



Meeting Minutes

Village of Downers Grove - Council Meeting

Council Chambers

April 11, 2023

07:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Barnett called to order the Village Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. and led those in the room in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He explained the protocol for the meeting and the guidelines to submit public comment.

2. Roll Call

Council Attendance (Present): Mayor Barnett, Commissioner José, Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Commissioner Kulovany, Commissioner Gilmartin, Commissioner Glover

Council Attendance (Not Present): None

Non-Voting: Village Manager Dave Fieldman, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca, and Village Clerk Rosa Berardi

3. Proclamations

A. National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Mayor Barnett read a proclamation in honor of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

4. Minutes of Council Meetings

MIN 2023-9896 — A. Minutes: Village Council Meeting Minutes - March 21, 2023

***MOTION:** To adopt the meeting minutes of the March 21, 2023, regular Village Council meeting, as presented.*

***RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

***MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner José*

***SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Walus*

***AYES:** Commissioners José, Walus, Glover, Gilmartin, Kulovany, Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett*

***NAYES:** None*

5. Consent Agenda

BIL 2022-9772 — A. Bills Payable: Bills Payable: No. 6724 - April 11, 2023

COR 2022-9773 — B. Claims Ordinance: Claims Ordinance: No. 6499, Payroll - March 24, 2023

RES 2023-9880 — C. Resolution: Authorize a Three-Year Agreement with the Downers Grove Professional Firefighters Union, Local 3234, Effective May 1, 2023 - April 20, 2026 **RES 2023-25**

Summary: This agreement authorizes a three-year agreement with the Downers Grove Professional Firefighters Union, Local 3234, Effective May 1, 2023 - April 20, 2026

RESOLUTION 2023-25

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND THE DOWNERS GROVE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS UNION, LOCAL 3234, EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2023 – APRIL 30, 2026

MOT 2023-9878 — D. Motion: Approve a Contract with Performance Construction & Engineering, LLC of Plano, IL for the 2023 Storm Sewer Replacement

Summary: This motion approves a contract for the 2023 Storm Sewer Replacement to Performance Construction & Engineering, LLC of Plano, IL, in the amount of \$266,615.00.

RES 2023-9889 — E. Resolution: Approve an Extension to the Agreement with Christine Charkewycz for Prosecution Services **RES 2023-26**

Summary: This resolution approves a two-year agreement with Christine Charkewycz, Attorney at Law, for ordinance violation and traffic citation prosecution services for a flat fee of \$30,252 per year.

RESOLUTION 2023-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR PROSECUTION SERVICES WITH CHRISTINE CHARKEWYCZ

RES 2023-9890 — F. Resolution: Approve an Agreement with McMahon Law Offices for Prosecution Services **RES 2023-27**

Summary: This resolution authorizes the execution of an agreement for DUI prosecution services with McMahon Law Offices in the amount of \$35,000, but not to exceed \$45,000.

RESOLUTION 2023-27

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR PROSECUTION SERVICES WITH MCMAHON LAW OFFICES

RES 2023-9870 — G. Resolution: Amend Certain Purchasing Provisions as Official Village Policy **RES 2023-24**

Summary: This resolution amends the Village’s Purchasing Policy to include a provision requiring that all successful bidders, and bidder’s subcontractors, for “public works” construction projects in excess of \$50,000, must participate in applicable apprenticeship and training programs.

RESOLUTION 2023-24

A RESOLUTION AMENDING CERTAIN PURCHASING PROVISIONS AS OFFICIAL VILLAGE POLICY

RES 2023-9893 — H. Resolution: Approve an Amendment to the Agreement with True North Consultants, Inc. for Environmental Consulting Services as Part of the Redevelopment of the Civic Center Property **RES 2023-28**

Summary: This resolution authorizes an amendment to the agreement with True North Consultants, Inc. of Naperville, IL for environmental consulting services, as part of the redevelopment of the Civic Center property, in the amount of \$86,598 and includes a 10% contingency, for a total contract amount of \$138,773.

RESOLUTION 2023-28

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND TRUE NORTH CONSULTANTS, INC.

RES 2023-9891 — I. Resolution: Approve the Abrogation of a Public Utility Easement at 3113 Woodcreek Drive
RES 2023-29

Summary: This resolution authorizes the abrogation of a public utility easement at 3113 Woodcreek Drive.

