

League of Women Voters Observers Report

Board meeting attended: Downers Grove Village Council

Date and Location of meeting: July 18, 2017, Council Chambers, 801 Burlington Ave.

Meeting started: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 7:50 p.m.

League Observer(s): Emily Teising

Board Members/Trustees present (P) not present (NP) tardy (T):

Mayor Martin Tully	P
Bob Barnett	P
Margaret Earl	P
Greg Hose	P
Nicole Walus	NP
William Waldack	P
Bill White	P

Estimated Number Attending (excluding Board and Staff): 8

Meetings are Streamed and Archived at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/VillageDownersGrove>

Agenda can be found at: [Agenda July 18, 2017](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rich Brennan, 5920 Washington, Clyde Estates. (Comment on Reconstruction project that was part of storm water management, started in July, 2015) Expressed appreciation for the communication with residents during the project, but said the biosoils have not been appropriately maintained by the contractor, and referred to a grading issue specific to his property.

Village Manager David Fieldman: agreed that maintenance has not been done correctly, and the Village is holding the contractor responsible, and it will be taken care of.

Laura (?) 937 Clyde Avenue in Clyde Estates, and her husband also spoke: positive about the earlier steps in the process and the ability to use bio soils, but also complained that no regular maintenance was performed. Suggested consequences for contractor.

Mayor Martin Tully: acknowledged their frustrations, the village will operate within the confines of the contract to hold the contractor responsible and work to improve communication with the Village.

Mayor's Report:

Revisions to FEMA floodplain maps have been issued. Two open-houses will be held. 1) July 27, 2017 from 4-8 p.m., 421 County Farm Rd., Wheaton.
2) August 9, 2017 from 6-8 p.m., 5101 Walnut Ave., Downers Grove.

CONSENT AGENDA Approved unanimously. See above agenda link.

ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Rezone property 4910 Cross Street, approved unanimously, no discussion.
- B. Establish a 1 percent Food and Beverage Tax.

Hosé: make sure the way we spend the money is wise, referenced the ongoing issue of facilities maintenance/building new Village Hall and Police Station.

Tully: Clarification that the current ordinance being voted on does not include anything about spending, and this tax is simply to replace decreased revenue from sales tax due to changing consumer habits.

Amendment proposed by Barnett: establish sales tax of 1.5 percent (not 1 percent) and include a sunset clause. Referenced new information since staff suggested 1 percent – “the state budget is likely to cause us pain.”

Hosé: agrees with sunset clause, but 1 percent is proper for now.

White: 1 percent appears to be fully sufficient to solve the immediate problem

Waldack: Supports 1 percent, that is what staff asked for. We will be entering budget discussions soon. Encouraged citizens to show up with their ideas.

Earl: Does not support the amendment. “I don’t even want to do that (1 percent), but I understand the need.”

Barnett: 1.5 percent would put us “in the middle of the pack” compared to surrounding municipalities.

Tully: How hard is it to change level of tax?

Fieldman: Once it is set up, making tweaks does not impose a big administrative burden.

Tully: merits to both sides. Wants to keep it at 1 percent, encourage other ways of thinking during budget process. Supported sunset clauses in the past, when there was an acute need and a goal that would be accomplished, but this is about a sea change.

VOTE on Amendment: Barnett Y, all others N

Vote on Ordinance: 5 Y, Barnett N

- C. Agreement with Allied Waste Services, approved unanimously, no discussion.
- D. Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, approved unanimously, no discussion.

FIRST READING

- A. Authorize Intergovernmental agreement with the County of DuPage, IL:
Presented by Police Chief Kurt Bluder. DuPage Justice Information System, a new countywide computerized system will streamline:
 - a. Dispatch
 - b. Records management
 - c. Mapping and in-vehicle data
 - d. Field Reporting

Rollout expected 2018, the new advanced technology will allow the village to share the cost of the program and share information with other communities and law enforcement.

FY 2017 cost: Just under \$46,000

Barnett: Clarification of \$71,000/year to participate for next six years?

Fieldman: Six years is the expected life cycle of the system, so that amount is a good estimate. (County uses the same fund structure for system replacement as the village.)

Tully: Fantatstic example of a movement towards collaboration, not only embracing, but leading the trend.

Comments/Concerns:

General Features

	Yes	No	Comments
Did the meeting start on time?	x		
Were members attentive and prepared?	x		
Were members courteous to each other?	x		
Were members attentive to the publics' comments?	x		
Was the facility adequate?	x		
Could the audience see and hear?	x		
Were visual aids easily visible to the audience	x		
Were the meeting facilities handicapped accessible	x		

FOIA (Complete once, unless information changes.)

Illinois Open Meetings Act requirements

	Yes	No	Comments
Was the agenda posted 48 hours before the meeting? If yes, note where	x		
Did the agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed?	x		
Were background materials made available to the public?	x		
Was there adequate discussion of the issues?	x		
Was there a closed session before, during or after the meeting?		x	
If there was a closed meeting, was any action taken after the closed session? If so, what action?		x	

Date Submitted: July 20, 2017

By: Emily Teising