

VILLAGE OF LIBERTYVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Committee of the Whole
February 23, 2021

Meeting conducted virtually due to Governor's Executive Orders #2020-10, 18, and 32

President Wepler called to order a virtual Committee of the Whole at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: President Terry Wepler, Trustees Donna Johnson, Richard Moras, Jay Justice, Scott Adams, Peter Garrity, and Patrick Carey. All Village departments were represented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021 Committee of the Whole. Trustee Moras seconded, and the motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Trustees Johnson, Moras, Justice, Adams, Garrity, and Carey

NAYS: NONE

STORMWATER UTILITY RATE STUDY – Phase II Presentation

Finance Director Nicholas Mostardo opened the meeting with background on Phase II of the Stormwater Utility Rate Study. The study included the following:

1. Creation of the billing database – completed December 2020
2. Public Education – Website launched December 2020; Town Hall Meetings held January 28, 2021 and February 11, 2021
3. Preparation of the Stormwater Utility ordinance

The following are items to complete after the adoption of an ordinance:

1. Adoption of administrative rules governing the processing of appeals and credits
2. Processing appeals and credit applications that have been pre-filed in advance of the ordinance adoption
3. Importing the parcel/utility account fee data into the Village's utility billing software
4. Continuing to communicate with the community in advance of the fee start date of September 1, 2021

Director Mostardo introduced Eric Callocchia, Executive Consultant from NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC. Mr. Callocchia explained that NewGen's Phase I report was submitted on July 15, 2021. He presented Village Parcel Data, including classification, number of parcels per classification, total area, and both pervious and impervious area. He explained that the updated Phase II database has been aligned with the Village's Utility Billing database. There were changes in parcel information due to several factors, including removal of 0.0 ERU parcels while the Village-wide ERU remains 3,800 square feet. He noted that parcel information will continue to be made in conjunction with the appeals process.

Mr. Callocchia next presented updated financial projections, noting that the fee effective date would be September 1, 2021. He also explained the Stormwater Fee Lookup Tool, which will be available on the Village website.

The Mayor asked for questions or comments from the Village Board and the public. Mr. Joe Russo, 312 Carriage Hill Circle, addressed the Board. Mr. Russo explained that he was the Director of Ponds and Maintenance for the Carriage Hill Homeowners' Association. He stated that the HOA was asking for relief for costs associated with the neighborhood's pond maintenance. He added that their situation is unique. He noted that other Village ponds are maintained by the Village, and the Carriage Hill ponds drain directly into the Des Plaines River and not the Village's stormwater system.

Director of Public Works Paul Kendzior stated that Carriage Hill is not unique and that water from the ponds does go into the Des Plaines River through the Village stormwater system. He added that other neighborhoods pay the Village for pond maintenance through SSAs. The Village does maintain three ponds.

The Mayor stated that the Carriage Hill HOA should go through the appeal process rather than ask for a policy change. Mr. Russo stated that commercial businesses and Walnut Street drain into their ponds. Both Mr. and Mrs. Russo noted that it costs \$20,000 to have the ponds dredged, and the HOA pays for the maintenance. Trustee Garrity stated that appeals could come before the Village Board, and the Village Board will act on each appeal on its merits.

The Mayor stated that there were only two types of appeals, and perhaps there could be an additional type process. He asked if the Board would be amenable to another means to appeal. Trustee Johnson stated that although she appreciated the issue, she was not comfortable with changing the ordinance immediately. She favored discussing any change with Staff and Village legal counsel. The Mayor and Trustees Moras and Adams concurred.

Trustee Johnson moved to have appropriate Staff and Village legal counsel to review the ordinance and explore options for another tier of appeal. Trustee Carey seconded. The Mayor asked for further discussion. The Russos thanked the Board for listening. The motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Trustees Johnson, Moras, Justice, Adams, Garrity, and Carey
NAYS: None

Trustee Garrity moved the approval of the final version of the ordinance, subject to any changes and modifications, to March 23, 2021. Trustee Adams seconded. The motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Trustees Johnson, Moras, Justice, Adams, Garrity, and Carey
NAYS: None

Trustee Johnson stated appreciation for the level of detail provided by Village Staff.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Johnson moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole at 7:51 p.m. Trustee Carey seconded, and the motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Trustees Johnson, Moras, Justice, Adams, Garrity, and Carey

NAYS: None

Respectfully submitted,

by: *Sally A. Kowal*, Depot Clerk

Sally A. Kowal
Village Clerk