winter.

Mr. Dinges stated it would be winterized. The experts know how to build it properly, and then we would have a maintenance agreement to dewater it and winterize it.

Chairman Gandsey asked what type of lighting we are looking at.

Mr. Dinges stated right now we have decorative lighting in there. We are looking at landscape lighting in the trees. We would also have outlets to make sure we can continue to decorate during the holidays.

Chairman Gandsey asked if they gave any ideas for the future development site, and what they would do next.



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES May 21, 2024

Mr. Dinges stated that area is not ours. It has the potential to be developed, but we have not heard anything.

President Wallace stated he trusts us using a contract to work with the architect because those sorts of things need to be done really well and last a long time, so he would leave it up to the director to make sure that it is done well.

Chairman Gunsteen stated he agrees with Trustee LaPorte that the sign should not be oversized or too bright. Maybe there is a different type of sign we could use.

Mr. Dinges stated we can get some concepts of what that would look like. It is a work in progress, and that is the good thing about this design-build process because you make decisions for that area with the contractor at the table to tell you if it's feasible.

Ms. Schumacher added we are trying to get away from the large barricade with the vinyl signs for each event.

Chairman LaPorte suggested maybe putting a sign on the southwest corner in the AT&T park. He thought the artwork should go somewhere else, not in this specific park.

Mr. Dinges stated there are some spots in the Metra area that would work as well.

Chairman Deyne asked if we would have to move the existing Rotary clock.

Mr. Dinges stated, "No, we would work to incorporate it more."

President Wallace stated speaking of clocks, Algonquin has a giant clock near their river area that looks really nice.

Chairman Gunsteen asked if we can make the right out only in the town center a left and right out. He doesn't think there is enough traffic to warrant it as a one way.

Mr. Dinges stated staff can look at that.

Chairman Hopkins stated getting across Railroad Ave. in that area is difficult at times with that small turn lane island and the light times. Is there a way to incorporate a crosswalk further east or make the current one safer?

Mr. Dinges stated we can look into that. He added the next step would be bringing the contract for the design-build.

The item was moved on to the village board.



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES May 21, 2024

B. POLICE AND HEALTH COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN SUWANSKI

1. Amend Municipal Code Regarding Sidewalk Parking Regulations

Chairman Suwanski introduced the item.

Commander Rybaski stated staff is proposing an amendment to the village code to include restrictions on sidewalk parking in residential areas. Sidewalks are vital to the daily travel of residents; however, when vehicles are parked on sidewalks, they obstruct these pathways and force pedestrians into the streets. We understand parking can be a challenge in most residential areas, especially when most residents own multiple cars and have limited space on driveways. Bartlett also has parking restrictions preventing vehicles from parking on the roadway overnight without permission. It was brought to our attention that residents wanted to keep the streets clear overnight but to do so, many residents need to park their vehicles on the driveway overnight. We researched our neighboring towns' ordinances and learned that they have implemented time restrictions on when a vehicle can block a sidewalk in a residential area. These time frames kept the sidewalks clear when most people can be expected to use them. It also allowed vehicles to park across the sidewalk during overnight hours. By amending this ordinance, we are providing a solution that is a win/win for the residents and police, which will help us maintain a safe, workable, and inclusive community.

Chairman Hopkins asked to have it tweaked from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Commander Rybaski added that we picked that time because most kids start their walks by 8:00 a.m. They start school at 8:00 a.m. at some schools, and others start at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Gunsteen asked if we get a lot of complaints about this.

Commander Rybaski stated we usually get about 5 complaints on GoGov and another handful through dispatch yearly.

Chairman Gunsteen stated a lot of homeowners park sideways on their parkway for fear of getting a ticket. If they can park overnight on the sidewalk, that would probably be eliminated.

Chairman LaPorte asked if anyone has been injured or hurt because of a car blocking a sidewalk and how it came about to look into it.

Commander Rybaski stated he believes we have had an ordinance since the 1970s and it's also a state statute as well. As far as data, we want to avoid kids having to go in the roadway as much as possible.

Ms. Schumacher stated anecdotally, from being the IRMA representative for many years, we have not had any claims experience related to people walking off the sidewalk, but we have had a number of calls about it impacting their neighborhood, so that was the genesis of looking into it.

Chairman Gandsey asked if this is something we actively look for or wait until someone calls.



