Call to Order

President Bass called the Committee of the Whole Stormwater Workshop meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 P.M., Tuesday, November 28, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Village of Lincolnwood, County of Cook and State of Illinois.

Roll Call

On roll call by Deputy Village Clerk Ashley Engelmann the following were:

PRESENT: President Bass, Trustees Ikezoe-Halevi, Cope, Patel, Sugarman, Hlepas Nickell, Spino

ABSENT: None

A quorum was present. Also present: Timothy Wiberg, Village Manager, Ashley Engelmann, Assistant Village Manager; Jim Amelio, Village Engineer; Thomas Burke, Christopher B. Burke Engineering; Jeff Julkowski, Christopher B. Burke Engineering; Robert Merkel, Finance Director; Andrew Letson, Public Works Director; Nadim Badran, Assistant to the Public Works Director; Chuck Meyer, Assistant to the Village Manager; Heather McFarland, Management Analyst; and Ben Harris, Accountant

Regular Business

Stormwater Workshop

Mr. Wiberg opened the meeting with introductions. He noted that the purpose of the meeting is to seek Village Board feedback on the next steps of the stormwater master plan. He asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the material that was distributed.

Trustee Patel asked for clarification regarding pg. 15 of the PowerPoint. He asked to confirm that for alternative 1 the cost of berms that is included is a Village-wide cost. Mr. Amelio confirmed that the cost estimate is Village-wide. He further asked why the price went from the original amount of $5.6 million to almost $7 million. Mr. Amelio and Mr. Letson explained the cost breakdown and variance are attributed to the length of time that has passed since the original estimate was completed as well as the cost of materials.
Trustee Patel asked if the Board wants to consider adjusting the target from a 10 year level of protection since the Board has many new members. Mayor Bass noted that the goal is still a 10 year level and that the purpose of tonight is to provide a summary of the process and give direction.

Mr. Wiberg made a presentation via PowerPoint. Mr. Wiberg provided an overview of the history of the development of the stormwater master plan. He noted that the Village currently has a 2-3 year level of protection. The Board’s goal was to bring the Village up to a 10 year level of protection in 10 years. The stormwater master plan identified 10 projects which were ranked based on cost/benefit. It was noted that it is not feasible to separate the Village’s sewer system completely as the cost would be approximately $100 million.

Mr. Wiberg presented the recommended project priority list that was developed by AB&H. He noted that the priority list provides cost estimates that are in 2012 dollars, the numbers are also planning numbers. AB&H recommended street storage as the number one priority because it has the biggest impact on the Village. It was noted that there are many other projects that exist beyond project 1 and 2 on the engineer’s recommended project priority list that have not yet been discussed.

Trustee Cope mentioned that a problem that came up during street storage discussions was that stormwater flows down to lower areas and could cause overland flooding problems. He noted that the blocks need to be individually engineered for street storage. Some homes may also need a unique solution. It was noted that the Village offers a grant program for residents who wish to install a flood control device.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked if the project priority list reflects work that was done on the Crawford Avenue storm sewer. Mr. Wiberg noted that the model was done prior to that work.

Trustee Patel discussed the April 18, 2013 storm event in which severe flooding occurred.

Mr. Wiberg provided a summary of the street storage pilot project which was installed in the fall of 2016 in the area bounded by Drake Avenue (west), Pratt Avenue (north), McCormick Blvd (east) and Arthur Avenue (south). He noted that this was Phase I of the pilot project. Phase II will include completion of berms and restrictors in the southeast corner of the Village as well as the installation of an outfall sewer on North Shore Avenue.

Mr. Julkowski discussed the street storage pilot project and the fact that the northeast corner of the pilot area has stormwater collection issues and reverse slope driveways that are prone to flooding. This area requires the installation of the outfall because larger storms had the potential to create a flood risk based on model results.

Mr. Letson provided a summary of the phase I project results. Since implementing street storage, the Village has received one complaint about the amount of water stored on the street which occurred during the July 12, 2017 storm. No reports of basement backups have been received. 16 total rain events have occurred with greater than one inch of rain. Village staff has observed
street storage during three events. The system has functioned as designed with minimal maintenance concerns. The next phase of the pilot project is ready to be implemented.

Trustee Sugarman asked if consideration was given when determining ponding depths to address streets without driveways where cars must be parked on the street.

Mayor Bass agreed that this could be a problem and that this should be addressed.

Mr. Julkowski continued to discuss the requirements to move forward with Phase II of the pilot program. Three outfall options were presented:

Option 1 - Installation of a 60-inch storm sewer on North Shore Avenue from Drake Ave to the North Shore Channel with tributaries on Kimball Ave, Columbia Ave, and Spaulding Ave—Total Cost: $3.55 million.

Option 2 - Installation of an 84-inch storm sewer on North Shore Ave from Drake Ave to the North Shore Channel with tributaries on Kimball Ave, Columbia Ave, and Spaulding Ave. This would allow for future expansion to the west—Total Cost: $4.65 million.

