

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 28, 2001

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Present: Mayor Brian Krajewski; Commissioners Marilyn Schnell, Thomas Sisul, Michael Gilbert, Sue McConnell, Martin Tully; Village Manager Riccardo Ginex; Village Attorney Daniel Blondin; Village Clerk April Holden

Absent: Commissioner Mark Zabloudil

Visitors: **Press:** Susie Gura, Downers Grove Reporter

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MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 28, 2001

Mayor Krajewski called the Workshop meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Village Hall.

Present: Mayor Brian Krajewski; Commissioners Marilyn Schnell, Thomas Sisul, Michael Gilbert, Sue McConnell, Martin Tully; Village Manager Riccardo Ginex; Village Attorney Daniel Blondin; Village Clerk April Holden

Absent: Commissioner Mark Zabloudil

Visitors: **Press:** Susie Gura, Downers Grove Reporter

Residents & Others in Attendance: Neil Kenig, KLOA-Traffic, 9575 Higgins, Rosemont; Steve Reborra, Desman Associates, 300 W. Washington; Jack McGuire, 1425 Gilbert; Edveta Wolf, 5123 Carpenter; Dolores Harrison, 4837 Oakwood; Don Duncan, 5125 Carpenter; John Przybyl, 1227 Gilbert; Dave Brown, 1508 Gilbert; Dave Tatterson, 1240 Gilbert; Debbie Morey, 5130 Carpenter; Roger Crisman, 1140 Gilbert; Patti and Larry Rosol, 6556 Berrywood; Mike Zaremba, 6200 Plymouth Ct.; Laurel Bowen, 829 Clyde

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Commissioner Schnell complimented Ms. Wainwright for her professionalism throughout the process, and the tremendous amount of work she has dedicated to the project. She said she visited Evanston with Laura and witnessed some of the benefits this system will bring to the Village. The Village will be paid for the water that is used, and there will be a way to report the daily amount of water generated. Commissioner Schnell said it is a very innovative program, and a win/win situation for everyone.

Commissioner McConnell asked if the financials were projected on today's water usage. Mr. Lyons said it was based on a one percent increased usage. He said that if they were to continue on with the current billing versus usage level there would be a \$.25/unit increase. By going with this program there will be more accuracy in the billing that will reduce the rate increase of \$.10. They will gather the data for the first six months before determining the amount of the rate increase that is needed.

Commissioner McConnell echoed Commissioner Schnell comments about Ms. Wainwright's commitment and professionalism. She asked about installation. Ms. Wainwright said it takes about an hour to install the meters. Water will be shut off at the main shutoff or the buffalo box. She explained the general replacement procedure, noting that residents do need to be aware of where their meter is located. She noted that the retrofit will take less than one-half hour.

Commissioner McConnell said she would like to have a periodic update on the project.

Commissioner Tully also congratulated Ms. Wainwright for her work and asked for an elaboration on the advantage of having daily meter readings rather than the current system. Ms. Wainwright said data is important. The continuous reading allows them to troubleshoot specific problems and determine where there may be problems of high or low usage. They will be able to more quickly determine leaks and provide more accurate readings. Ms. Wainwright said the Village currently obtains one reading every two months.

Commissioner Tully asked about the financial benefit. Mr. Lyons said that presently they do an annual state LMO report. There are a variety of sources of unbilled usage, such as hydrant leaks, water main breakage, etc. Another source of unbilled usage is inaccurate readings from the inside meter to the outside meter. A more accurate reading system helps pay for the water the Village buys. In addition, on the operational side there are 500-1,000 home closings in the Village each year, and staff has to read those meters to close out those accounts. This system will address these matters.

Commissioner Tully asked about the remote and how it operates. Ms. Wainwright said it operates on a radio frequency and is placed on the side of the house. As to the effect it has on other uses in the house, Ms. Wainwright said the radio frequency to be licensed to the Village is at a higher frequency than normal appliances. Because they are licensed through the FCC there would be no other interference with radio frequencies. She said that Boston had a problem only because their taxi company was operating illegally on their band. That is the only problem she has heard of.

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Brian Pabst, Director of Redevelopment, said that on July 17, the Council directed Desman to proceed with the Design Development Phase, and also decided on specific materials. He said that Steve Reborra would be presenting other design development documents from the Desman plan. He introduced Steve Reborra.

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Regarding the color of the brick, Mr. Reborra said they provided four different brick samples and will specify one type of brick, but not until there is a field mock up.

Mr. Reborra then noted the Village's concerns about traffic and asked Mr. Neil Kenig of KLOA Traffic and Parking Consultants to lead that discussion.

Neil Kenig, KLOA Traffic and Parking Consultants, said that Desman and the Village asked them to do a traffic impact study for the proposed garage. He reviewed the report submitted to the Council. He said the study consists of a site accessibility study, data collection, traffic characteristics, site traffic assignments and analysis, and their recommendation. The study involved the accessibility of the garage bounded between Main, Maple, Washington and Curtiss. They looked at the street improvements, and traffic during the AM and PM peak hours. He identified Main Street as the primary carrier of traffic, seconded by Maple, with Washington serving as a collector Street, and with Curtiss serving as a local street paired with Burlington. Mr. Kenig said that the parking deck will support the existing commuter, patron and residential traffic. The highest traffic comes from the south. He reviewed the specific traffic figures during the peak hours. They projected a conservatively high approach on the amount of traffic they estimate will be generated by the parking deck. They estimate 285 commuters in-bound in the a.m. peak and 80 out-bound, and 160 in-bound at the evening peak and 300 out-bound. He said in their conservative analysis they anticipate that all intersections around the site will continue to work well with the exception of some deterioration at Maple and Washington. He said if that intersection is signalized it would work much better. Mr. Kenig recommended that the condition

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be monitored after the garage is built and in operation, as trip generation rates and travel paths may change. He noted that signalization cost is approximately \$150,000.