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES May 21, 2024

Commander Rybaski stated it is a combination. We try to get compliance first, so many times we will send a CSO to the house to try to get in touch with the resident and ask them to move the vehicles. We will start with warning tickets first, and if they do not comply, we will issue parking tickets.

Chairman Suwanski confirmed that we are loosening the restrictions since we can't currently park on the road overnight.

Commander Rybaski stated yes, they would be able to park there for the overnight hours because most families are not using the sidewalks at night and traffic is reduced overnight as well.

Chairman Gunsteen stated this helps because when someone can't park on the road because of snow, for example, at least they can park on their driveway overnight.

Chairman LaPorte stated a lot of people are working from home nowadays, and he personally has more cars in the driveway than they have ever had. He thinks the nighttime ordinance is a good idea. He doesn't agree with the daytime ordinance, but if it's a state statute, there is nothing he can do about it.

Chairman Gunsteen confirmed that the police department is not just going to be driving around giving tickets out for this; it's more complaint-based.

Commander Rybaski confirmed that was true.

This item was forwarded to the village board for a vote.

C. PUBLIC WORKS AND GOLF COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN DEYNE

1. Waste Hauler Contract

Chairman Deyne introduced the item.

Assistant Village Administrator Scott Skrycki stated the proposed contract would be a five-year deal with Groot. The original deal was part of an RFP process in 2017 and was extended again for two years in 2022. The contract would call for residents to have a frozen rate in the first year and seniors to have a frozen rate for two years. It would also call to memorialize a lot of the sanitization services Groot has provided to our civic grounds via goodwill. The contract would also include all the amenities residents get at that time.

Chairman Hopkins stated, I am not a huge fan of no-bid contracts. Even if it is negotiated and comparable to what other communities pay, I am still not a fan. If this is what we are going to do, they need to make it better than it was before. He suggested the residents' rates freeze for two years, not just the senior rate. He thinks if you call another waste hauler and ask them to match it, they will match it. He understands they have been good and there haven't been many complaints, but it is still a no-bid contract.

Chairman Gunsteen asked if this bid was originally for five years.



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES May 21, 2024

Mr. Skrycki stated it originally occurred in 2017 and was for five years.

Chairman Gunsteen stated the escalation looks very similar to the original contract. His concern is that if we go out for RFP, we might lose the amenities that Groot offers us. He has been in other towns like Elgin or Schaumburg where all you can put out is the can.

Mr. Skrycki stated if we went out for RFP, that would be up to the will of the board; those amenities could be included. The reason for this recommendation is based on the market and neighboring towns. Quite frankly, their service level is excellent and is better than anything in the 16 years he has been here.

President Wallace stated he totally agrees and has no problem with Groot right now and has no interest in bidding it out.

Chairman LaPorte stated he thinks it looks good; the 3.5% increase is the cost of inflation.

President Wallace stated we really pressed them about 5 years ago when they started. They were really bad and then got really good, and he doesn't want to break that wheel with a new company because you get so many complaints when you change.

Chairman Hopkins stated he doesn't like to do it either but wants to make sure we get the best deal for the residents.

President Wallace confirmed the extension terms.

Mr. Skrycki stated the proposed agreement's length is 5 years.

Chairman LaPorte stated they did an analysis of the other cities we got in our email and we are pretty in line with what other cities are doing. He didn't see anything that was night and day.

Chairman Deyne stated their employees are familiar with the town and know what to expect. If we change it up, we are opening Pandora's box.

Chairman Gandsey stated she knows in the beginning the online service was bad, but then that changed. Do we know how many complaints we have?

Mr. Skrycki stated we had 6 complaints in our online portal and those were all rectified swiftly.

Chairman Suwanski stated she is noticing the other fees in the comparison with other communities and we are not charged other fees for white goods, e-recycling, etc.

Mr. Skrycki stated many of those communities have 2, 3, 4, or 5-day pickups too; we are only 1 day.



**VILLAGE OF BARTLETT
COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 21, 2024**

B. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Deyne moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting and that motion was seconded by Chairman Hopkins

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ADJOURN

AYES: Chairmen Deyne, Gandsey, Gunsteen, Hopkins, LaPorte, Suwanski

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:06 p.m.

Samuel Hughes

Deputy Village Clerk