

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GERALD C. TURRY VILLAGE BOARD ROOM
JULY 18, 2023**

Call to Order

President Patel called the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 P.M., Tuesday, July 18, 2023, in the Gerald C. Turry Village Board Room of the Municipal Complex at 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue, Village of Lincolnwood, County of Cook, and State of Illinois.

Upon roll call by Village Clerk Herman, the following were:

PRESENT: President Patel, Trustees Klatzco, Diaz-Herrera, Sargon (remote), Saleem, Halevi, Martel

ABSENT: None

A quorum was present.

Also present: Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura, Temporary Assistant to the Village Manager Lamar Jones, Community Development Director Scott Magnum, Planning and Economic Development Manager Doug Hammel, Assistant to the Public Works Director Brendon Mendoza, Management Analyst Elijah Beborra.

Approval of Minutes

The June 20, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting minutes were presented for approval.

Trustee Saleem moved to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting minutes. Trustee Halevi seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call, the results were:

AYES: Trustees Klatzco, Diaz-Herrera, Sargon, Saleem, Halevi, Martel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion passed

Regular Business

1. Legislative Update

Village Lobbyist Lou Lang provided a legislative update to the Village Board. He stated that many communities didn't do well because the State budget was a little out of control. He noted that there are a lot of pressures, such as more money for education and healthcare. This put pressure on the ability of the state to give more money for projects for municipalities. The Village received a \$250,000 open-ended grant to spend as the Village wishes for its needs. He stated that he has a plan in place for the fall with a potential State supplemental

budget, and he will work with the State Legislators on a new priority list so they know what the Village needs. Mr. Lang stated that he would meet with the Speaker of the House next month to outline what the Village needs. Much of what the Village requests is in the form of grant requests through various state agencies. He said he would follow up with the state agencies to get that funding. There is a lot of competition among communities for state dollars. Mr. Lang said he would do his best to get the Village its highest priority items and the lower dollar grants.

President Patel thanked Mr. Lang for his efforts in representing the Village and said his efforts had been fruitful.

Trustee Halevi thanked Lou Lang for his hard work and for coming through for the Village.

2. Discussion Concerning Strategic Plan Quarterly Update

Management Analyst Elijah Beborá provided a Strategic Plan Update to the Village Board. Mr. Beborá stated that in the second quarter of 2023, five action plans for five goals were completed. Action plans in progress for goal one, define and promote a service-first culture, including training sessions for Village employees, highlighting customer service in the Village's Status and Information newsletter, and conducting quarterly cross-department training sessions.

For Goal Three, developing a financial forecast, discussions have been initiated with a third party to prepare a financial forecast for the Village.

Goal Five, identifying strategies to host more community-building and cultural events to celebrate the Village's diversity, is in progress. Parks and Recreation Department staff met twice with the Multi-Cultural Task Force in the second quarter to find performers for Lincolnwood Fest, and added a Hanukkah program to the winter programming.

Action Item 8.6 for Goal Eight was completed where Staff contacted several residential and mixed-use developers, including those with mall experience when JLL was soliciting offers for the property in quarter four of 2022. During Q2 of 2023, a prospective purchaser was in negotiations with the owner prior to going under contract.

Action 11.3 is in progress where upon completion of Street Storage Three, a Stormwater Master Plan Update will be created, which will evaluate the system as a whole. The update is expected to be included in the 2024 Budget.

Action Item 14.7 was completed where The Master Plan Consultant presented the analysis of the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan at the May 2023 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting. The presentation included findings from stakeholder and public meetings and the results of the community and statistically valid surveys. Lastly, the Park and Recreation Board and Village staff provided feedback to the consultant.

Action Items 16.1, 16.2, and 16.3 are in progress and will be worked on after the approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with CMAP.

Action Item 17.4 is complete, where Hitchcock Design Group hosted two community meetings in May 2023. The meetings focused on determining possible dog park locations, amenities and to gather public input.