RESOLUTION 2023-29

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND ABROGATING CERTAIN PUBLIC EASEMENTS IN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE FOR 3113 WOODCREEK DRIVE

RES 2023-9892 — J. Resolution: Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the County of DuPage for the Curtiss and Glenview Water Quality Project **RES 2023-30**

Summary: This approves an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with DuPage County for a Water Quality Improvements Grant for the Curtiss and Glenview Stormwater Improvement project.

RESOLUTION 2023-30

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF DUPAGE, ILLINOIS AND THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE FOR THE CURTISS AND GLENVIEW WATER QUALITY PROJECT

RES 2023-9928 — K. Resolution: Approve an Agreement with Commonwealth Edison for a Grant of Easement at the New Civic Center Location of 850 Curtiss Street **RES 2023-31**

Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a Grant of Easement for the installation of an electrical service for the newly constructed Civic Center located at 850 Curtiss Street.

RESOLUTION 2023-31

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

***MOTION:** To adopt all items on the Consent Agenda, as presented*

***RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

***MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner José*

***SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Walus*

***AYES:** Commissioners José, Walus, Glover, Gilmartin, Kulovany, Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett*

***NAYES:** None*

6. Active Agenda

ORD 2023-9874 — A. Ordinance: Approving an Amendment to Planned Unit Development #51 to Allow Revisions to the Campus Master Plan at Midwestern University Located at 555 31st Street.

Summary: This ordinance approves an amendment to Planned Unit Development #51 to allow revisions to the Campus Master Plan at Midwestern University located at 555 31st Street.

***MOTION:** To adopt AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT #51, TO ALLOW REVISIONS TO THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN AT MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY LOCATED AT 555 31ST STREET, as presented.*

***RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

***MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner José*

***SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Walus*

***AYES:** Commissioners José, Walus, Glover, Gilmartin, Kulovany, Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett*

***NAYES:** None*

7. First Reading

REP 2023-9927 — A. Report: Discussion of Traffic Safety Improvements on Main Street and Highland Avenue Near Downers Grove North High School

Public Works Director Andy Sikich presented Items A and B via [PowerPoint](#). He reviewed the various projects that were part of the High School Pedestrian Study that was completed in 2019 (in partnership with District 99) and then specifically spoke about two of the project areas in particular: the Main and Highland Avenue improvements for Downers Grove North (DGN) and the Main and Oxford improvements for Downers Grove South (DGS). Both of these projects required approvals from other government entities – IDOT due to the grant funding for both projects and DuPage DOT for the Oxford and Maine intersection, since that intersection was in their jurisdiction. Mr. Sikich explained that staff was looking for Council direction on the two projects. He continued by stating that the High School Pedestrian Safety Study conducted by Sam Schwartz Consultants included extensive public engagement and was accepted by the Village Council in February of 2020. Mr. Sikich reviewed the projects around Downers Grove North and Downers Grove South that had been completed or were still in progress. He went on to state that the Village Council approved a contract with HR Green, who then prepared a Phase 1 Engineering Report (referred to as the PDR) for the Main Street improvements. In July 2022 the Village Council directed staff to present the PDR to IDOT for approval. Mr. Sikich explained that IDOT approved the PDR and the project also had an STP Funding Grant through the DuPage Mayors and Managers organization, which would provide 70% of the construction costs for the project.

Mr. Sikich stated in the past five years, there had been 99 vehicle and pedestrian crashes, including eight that involved pedestrians or bicyclists and one fatality, along the stretch of Main Street near North High. He said the key findings of the study were related to the left turn lanes, inefficient traffic and signal programming, and the merging of the southbound lanes from two lanes to one at Franklin. Mr. Sikich outlined the proposed improvements for Main Street from Ogden to Franklin, which included reduction to one lane in each direction, dedicated left turn lanes and bike lanes, center refuge islands, optimized signal programming, and curb extensions. He spoke about the details of the proposed left turn lanes on Main Street. Further stating, they would maximize the efficiency of the traffic signals with the left turn signal. He also gave details about the road diet, with benefits including bike lanes and better traffic flow.

Mr. Sikich introduced the addition of two sets of chicanes on Highland Avenue between Lincoln and Grant, used to reduce vehicle speeds. He explained that in 2022 there was also the addition of three all-way stop signs, located at intersections in the vicinity of that block. He added that the stop signs could alter driver behaviors and ultimately affect the decision to construct the chicanes.

