

Committee of the Whole
January 23, 2012
8:00 p.m.

A Special Meeting of the Village of Lemont Committee of the Whole was held on Monday January 23, 2012 in the Board Room of the Village Hall at 418 Main Street in Lemont, Illinois. The meeting took place immediately following the regularly scheduled Village Board Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Reaves called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the following were present:

Trustees Paul Chialdikas, Ron Stapleton, Debbie Blatzer, Cliff Miklos and Jeanette Virgilio. Trustee Rick Sniegowski was absent.

Also present were Village staff members Ben Wehmeier, James, Brown, Charity Jones, Ed Buettner, George Schafer, Chief Kevin Shaughnessy, Ralph Pukula, and Village Attorney Jeffery Stein.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I&M Canal Corridor Presentation

A representative from the I&M Canal Corridor Association gave a brief presentation to update the Village Board on the activities of the Corridor Association. The purpose of the presentation was also to create awareness and gain more support and involvement from communities along the line. The matching sign grant program for the corridor was also presented; more information on the program would be available at future meetings. There was some brief discussion on the topic.

Discussion of Bella Strada Proposal

The Village Board approved the Bella Strada townhouse project in May 2006. The first of four buildings was completed and now occupied, with the 3 other buildings not built as of yet. Staff has been approached by several potential buyers over the last year or so. Local builder Tony Hegarty approached the Village about zoning entitlements and the desire to change some of them. Before going through the process, the buyer wanted feedback from the Board on whether or not some of the changes would be looked favorable upon. Some of the changes include the buildings being reduced to 2 floors with a square footage for 1900-2000 and slight façade changes. The majority of the board did not have an issue with the changes. The item would have to now go in front of Planning and Zoning Commission.

Discussion of Third Party Electrical Contract Process

All of the Village's electrical contracts are up for renewal this coming May and staff was looking for direction from the Board on the process going forward for the renewal. The Village has had a good

relationship with its current broker, but it could be an opportunity to work with another company. The Mayor mentioned that it might be a good to reach out to Dacott to see what rates they could provide, since the Village is also using Dacott for its residential accounts, through the upcoming referendum. Staff would be reaching out to Dacott and will present the item at a future meeting for further discussion.

Amendment to Building Code

Mr. Buettner presented an amendment to the building code that his staff is recommending. The amendment involves reducing a stairway egress issue. There was limited discussion on the topic general consensus was that the amendment would be supported by all. The item would be up for approval at a future meeting.

Marketing Discussion

Trustee Chialdikas led a brief discussion on marketing efforts for the Village. He showed a presentation about a possible marketing campaign the Village could undertake, with the theme being trying to entice people to move to Lemont. Trustee Chialdikas reiterated that the presentation was to bring about ideas for marketing campaigns. Some of the methods presented could be used and some could not, he just wanted to get the process started as budget time approaches. The Village has already reserved the domain names ilivelemont.com, ilivelemont.org and ilivelemont.net in case the project moves forward. There was general agreement on the marketing initiative. More discussion would be taking place during the budget discussions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No Audience Participation

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Reaves adjourned the meeting at 10:00 PM