Mr. Kenig then showed a depiction of the access drives on Curtiss Street and right turn lane, recommending the removal of the curb, sidewalk and some parking spaces to accommodate right turn traffic. Regarding the access drive onto Washington, they project a higher volume of traffic and recommend a left turn lane and removal of the curb parking along the east side of Washington Street up to the deck entrance. Coming out of the facility, they recommended that the curb spaces on the west side also be removed.

Commissioner Tully reviewed the projections for traffic increases made in KLOA's report and asked Mr. Kenig to verify those projections, which he did. Mr. Kenig said they had been very conservative in not taking out any existing traffic in the analysis. Commissioner Tully asked whether it would be correct to assume there would be a shift in traffic as well. Mr. Kenig said they discussed that because there was a demand for about 300 commuter parkers; however, they also understood there was a backlog of people wanting parking spaces. The parking deck may also serve additional future development in the downtown area, as well as cover the 200 spaces that are being lost. He said they see the existing traffic patterns as remaining the same.

The Mayor added that some commuter lots will be closed down as well which may reduce traffic in other areas.

Commissioner Tully asked about the spaces lost on Washington and Curtiss which totaled 21 spaces. Mr. Kenig said they could possibly gain ten of those spaces back.

There was additional questioning relating to specific lanes recommended in KLOA's study regarding accessibility for left hand turns, crosswalks, placement of stop signs, etc. It was noted that the recommendations are, at this time, conceptual and subject to modification based upon the final design.

Commissioner Gilbert asked whether their recommendation was to go forward with the light at Maple and Washington. Mr. Kenig said he would wait until the deck is built and in operation, and then review the necessity for the light.

Commissioner Gilbert asked if it was possible to provide a net effect as to the amount of traffic and number of surface parking spaces. He would like to know how many spaces could fit into the northeast corner of the property. He would like the current and projected counts on one chart. Mr. Kenig said he could provide estimates.

Commissioner Sisul asked whether the overhead was an actual location in relationship to the driveways. Mr. Kenig said that it was. He said what was shown is the existing buildings. He said from the east there is one lane in and one lane out. Traffic would go into either the left turn or right turn lane. Commissioner Sisul said that southbound traffic would want to exit on the east side and Mr. Kenig said that was correct. Commissioner Sisul asked whether they could provide two south-bound lanes and Mr. Kenig said that could only be done with signalization. He said that the traffic distribution is based upon the current train patterns, so the 300 commuters are spread out in the study.

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Mr. Kenig then showed a depiction of the access drives on Curtiss Street and right turn lane, recommending the removal of the curb, sidewalk and some parking spaces to accommodate right turn traffic. Regarding the access drive onto Washington, they project a higher volume of traffic and recommend a left turn lane and removal of the curb parking along the east side of Washington Street up to the deck entrance. Coming out of the facility, they recommended that the curb spaces on the west side also be removed.

Commissioner Tully reviewed the projections for traffic increases made in KLOA's report and asked Mr. Kenig to verify those projections, which he did. Mr. Kenig said they had been very conservative in not taking out any existing traffic in the analysis. Commissioner Tully asked whether it would be correct to assume there would be a shift in traffic as well. Mr. Kenig said they discussed that because there was a demand for about 300 commuter parkers; however, they also understood there was a backlog of people wanting parking spaces. The parking deck may also serve additional future development in the downtown area, as well as cover the 200 spaces that are being lost. He said they see the existing traffic patterns as remaining the same.

The Mayor added that some commuter lots will be closed down as well which may reduce traffic in other areas.

Commissioner Tully asked about the spaces lost on Washington and Curtiss which totaled 21 spaces. Mr. Kenig said they could possibly gain ten of those spaces back.

There was additional questioning relating to specific lanes recommended in KLOA's study regarding accessibility for left hand turns, crosswalks, placement of stop signs, etc. It was noted that the recommendations are, at this time, conceptual and subject to modification based upon the final design.

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DRAFT

Attorney Dan Blondin said staff recommended the Council waive the one-week waiting period and act on the local law enforcement block grant program this evening due to filing deadlines.

Commissioner Sisul moved to waive the one week waiting period for new business.
Commissioner Gilbert seconded.

AYES: Commissioners Sisul, Gilbert, Tully, McConnell, Schnell, Mayor Krajewski

NAYS: None

The Mayor declared the Motion carried.

The Mayor asked the Village Clerk to read the resolution.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT TO
THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
FOR FY 2001 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION 2001-72

Commissioner Sisul moved to approve the Resolution as read. Commissioner Gilbert seconded.

AYES: Commissioners Sisul, Gilbert, Tully, McConnell, Schnell, Mayor Krajewski

NAYS: None

The Mayor declared the Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sisul moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(6) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to discuss personnel and real estate matters. Commissioner Gilbert seconded.

AYES: Commissioners Sisul, Gilbert, Tully, McConnell, Schnell, Mayor Krajewski

NAYS: None

The Mayor declared the Motion carried and adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 9:00 p.m.

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