Mr. Sikich said that in July 2022, the Village Council asked how the traffic volumes on Main Street compared in the areas south and north of Franklin. He explained that HR Green provided traffic counts in October of 2021. The counts showed just over 15,000 vehicles per day north of Prairie, 14,000 vehicles between Franklin and Prairie and just under 11,000 vehicles per day south of Franklin. He then discussed that Council had also raised concerns regarding the potential for traffic to be diverted off of Main Street into surrounding neighborhoods. He stated that staff reviewed research conducted on previous road diet projects, in US and Canada, and most research focused on significant safety benefits that the projects provided. Mr. Sikich also explained that the staff found data on traffic volumes pre- and post-construction for about 25 road type projects, and overall, there was about a 6% decrease in traffic volume, on average. He said that the bottom line was that the research supported the engineering study for Main Street, indicating there should be a significant safety benefit with minimal change in traffic volumes.

Mr. Sikich noted that another Council question posed in July was whether or not the consultant could model traffic signal modifications at Franklin and Maine, such as the addition of a left turn arrow for eastbound traffic on Franklin to northbound Main. He explained that with this addition, Franklin traffic would move more efficiently, especially during pick-up and drop-off times at St. Joe's School. He stated that it added up to four seconds of waiting time to

vehicles on Main and the four seconds had already been factored into the travel times in the approved PDR.

Next, Mr. Sikich said that staff was asked whether or not any chicanes, or other improvements, were considered on any blocks other than Highland, between Grant and Lincoln. He answered no and said that the only recommended speed-related improvements around DGN included the raised intersection at Prince and Sherman and the reduced speed limit on Main to 25 mph.

Mr. Sikich stated the final Council request was for staff to provide examples of other road diet projects that had been completed in area. His PowerPoint listed locations in Chicago, Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg, Evanston and Geneva.

Mr. Sikich explained that the next steps and schedule for this process were:

- April/May 2023: Village to authorize a contract amendment with HR Green to perform the final engineering design.
- Fall of 2023: Submit Final Engineering Plans to IDOT.
- Spring 2024: Approve final IGA with IDOT, award construction contract and begin construction.
- November 2024: Project to be substantially completed.

The Village Council was to provide staff with direction by selecting from the following options:

Main Street

- Option A - Proceed with the design and construction of the Main Street improvements in accordance with the approved plan (PDR).
- Option B - Proceed with the design and construction of the Main Street improvements with modifications.
- Option C - Do not proceed with Main Street Improvements.

Highland Avenue

- Option A - Proceed now with the design/construction of chicanes on Highland.
- Option B - Monitor the effects of the recently installed stop signs and any improvements to Main Street, prior to proceeding with improvements on Highland.

Public Comments

Bill Chalberg, with the Downers Grove Bicycle Club, stated that the club wholeheartedly supported the proposed traffic safety improvements. He said he was encouraged to see the commitment the Village had to making pedestrian and bicycle use safer.

Tom Schroeder, resident, said he hoped the Council voted in favor of this and that he was a big fan of the left turn arrow. He expressed concern about the merging of cars to one lane on Main Street; his approval for the raised Grant and Main Streets; suggested possibly installing 6-inch metal poles in the ground for the safety of pedestrians on the sidewalk; his concern regarding cars taking alternate routes on Forest or Highland to avoid the lane reduction.

Village Council Comments/Questions

Commissioner Gilmartin asked if any lighting, pedestrian or otherwise, was considered in the area discussed given the new bike lanes.

Mr. Sikich stated the lighting that was included in the project was at the signalized intersections only.

Commissioner José mentioned cost savings over the years by bundling projects and asked if there would be any impact on the cost of the project if the chicanes on Highland Avenue were delayed.

Mr. Sikich stated that was difficult to say.

Commissioner José asked if there was a recommended time period to study the impact of the stop signs.

Mr. Sikich stated it was at the discretion of Council.

Village Manager Dave Fieldman said that once Council directed staff to do the Main Street improvements and they were complete, staff would go into a monitoring period. They could see how the improvements and the stop signs worked, and then determine if there were any traffic diversions happening and to what extent.

Commissioner José said he would rather not delay and preferred Option A on Main Street.

