

CITY OF LONG GROVE  
Committee of the Whole  
Minutes  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Limberg at 6:30p.m.

Present: Limberg, Blinkinsop, Cook, Drumm, Herrin, Oechsner

Also present, McCubbin, Boddicker, and Petersen and goal setting host Denise Bulat from Bi-state Regional Commission.

Motion to approve agenda was made by Blinkinsop, seconded by Drumm, all ayes, motion carries.

Bulat presented the Council with a compilation of the survey results she received from the City Council and Employees. Bulat suggested that the surveys completed by the members of council and staff were mostly in line with the overall results received from the citizens, with the exception that the Council and Staff had more of an interest to accommodate commercial industry. Bulat congratulated the City on positive citizen survey results suggesting that, for the most part, the citizens were satisfied.

Bulat presented a list of items that scored high as topics of interest or concern on the citizen survey results and asked the council for other items that were not addressed by the survey. The goals were listed as Water Treatment Improvement, identifying Updating Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Plan, Sidewalks/Trails, New or improved playgrounds. Oechsner suggested that the Council focus on the items identified by the citizens in the survey and not get overwhelmed with too many additional goals. The council generally agreed. Drumm brought attention to the completion of the Lagoon project from prior years and the possibility of making City Hall ADA compliant. The City Clerk suggested the development of a storm water fund.

Blinkinsop felt the survey question on sidewalks or trails should have been separated. She stated that the citizens would support the idea of trails and not necessarily sidewalks. Blinkinsop asked for additional information regarding trails from Bulat including the availability of grants or funding for trail projects. Bulat explained that trail connection projects ranked high for grants and provided information on various funding sources.

There was discussion from the council about sidewalks and the best possible approach to addressing concerns raised by the citizens. The City Clerk suggested that instead of focusing only on sidewalks or trails, the Council discuss the option of developing complete streets plan that would encompass not just sidewalks, but streets, curb and gutter, and sidewalks. It was suggested by Oechsner that some citizens were not opposed to sidewalks but didn't like the idea of spending money on putting in sidewalks on streets that were not paved, in anticipation of having to redo the sidewalks in the event of street upgrades. Blinkinsop also brought up logistical complications of sidewalks due to the proximity of housing to street. There was agreement among the council to developing a complete streets plan that would jointly address street

upgrades, curb, gutters, and sidewalks or trails. Bulat stated that this type of project could also be included in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan and suggested the City Clerk contact Gene from Bi-State to obtain more information.

The topic of water treatment was discussed. Drumm and Herrin mentioned concern over the potential cost of establishing a treatment plant while still paying off the wastewater debt. Drumm stated it might be financially irresponsible. Cook mentioned that the results from the citizen survey suggested that citizens would be willing to incur additional costs. Joel clarified that the City's biggest water quality issue was elevated Iron content. Joel provided background history on previous research into establishing a water treatment system. Bulat suggested that there might be alternative funding and the council could develop a plan to pay down the sewer debt more quickly. Bulat clarified that while this goal setting session was aimed more specifically at a 1 year time line, there could still be movement forward on items like this through the development of plans. Oechsner and the City Clerk suggested that the topic of water treatment should still be investigated because it was identified by the citizens as a concern. Blinkinsop agreed, stating that the results of this session should be available for citizen review online so that citizens will be able to see what action the Council is taking from the survey results.

Playgrounds and Parks were discussed briefly. The City Clerk mentioned that in order to apply for grants, areas of improvement or development should be identified prior to grant application. Oechsner suggested the difficulty of planning or preparing for these projects without knowing what funding is available. The City Clerk clarified that the specifics were not required, but areas and general plans would be helpful. It was suggested that the Community Service Committee hold meetings to develop ideas and identify possible projects. Bulat mentioned that this also could be a part of developing and renewing our Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Drumm stated that he would like to see the Council finish editing and updating the Comprehensive and CIP. Bulat suggested the City Clerk meet with Gene from Bi-State to discuss updating the Comprehensive Plan and the CIP. Additionally, Drumm and Cook requested information about the status of the Lagoon project. The council requested Joel obtain additional information about how to move forward. Drumm, chair of the Water and Sewer Committee, and Joel discussed meeting to revisit the topic.

With no additional comments for goals, the council moved the discussion to cyber and data insurance coverage. Limberg stated that it is necessary to first identify risk, stating the biggest risk is always the employees and that as long as employees are diligent in scanning emails for viruses and careful with downloads the risk should be minimal. The City Clerk clarified that due to "clerknet" and other mass emailing this can be difficult. The City Clerk also stated that currently the computers hold no Social Security information only addresses and account information. Cook mentioned that the options of additional coverage would not even begin to cover the cost that would incur from someone gaining access to banking information. The council was in agreement that the current insurance premium would be sufficient for Long Grove's purposes and the recommended that no increase be made at this time.

Submitted by

Rosina Boddicker  
Long Grove City Clerk