Option 3 - Installation of an 84-inch storm sewer on North Shore Ave from the U.P. Bike Path to the North Shore Channel with tributaries on Kimball Ave, Columbia Ave, and Spaulding Ave. This would allow for future expansion to the west—Total Cost: $6.25 million.

Mr. Julkowski presented the engineer’s recommendation. Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) recommends Option 1 due to the fact that it provides the greatest cost/benefit to the Village and continues to meet the goal of the stormwater management plan.

CBBEL’s recommended next steps are as follows:

Complete the design of the North Shore Avenue Sewer using the parameters outlined in Option 1
- Design to be completed in 2018
- Seek funding participation from MWRD by the end of 2017

Begin design of the remainder of the street storage project, dividing the Village into two sections (Stage 2 and Stage 3).

Stage 2
- Design in 2018
- Construction in 2019

Stage 3
- Design in 2019
- Construction in 2020
Mr. Letson presented the anticipated schedule and project costs. The total program cost is estimated at $11,445,000. This includes three projects to be completed between 2018 and 2020. It was noted that Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) grant funding will be sought for 50% of the North Shore outfall sewer construction cost. If this were received the total project cost is anticipated to be reduced to $9,820,000.

Mr. Letson provided a summary of available funding for the project.

The current sewer fee is $1.00 per 1,000 gallons of water used. This generates approximately $440,000 in annual revenue. $110,000 of this is used each year for operation expenses, which leaves $330,000 remaining for capital projects. There is currently $820,000 in fund balance reserves. The current funds do not allow for a pay-as-you-go method. Staff is proposing a 20 year bond. This would require $736,000 per year for debt service.

Additional possible funding sources include the following:

- **Increase Sewer Fee**
  - $2.00 per 1,000 gallons ($1.00 increase)
  - $880,000 in total revenue ($770,000 available for debt service)

- **Fixed Capital Improvement Fee**
  - $44.00 per quarter
  - $740,000 in additional revenue

- **Stormwater Utility Fee**
  - Based on impervious lot coverage
  - Rate would need to be determined, average of $44.00 per quarter

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked what the likelihood is that MWRD would fund the project. Mr. Burke noted that MWRD is interested in projects that reduce the burden on the storm sewer system. They also support stormwater only outfalls into the channel.

Mr. Letson noted that another possible funding mechanism would be to use the anticipated potable water savings from the purchase of water from Evanston as an option until 2025 to pay for some of the infrastructure.

Mr. Wiberg noted that if the current water rate were decreased then a capital line item would need to be added to the water bill to address infrastructure needs.

Mayor Bass noted that residents do have an expectation that if we buy water at a lower rate that we would decrease rates to residents.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell noted that our bills are very high and some reduction would need to occur.
Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated that we should consider looking at adding a stormwater utility fee for new properties.

Trustee Cope noted that he thought that previous conversations regarding Evanston included a discussion that we would provide a savings to our residents and not to use the money for capital projects.

Trustee Patel noted that we have discussed using it for capital projects during previous discussions.

Mayor Bass clarified that the discussion tonight is not to discuss the water rate to residents but to give direction regarding moving forward with the stormwater management plan.

Mr. Wiberg noted that in order to move forward CBBEL needs to finish the design of the outfall. Once the design is complete then a request will be made to MWRD for funding.

Trustee Cope asked if each street will be individually engineered. Mr. Letson confirmed they will be individually engineered.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked if the pilot area was chosen because it was the lowest lying area within the Village.

Mr. Wiberg clarified that it is one of the lowest lying areas but it was chosen because it represented 15% of the land area per the Ad Hoc Sewer Committee’s recommendation.

Trustee Cope would prefer to see phase I be completed before we move forward with any additional projects.

At this time Mayor Bass took a poll of the Board regarding direction to provide to staff.

Consensus was to finish the pilot area, which would include construction of the remaining berms and restrictors and the outfall. This would require design for the outfall during FY 18/19. Direction was also given to design stage 2 of street storage during FY 18/19. Finally, direction was given to apply for grant funding from MWRD for the outfall.

Trustee Patel asked the engineers if they believe street storage is effective.

Mr. Burke stated that it is an effective means of temporarily storing stormwater.

Trustee Patel asked if the pilot project has been successful.

Mr. Burke stated that he believes it is successful.

Trustee Patel noted that we should not wait to continue with street storage throughout the rest of the Village since we have a successful project now.
Mayor Bass summarized the direction given to staff.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked what the community can do to help get the grant from MWRD. Mr. Burke will follow up with staff regarding the MWRD application and how Trustees can assist with reaching out to MWRD.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked what CBBEL’s success rate has been with grant applications.

Mr. Burke responded that their success is about 50/50.

**Adjournment**

At 8:05 PM Trustee Patel moved to adjourn Committee of the Whole Stormwater Workshop, seconded by Trustee Cope. The motion passed with a Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Engelmann
Deputy Village Clerk