Commissioner Kulovany stated he liked Option A and that it would alleviate crashes and solve a lot of problems. He also said that he was pleased with the introduction of bike lanes, the creation of the S curve at Franklin and Main Street, and how this would smooth traffic. The Commissioner said a round trip on this stretch of Main Street would only take an extra 4 seconds than it used to. He expressed his interest in moving forward once funding was in place. He also explained that the decision to move ahead with these improvements should be the current Council's decision, since this Council had been involved in this from the start. Finally, Commissioner Kulovany expressed he was in favor and wanted to go all-in with both the Main Street and Highland improvements.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt noted she was in favor of moving forward with Option A for both Main Street and Highland. She said she felt as if this was a larger safety package, and she believed it was misguided to leave part of it out. The Commissioner stated she was thrilled that pedestrian and bike safety were a prioritization, especially with the dedicated lanes.

Commissioner Walus said she was also in favor of Option A for both. She stated she believed people may panic initially, thinking it would take longer to get places, but she believed the left turn lanes would alleviate concerns. Commissioner Walus explained that she also thought it made sense to do all of the improvements at once.

Commissioner Glover spoke of being in favor of Option A and he believed that the road diet was a win-win all around for safety and traffic flow. He noted that he was in favor of Option B until hearing the opinions of his colleagues. The Commissioner said he would like all the improvements completed in one project, but would go whichever way a majority of the Council favored.

Commissioner Gilmartin stated he fully supported Option A. He noted that having had 100 accidents over five years required something to be done. Further stating that he believed a lot of the accidents were due to the configuration. The Commission said that he was happy with the bike lanes. He noted that he would support any effort to make the town more traversable by non-motorized traffic, making things safer. He wanted to reiterate this plan was for high school safety and the vast majority of the cost was being covered by the State. Commissioner Gilmartin said that he too, was considering waiting on the chicanes, but he was ok with doing it all now. He expressed his view that this area was the "Gateway to the Center of the Village", adding that he would also like to keep safety in mind by adding "pedestrian lighting" to illuminate the sidewalks and the bike lanes

Mayor Barnett asked why pedestrian lighting, low level decorative street lights, from Sherman to Lincoln (that was initially mentioned two years ago), was no longer in the plan. Secondly, he asked why bike lanes did not run all the way to Prairie, since the bike lanes on Prairie ran east-west. Further stating that though he knew they were not in the original scope, he thought adding them would be a good thing. The Mayor also asked if it was possible to add a bump-out, or curb, between the bike lane and the traffic at the crosswalk in order to continue to improve on the pedestrian/vehicle interactions in the community. Mayor Barnett also said he wanted to move forward with this and would be interested in adding these enhancements, if possible.

Commissioner Kulovany noted that there would probably be some diversion at first, but thinks that would take care of itself when people found out on their own, that there actually would not be much of a difference in the travel time on

Main Street. He expressed interest in the idea of some ornamental or downward-facing lighting, reducing light pollution and creating a boulevard-type look to the gateway into town.

Manager Fieldman said that after hearing the support from Council to move ahead with this project, staff would bring forward an amendment to the contract with HR Green for the final engineering design. He said he would work with Andy and his team to see if they could explore some of the things that the Council spoke of. This included the lighting, bump outs, and aspects of the bike lanes. Manager Fieldman said they would get those questions answered. He concluded by stating that the next time the item would appear on an agenda it would be via the amendment of the HR Green contract.

REP 2023-9926 — B. Report: Discussion of Traffic Safety Improvements on Main Street at Oxford Avenue Near Downers Grove South High School

Mr. Sikich proceeded to present the proposed improvements at Main Street and Oxford for Downers Grove South High School. He spoke of the recommendations included in the High School Pedestrian Safety Study which included a new signalized intersection, relocating the existing crosswalk at Norfolk to the new signal, reducing the posted speed limit on Main Street and installing speed feedback signs. Mr. Sikich said the new recommended traffic signal would include the realignment of Oxford, along with dedicated left turn lanes on Main Street. He said that DuPage DOT formally denied the request for a traffic signal, because the criteria to install one was not met. Mr. Sikich explained that because of DuPage DOT's decision there were two other options:

- Option A: Not to move forward with the project.
- Option B: Move forward without a traffic signal at this location, which could still include realignment of Oxford, left turn lanes on Main Street and relocation of pedestrian crossing from Norfolk.