Goal 24.4 was completed where The Village held a discussion at the June 6, 2023, Meeting regarding a key funding mechanism of the 10-Year Infrastructure Plan with the adjustment of the funding mechanism to have residents have a direct relationship with the refuse provider. The Village will continue to have this discussion for the August 2023 Meeting to discuss the impact on the 10-Year Infrastructure program if the elects to modify the funding structure going forward to not incorporate the refuse and recycling franchise.

For HR Green, Action C was completed, where The Builder's Breakfast is tentatively scheduled for July 20, 2023. The event will focus on introducing contractors to the new LAMA online permitting system and assist with software account creation.

Trustee Diaz Herrera asked how many people are scheduled to show up for the builder's breakfast or if it is an open house type of event.

Community Development Director Magnum stated that contractors that are registered with the Village were mailed event invites.

3. Discussion Concerning the Draft Sustainability Plan

Assistant to the Public Works Director Brendon Mendoza stated that the Environmental Ad-Hoc Committee was created in January 2021. The Committee was formalized as the Environmental Commission in August 2021 to provide guidance and recommend policies to the Village Board. The Environmental Commission was tasked with the development of the Village's first Sustainability Plan and provide policy recommendations for the Village Board's consideration.

Mr. Mendoza said that Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) developed the Greenest Region. Compact (GRC) in 2007 and created a framework tool in 2016. In 2016, the Village passed a resolution in support of the GRC. The Environmental Commission and Staff worked to create a draft Sustainability Plan using the GRC's framework tool to develop objectives and goals. The framework tool contains ten sections: Climate, Economic Development, Energy, Land, Leadership, Mobility, Municipal Operations, Sustainable Communities, Waste and Recycling, and Water. For the climate objective, the objectives are reducing greenhouse gases, maintaining clean and healthful air, developing resiliency to climate change impacts, and engaging the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation. For economic development, the objectives are promoting innovation and a competitive workforce and cultivating local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses. For energy, the objectives are to efficiently use energy for buildings and facilities, advance renewable

energy, reduce energy consumption, enact policies that support green energy, and engage the community in clean energy practices. For land, Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles, conserves, restores, and enhances natural features and ecosystems, sustain a robust urban forest canopy, sustains beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services, and cultivates a conservation ethic in the community. For leadership, the objectives are to enlist support for GRC2 goals through regional, state, and national leadership, advocate for policies that align with and advance the GRC2, and work collaboratively towards a sustainable region. For mobility, the objectives are Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network, support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely, integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations, and promote public and sustainable transportation choices. For municipal operations, the objectives are led by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, integrating sustainability into all municipal operations, operating a safe, clean, and efficient fleet, and collecting and managing data to advance sustainability. For sustainable communities, the objectives are to increase access to sustainably grown local food, promote a sustainable identity for the community, ensure local policies and codes support sustainability, and cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability. For waste and recycling, the objectives are Support sustainable material management, recycle materials across all sectors, divert waste from landfills, enact policies that cause sustainable material management, and engage the community in waste reduction and recycling. For water, the objectives are to use and distribute water efficiently, protect and improve water quality, manage water system assets sustainably, optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater, enact policies to protect water resources, practice stewardship of water resources, and engage the community in water stewardship.

Mr. Mendoza stated that staff requests that the Village Board provides direction on proceeding with the draft Sustainability Plan. Based upon feedback from the Village Board, Staff will bring the Sustainability Plan for approval at an upcoming Village Board Meeting.

President Patel thanked staff and the Environmental Commission for their work. He asked what the Village could look to implement in the near future.

Trustee Martel asked that the section objectives are substantial and the goals are achievable, especially over three years. He asked if there is something that keeps track of the goals and village assets and sources.

Mr. Mendoza stated that we budgeted for a Sustainability Consultant to get some benchmarks and data points for greenhouse gas emissions and tangible targets. She stated that the plan has goals that are achievable and can be easily completed. We would look to the consultant to set those benchmarks.

Environmental Commission Chairperson Najia Ahmed thanked Village staff, the Village Board, and Environmental Commission members for their work with the Sustainability Plan.

