

**Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Workshop of the President and the Board of Trustees
Held on Monday, January 12, 2009
In the Boardroom**

Mayor Waldorf called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were: Mayor Waldorf, Trustee Dement, Trustee Fay, Trustee Lamb, Trustee Manning, Trustee Racich, Trustee Vaupel,. Also present: Don Bennett, Interim Administrator; Jim Harvey, Attorney; Michelle Gibas, Village Clerk; Allen Persons, Public Works Director; Traci Pleckham, Management Services Director; Kevin Greco, Acting Chief of Police; Michael Garrigan, Village Planner; Mike Schwarz, Planner; Jon Proulx, Planner; and Sara Javoronok, Planner.

Trustee Fay moved to approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Workshop held on December 22, 2008. Seconded by Lamb. Voice Vote. All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.

PRESIDENTIAL COMMENTS

Mayor Waldorf:

- Informed everyone at the IHFPB Hearing has been extended to 3 days – January 27, 28, and 29th. Both the Edward Plainfield Hospital and the Edward Freestanding Emergency Center are on the schedule.
- Reminded everyone that the Village Offices will be closed on Monday, January 19th for Martin Luther King Day. The next Village Board meeting will be on February 2nd.

TRUSTEES COMMENTS

Trustee Dement stated that he recently read an article in the newspaper regarding Jim Roof's push for the state to include additional interstate widening money for Will County. Trustee Dement suggested contacting Mr. Roof and indicate Village support.

Trustee Fay:

- Stated that the Toll Authority has also talked about an express lane to encourage car pooling and asked the staff to bring more information to the Board.
- Congratulated Pam Davis, Edward President and CEO, for being named as ABC World News "Person of the Week."

WORKSHOP MEETING

#1 CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY'S PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF THE EJ&E RAILWAY

Mr. Mike Schwarz, Planner, gave an update concerning the U.S. Surface Transportation Board's recent approval of the Canadian National Railway's proposed purchase of the EJ&E Railway, gave an update on TRAC, as well as a summary of current administrative challenges and litigation efforts. Mr. Schwarz then reviewed Village options for moving forward including, taking no action, negotiation with Canadian National, and litigation.

Trustee Fay indicated support for voluntary negotiation. Canadian National has already indicated willingness to negotiate the schedule of trains and will replace the manual switch which should decrease the amount of time the train is on the tracks. Trustee Fay also suggested looking at adjoining parcels.

Trustee Manning stated that Canadian National has stated that they would not be willing to negotiate on grade-separated crossings. He indicated support for litigation.

Trustee Racich indicated joining litigation with other communities and suggested contacting other jurisdictions like the Fire District, Park District, and School District to get some help with litigation costs.

Trustee Dement indicated support for negotiation with litigation as backup. Trustee Dement also encouraged writing letters to our legislators asking for help.

Mayor Waldorf stated that he has attended the TRAC meetings and felt that the Village should vigorously pursue litigation.

Fire Chief Eichelberger and Fire District Trustee Bennett were present in the audience. They indicated concern regarding getting to people in an emergency. In the event that there is a train emergency that blocks the crossing for an extended period of time, the Fire Department could potentially not be able to get to residents. They indicated support for litigation.

Trustee Vaupel indicated support for negotiation as well as litigation.

Interim Village Administrator Bennett pointed out that since some of the crossings were on State Routes, staff is trying to set up a meeting with IDOT.

At 8:00 p.m. Trustee Racich left the meeting.

#2 PLANNING DIVISION OVERVIEW AND WORK PLAN PRESENTATION

Mr. Michael Garrigan, Mr. Mike Schwarz, Mr. Jon Proulx, and Ms. Sara Javoronok gave a overview of the Planning Division and presented the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Work Plan. The Planning staff reviewed current planning projects, long-range planning, special projects, economic development, historic preservation, green village initiatives, and the department administration.

Trustee Lamb thanked the staff for the presentation and suggested getting the community and developers involved in review process. Trustee Dement thanked the staff for the presentation and asked the staff to focus on bringing commercial to the community. Trustee Fay thanked the staff for the presentation and asked that they keep focus on the WIKADUKE Trail.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - None

Trustee Dement moved to adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of pending litigation, not to reconvene. Seconded by Trustee Fay. Vote by roll call. Dement, yes; Fay, yes; Lamb, yes; Manning, yes; Racich, absent; Vaupel, yes. 5 yes, 0 no, 1 absent. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.