Mr. Sikich said that he and Village staff would work to maintain the grant funding under Option B. He also noted the possibility of increased traffic in the future, which could warrant a stoplight.

Village Council Comments/Questions

Commissioner Gilmartin asked if there were any safety concerns with the realignment of Oxford, with no traffic signal.

Mr. Sikich explained that, anecdotally, the turn lanes generally helped to improve safety.

Manager Fieldman also confirmed that the alignment of opposite legs of the intersection would generally be considered a safety improvement.

Commissioner Gilmartin asked if there was an option to appeal DuPage DOT's decision.

Manager Fieldman said he didn't know if there was an actual appeal process, but stated that the Village had done a lot of work with them at the staff level, and they could try asking about it in many different ways.

Commissioner Kulovany asked if adding a flashing yellow light at the intersection was a possibility.

Manager Fieldman said that staff did a little research on that at the start of the project, a few years ago, but they could re-ask the County about it.

Commissioner Kulovany expressed he was in favor of Option B. He stated he thought that a flashing yellow light and the reconfiguration might help. He also said when he was on Google Maps, it did not look like an intersection at all. Commissioner Kulovany noted that the kids who lived on the east side of Main Street had to walk or be driven to school it was like a 'Game of Frogger'. He said he spoke to some residents who stated they would not allow their children to walk to school because it was unsafe. Commissioner Kulovany concluded by stating that since the Village was encouraging people to ride their bikes and walk on the north side of town, there should also be opportunities to

encourage the same thing on the south side of town. He also said that making Oxford and Main an actual intersection would provide a safe route for kids to cross the street and they would have no reason to be dangerously crossing the street at Norfolk anymore.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt said she was in favor of Option B. She said that she concurred with Commissioner Kulovany and also wondered if parents did not allow their children to walk to school due to the current situation, which she also referred to as a “Game of Frogger.”

Commissioner Walus stated she was in favor of Option B.

Commissioner José expressed being in favor of Option B and asked residents to contact the DuPage County Board members regarding the denial of the signal at the intersection.

Commissioner Glover said he was in favor of Option B. Further stating that the funds (the grant) were there now and who knew if they would be there in the future. He said he believed this needed to be a safer intersection.

Mayor Barnett stated that over the past two years there had been a lot of conversations about how to make the interaction between pedestrians and cars more predictable, and this (Option B) helped that. He also stated that he agreed with Commissioner José with regard to “hounding the County”. The Mayor said that making Downers Grove more friendly to pedestrians, up and down the community, was important to the Village and he wanted the County to be in support of that effort as well.

Commissioner Gilmartin noted he was all for safety as well, though he expressed concern about putting a crosswalk across a 40-mile-an-hour, four-lane road, without a stoplight.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt said currently if there were kids coming north from Oxford, they would have to cross without a signaled intersection. She expressed being in favor of looking into flashing pedestrian signs.

Manager Fieldman noted that he would go to the County and express the Council’s desire to continue with the project and to make it as safe as possible for interactions between pedestrians and cars. He said he would push for every type of pedestrian safety affordance and continue to keep on asking. Manager Fieldman also asked that Village residents contact DuPage County elected officials to express their concerns as well.

Mr. Sikich explained that the next steps from the design standpoint would be to get a contract with an engineer to do preliminary and final design and also ensure that the funding remained in place. He explained that construction would probably occur in 2025 (a year behind the Main Street Road Diet Project).

8. Manager’s Report

REP 2023-9925 — A. Report: FY22 Budget Report

Village Manager Dave Fieldman provided an update of the implementation and management of the FY22 Budget via [PowerPoint](#). While focusing on the General Fund (the Village’s primary operating fund), Manager Fieldman explained that the FY22 revenue was significantly higher than budgeted. This allowed the Village to transfer money to other funds, with previously identified needs, while maintaining the fund balance at the recommended level. Manager Fieldman explained the FY22 budget was:

- Balanced with revenue and expenses of \$54.38 million.
- Provided \$1.6 million of funding for the Civic Center Project.
- Provided funding for one additional full-time civilian staff member at the Police Department.
- Had no increase in Operations Levy.
- Had a \$1.1 million increase in the levy for Public Safety Pensions.