They stated that there are goals that are that achievable. Power aggregation and increasing tree canopies would make a difference to Lincolnwood.

Trustee Halevi asked how much the Sustainability Consultant was going to cost.

Mr. Mendoza stated that a Request for Qualifications would be put out to identify a consultant. There is about \$25,000 budgeted for Stub Year 2023.

Trustee Sargon thanked staff and Environmental Commission for their work on the draft sustainability Plan. The next clear path is to hire a consultant. There are grants through the State of Illinois and Cook County to hire a consultant. The Village is ahead by putting together the draft Sustainability Plan. She stated that the Village should continue to pursue opportunities to apply for grants.

The Village Board reached a consensus to bring the draft Sustainability Plan for their consideration and adoption at the August 15 Village Board meeting.

4. Multi-Cultural Task Force Update

Management Analyst Elijah Beborra stated that on June 20, 2023, Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Village Board requested members of the Multi-Cultural Task Force discuss amongst its membership whether they would like to be recognized as a Village Commission under the oversight of the Village Board or continue as an independent body. The Village Board directed staff to attend a Task Force meeting to get clarification of the Task Force's mission and functions. Staff attended the Multi-Cultural Task Force meeting on June 28, 2023. The Task Force stated that their mission is *"to create conversations to gain a better understanding and acceptance of all who live within the diverse Lincolnwood community."* The Task Force's function is *"planning and hosting events showcasing the diversity of the residents of Lincolnwood."* The Task Force informed staff that they would like the creation of an Ordinance creating a Multi-Cultural Commission and providing its members with the autonomy to perform its functions separate from the oversight of the Village Board. Staff recommends that the Village Board provide direction on the next steps regarding the Multi-Cultural Task Force.

President Patel asked the Village Board if there is any interest in having a singular Board of Commission that is adopted or formalized by the Board but without oversight.

Trustee Diaz Herrera asked if there is an outline of what the Task Force would need to be approved.

Clerk Herman stated that she informed the Task Force members to watch this meeting so that there could be a discussion at their next meeting.

President Patel stated that there is difficulty in funding a body that is not under the oversight of the Village Board.

Trustee Diaz Herrera asked if the Task Force understands being a recognized Commission and having Board oversight versus being separate and having the freedom to work how they would like.

Trustee Martel asked if there was a reason why nobody from the Task Force was in attendance.

Village Manager Gaura stated that staff wanted to bring the item back for the Board to discuss.

Trustee Halevi stated that we are back to where we were last month. The Task Force would like to be a Commission but would like autonomy. She stated that both sides have to give a little on this. She stated she would like the Board to think about how the Task Force can be more of a Commission that would meet more of the standards.

Trustee Sargon stated that she understands Trustee Halevi's remarks about compromising, but that was not an option, and she cautions the Board as they move forward.

Trustee Martel stated that he doesn't think that the Task Force is asking for absolute autonomy. He noted that we should find areas of compromise.

Trustee Halevi stated that Clerk Herman should inform the Task Force that the Village Board wouldn't control everything that the Task Force wants to do. Oversight means that it would be a more regulated situation.

Trustee Klatzco stated that he had attended many of the Task Force's events, and he doesn't want to see the Task Force go away because they have done more than the previous Commission that the Village had that was supposed to have similar functions. Furthermore, he stated that he doesn't see the Board refusing any speaker that the Task Force would want for one of their events. He said that there can be a happy medium with members of the Task Force.

The consensus of the Village Board is for staff to attend a future Task Force meeting to speak with the Task Force to find a middle ground and invite them back to a future Committee of the Whole.

Executive Session

At 7:00 pm, Trustee Klatzco made a motion to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing employment matters and review of closed session meeting minutes. Trustee Saleem seconded the motion.

Reconvened

The Board reconvened to open session at 7:23 P.M.

Adjournment

Trustee Sargon moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole at 7:23 P.M., seconded by Trustee Saleem.

The meeting was adjourned by roll call vote.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Beryl Herman

Beryl Herman
Village Clerk