

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING
OF THE GURNEE VILLAGE BOARD**

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
JUNE 26, 2017**

Call to Order	Mayor Kovarik called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Other Officials in Attendance	Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; David Ziegler, Assistant Village Administrator/Community Development Director; Brian Gosnell, Finance Director; Tom Rigwood, Director of Public Works; Kevin Woodside, Police Chief; Saundra Campbell, Deputy Police Chief; John Kavanagh, Deputy Fire Chief; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director, Jack Linehan, Assistant to the Administrator
Roll Call	PRESENT: 6-Thorstenson, Jacobs, Ross, Garner, Balmes, Hood ABSENT: 0-None
Discussion of Preparation for Village's 100 Year Anniversary	<p>1. The Mayor stated that while the Village's 100 year anniversary is still 10.5 years off, it's prudent to start the information gathering and planning process now. She introduced historian Odie Pahl who would begin the process so that the Village would be ready and have a great start in ten years. Ms. Pahl stated that she would like to work with the Village to put together a historical booklet for the 100 year anniversary. Trustee Balmes echoed Ms. Paul's excitement for the anniversary and suggested several individuals Ms. Paul could contact including Nancy Long, James Hayner, Sam Dada, Barbara Richardson and Trustee Cheryl Ross. The Mayor concluded that tonight's discussion is an excellent start to the process of the historical information and the 100 year anniversary.</p>
Update from Village Eng. Scott Drabacki Roadway, Stormwater and Code Enforcement Programs	<p>2. Village Engineer Drabicki presented and elaborated on the following:</p> <p>Capital Constructions Projects Underway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Magnolia Avenue Reconstruction• Emerald at Old Grand• Patching & Resurfacing Project• UPRR Grandville Quiet Zone• JAWA Almond Road• IDOT Projects (this is contingent upon the State of Illinois budget) <p>Capital Construction Projects Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gurnee Tributary Bank/ Sidewalk• Park City – Prov. Oaks Detention• Welton Plaza Pavers & Sign• 2016 Water Main (Greenleaf, IL 21, Fuller Road, under Des Plaines) <p>Capital Design Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowles Road Pedestrian Connection• Knowles Road Water Tower• Old Grand Tower Demolition• Highland Avenue Sewer & Water• East Grand Enhancements• Bittersweet Wetland Enhancement <p>Code Enforcement – June, 2016 to Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2446 Total cases opened – half for address numbers• 2250 Cases in compliance• 196 Cases in violation <p>Typical Procedure – Gurnee Municipal Code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Notice(s) of Violation (NOV) – Written compliance date▪ Ordinance Violation (OV) – Fine or Warning ticket▪ Notice to Appear (NTA) – Adjudication Hearing to reconcile▪ Branch Court – Last Resort

Violation Types Include

- Property Maintenance
- Vehicles/Parking
- Weeds/Tall Grass/Yard Waste
- Landscaping/Trees
- Debris/Junk/Garbage
- No Permit
- Other/Misc.

**Update from
Economic
Development
Director Ellen Dean
East Grand Avenue**

3. Economic Development Director Ellen Dean presented and elaborated on the following:

Public and Private East Grand Investments

- The U-Haul property, vacant for 19 years, is now open for business as of Friday, June 23rd. They are renting trucks, selling moving boxes and moving supplies for now. Once they secure owner approval, their plan is to renovate the building for climate-controlled interior self-storage facility.
- East Grand's corridor revitalization is also in the works. The new owner of 3545-3575 Grand is on board with the revitalization has retained an architect to draft a conceptual plan for modernizing the current façade.
- A new Corridor Committee met in June with a focus of events, promotions, experiences that will attract people and potential shoppers to the corridor.

East Grand Landscaping

The Village budgeted \$100,000 capital for East Grand Avenue improvements in 2017/18. Economic Development Director Ellen Dean informed the Board that this year's focus is on improving the streetscape with landscaping to make a visual impact. She explained that staff approached eight property owners around the intersection of Belle Plaine who have agreed to work with the Village regarding a demonstration area.

Ms. Dean asked for Village Board input regarding the cost for the landscaping and specifically the option to purchase plants from a local business, Gurnee Garden Center. Estimated expenditures for the landscaping demonstration area this year are \$72,000 for labor and materials to install and \$14,000 for maintenance, for a total of \$86,000. She explained that if plants are purchased through Gurnee Garden Center it could add as much as \$5-6,000 to the overall cost of the project, including 5-10% replacement of non-warrantied plants, but would have the benefit of supporting a local business within the project area. The Board expressed its support for shopping locally.

After much discussion regarding pricing, signage, plantings, property owner responsibility, maintenance, it was decided to move forward with the entire project which would be a win-win for the Village and the property owners.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Kovarik adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

**Donna R. Dallas
Deputy Village Clerk**