Manager Fieldman said the FY22 Budget was reviewed and discussed in the fall of 2022 as part of the FY23 Budget approval process. He also explained that during the review of the FY22 Budget, Council directed staff to transfer \$3.8 million to the Equipment Replacement Fund and the Risk Fund, to address identified issues that were discussed in the summer of 2022.

Manager Fieldman outlined that General Fund Revenues were estimated to be about \$8 million higher than the FY22 budget – much higher than anticipated. He explained that the current revenue estimate of \$62.58 million was about \$3.8 million higher than the estimate that was discussed in the fall of 2022. He said the Village's share of income tax was expected to be about \$2 million more than budgeted and sales tax was about 15% above budget. He also noted that revenue from ambulance fees were expected to end the year at about \$1.8 million higher than anticipated. This was due to an increase in the number of calls for service and additional revenue received from a Federal program.

Manager Fieldman stated that Village staff prepared final expense estimates and the General Fund expenses were estimated to be at \$57.68 million, including the transfer of \$3 million to the following funds:

- \$1 million to the Equipment Replacement Funds.
- \$1 million to the Fleet Maintenance Fund, addressing the needs of maintenance and replacement of vehicles.
- \$500,000 to the Risk Fund.
- \$500,000 to the Civic Center Project Debt Service Fund, reducing a possible need of property tax increase in the future.

Village Council Comments/Questions

Commissioner José spoke of past awards won by the Village for budgeting and thanked staff for another phenomenal budget year. He also praised Village staff for being very responsible with tax dollars. The Commissioner said that Village budgets are incredibly tight and the current report was a testament to that. He added that it was fantastic that staff was planning for additional purchases in the future, along with any challenges that might be coming, and planning for payments on the new Civic Center.

Commissioner Kulovany echoed Commissioner José's comments. He said residents may think that the excess in funding was due to the Village taxing them too much. However, he explained the fact was that a lot of the increase in funds came from Food and Beverage Tax and Sales Tax, not Property Taxes. Commissioner Kulovany spoke of the challenges that past Village Councils had to deal with in the 2008 Great Recession and the budgetary responsibility of a near 40% decrease in revenue during the pandemic. Because of this, the Commissioner explained his belief that it was prudent to set money aside in reserve. He thanked staff for watching the finances so carefully for the Village.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt thanked staff for keeping the budget tight and the community members for keeping money in Downers Grove.

Manager Fieldman said due to State law, there would need to be a Budget Amendment. He stressed the fact that it was good news that the Village was transferring funds. He said the Village was keeping its money and investing in the areas of the community that had need. Manager Fieldman also pointed out that the transferred figures would show up as expenses and that was why a Budget amendment was needed. He said the amendment would appear on a Council meeting agenda in the near future.

9. Public Comments

Amy Gassen, President of the Downers Grove Historical Society, spoke of the upcoming Founders Day activities scheduled from Saturday, April 29, 2023, through Saturday, May 6, 2023. Details could be found at [DGHistory.org](https://www.dghistory.org). Additionally, Ms. Gassen stated that on May 2, 2023, the Historical Society would be honoring Willis and Shirley Johnson, the owners of the Tivoli Theater, with the 2023 Historians of the Year Award. A special celebration honoring them would include the viewing of a documentary telling the story of the Johnson family and the Tivoli Theater. Tickets for the viewing could be purchased for \$5 online and were free for DG Historical Society members.

Council Minutes

Village of Downers Grove

April 11, 2023

Jim Toth, 8-year resident and director/filmmaker said he created and donated the documentary about the Johnsons and the Tivoli Theater called "History Happens Here". He spoke of the details of the documentary, which was on May 2, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Mr. Toth said that anyone interested in learning more about him and his films could visit his website at jimtoth.com.

Mike Smetana, 5832 Fairmont, spoke of the budget, asking if revenues increased, when would the Council start looking at paying down the pension obligations with the excess dollars in revenues.

10. Mayor's Report

There was no Mayor's Report

11. Council Member Reports

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt said she looked forward to seeing everyone at the sold-out Passport to Dining event.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Barnett asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

***MOTION:** To adjourn the April 11, 2023 Village Council Meeting*

***RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

***MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner José*

***SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Walus*

***AYES:** Commissioners José, Walus, Glover, Gilmartin, Kulovany, Sadowski-Fugitt, Mayor Barnett*

***NAYES:** None*

Mayor Barnett declared the motion carried by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosa Berardi
Village Clerk