

**League of Women Voters
Observers Report**

Board meeting attended: Downers Grove Village Council

Date and Location of meeting: May 8, 2018, Council Chambers, 801 Burlington Ave.

Meeting started: 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 10 p.m.

League Observer: Emily Teising

Trustees present (P) not present (NP) tardy (T), (Term expires)

Mayor Martin Tully	P	(2019)
Bob Barnett	P	(2021)
Margaret Earl	P	(2021)
Greg Hose	NP	(2021)
Nicole Walus	P	(2019)
William Waldack	P	(2019)
Bill White	P	(2019)

Est. Number Attending (excluding Board and Staff): 33 (some people came or left throughout the meeting, but the number of people in the audience remained between 30 and 40.)

Meetings are Streamed and Archived at:

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

Agenda can be found at: [Agenda May 8, 2018](#)

3. Minutes of Council Meetings [Council Minutes 05-01-18](#) Approved unanimously

4. Public Comment

Four residents of the Northwest Belmont Area (Drendel Road and Indianapolis Avenue) requested that the village not eliminate planned sidewalks for their neighborhood. A petition signed by 19 residents in 2017 initiated the sidewalk project in this neighborhood.

Other neighbors have since come forward opposing the project, and now the village is reviewing the project scope and design to address divergent requests from the neighborhood, Tully said. [Further details on the background are available here.](#)

Consent Agenda

A. Bills Payable: 6392, May 8, 2018 BIL 2018-7758

B. A motion authorizing a three-year contract for \$363,563.00 with M. E. Simpson Co., Inc., Valparaiso, IN, for fire hydrant maintenance and flow testing services [MOT 2018-7746](#)

- C. A motion authorizing a three-year contract for \$194,600.00 to M. E. Simpson Co., Inc., Valparaiso, IN, for water distribution valve assessment services [MOT 2018-7747](#)
- D. A motion authorizing \$1,914,264.48 to A Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc., Schaumburg, IL, for the 2018 water main improvements contract A [MOT 2018-7748](#)
- E. A motion authorizing \$1,682,500.36 to Austin Tyler Construction, Inc., Elwood, IL, for 2018 water main improvements Contract B [MOT 2018-7749](#)
- F. A motion authorizing \$32,769.00 to CDW Government, LLC, Vernon Hills, IL, for 180 Windows 10 Enterprise Operating System Licenses [MOT 2018-7760](#)
- G. A motion authorizing \$32,250.00 to Hancock Engineering, Westchester, IL, for 2019 water main survey services [MOT 2018-7756](#)
- H. A resolution authorizing the disposal of personal property owned by the Village of Downers Grove [RES 2018-7763](#)
- I. A motion authorizing an amount not to exceed \$22,000.00 to Zeigler Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Downers Grove, IL, for the Purchase of a Vehicle for Police Operations [MOT 2018-7767](#)
- J. Note receipt of minutes of Boards and Commissions (Liquor Commission meeting discussing item B on this week's First Reading agenda) [MIN 2018-7768](#)

Approved unanimously

Active Agenda

- A. An ordinance authorizing a loan agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency [ORD 2018-7745](#)

Background: On February 9, 2016, Council approved an ordinance authorizing the Village to borrow funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The 2018 loan is in the amount of \$3,704,667.79 for water main replacements, which includes a 3% contingency. These funds were used for water main replacements in 2016 in the amount of \$1,257,356.60 and 2017 for \$1,609,341.39.

Approved unanimously

- B. An ordinance amending the rates charged for water [ORD 2018-7753](#)

An ordinance has been prepared to increase water rates to pass through the increase received from the DuPage Water Commission (DWC). The typical residential user's (15 units bimonthly, 5/8" Meter Charge) bimonthly bill will increase by \$0.60.

Approved unanimously

First Reading

A. A resolution granting historic landmark designation for 1323 Maple Avenue [RES 2018-7752](#) This is a one-story bungalow constructed about 1924. Two members of the public spoke in favor of granting historic landmark designation.

B. An ordinance amending the wine boutique liquor license classification [ORD 2018-7759](#) The draft ordinance further amends the ordinance by removing the requirement that food be prepared on the premises, and instead only requires that the facility provide food service.

See Item J from Consent Agenda for Liquor Commission discussion.

Council members expressed support for the ordinance as it promotes changing economic development.

C. An ordinance amending provisions of Chapter 9, Office of Emergency Management [ORD 2018-7761](#) The ordinance clarifies responsibilities of office holders and definitions related to the declaration of a state of emergency.

D. A motion authorizing \$2,792,999.76 to K-Five Construction Corp., Westmont, IL, for 2018 street resurfacing contract B [MOT 2018-7750](#) Thirty-five street segments are scheduled for resurfacing through this contract.

Manager's Report – Observer Note: These discussions usually take place in the committee room, but tonight's discussion took place in council chambers to accommodate the audience of approximately 35.

A. Discussion of potential amendments to stormwater management regulations [REP 2018-7624](#) Summarized below in the introductory remarks by Village Manager David Fieldman. The staff put together a draft ordinance with two goals:

1. Minimize the negative impact of runoff from development
2. Accommodate and encourage redevelopment and investment in the community

Challenges:

1. Many parts of the village lack modern infrastructure
2. There are localized poor drainage areas
3. The ground in Downers Grove has a high clay content (poor drainage)
4. The need to balance the objectives (of existing homeowners and builders)

Comments from the building community

1. There should be modern storm water infrastructure funded by all
2. If the ordinance as drafted passes, new home construction and renovations, especially additions, will plummet
3. Detention basins will not help

Council member discussion. All council members present spoke during the discussion.

- All were committed to improving the situation.
- Is there a fair balance in the burden on private homeowners versus public infrastructure?
- Concern about impervious surfaces not accounted for in the ordinance (driveways, patios etc.)
- General consensus that no option should be taken off the table

Public comment

- Ten residents spoke, including a builder, a member of the Downers Grove Economic Development Corporation, a former village employee, a resident who is a civil and storm water engineer in a neighboring community, and many who have experienced flooding in their homes or on their property.
- Universal agreement that something must be done. A variety of perspectives on the efficacy of different solutions suggested. A desire to see a mixture of short term and long term solutions.

[Manager Report](#)

Date Submitted: May 10, 2018

By: Emily Teising