

JULY

League of Women Voters of Downers Grove-Woodridge-Lisle

Observer's Report

Governmental Body: : Downers Grove Village Council      Date: July 10, 2012

Please check answers:

Type of meeting:     Regular     Workshop     Public Hearing  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Facilities:     Clean     Proper Size     Could See     Could Hear  
                   Handicap accessible

Media Coverage:     Yes     No    If yes, who was present: DG Patch reporter,  
Sarah Marchmont.

Public Present:     Yes + about 15 at the beginning of the meeting     No

Public Comment:     Yes     No

All procedures were followed for the meeting.

Additional observations or concerns:

1.        The only active item on the agenda was the approval of the contractor for the Grove Street construction project. A local contractor, Swallow Inc., spoke during the public comment and requested reconsideration of the staff recommended contractor. Swallow provided the lowest bid, but did not provide all of the required paperwork, so their bid was disqualified. Council members and Mayor Tully addressed this issue by stating the process must be consistently followed and enforced. Swallow is already working on one DG project and Mayor Tully expressed his hope Swallow will continue to bid on future DG projects. The approval of the village recommended contractor passed unanimously. Information about the project can be seen here. It is a first in DG with permeable brick paving, rain gardens and other best practices being employed. There was a question raised about the cost for this type of road vs. a traditional asphalt road and staff was not sure. The brick road has a much longer life than asphalt, therefore the initial cost is higher. This is a good question and the Village should provide the answer to the public.

1.        There was a first reading of four matters. The first related to outsourcing the storage of fire prevention reports taken by inspectors on behalf of the Village and the DG Fire Department. The cost of this service will paid by the inspection companies and is an efficient way to record and store the reports. The

second related to bringing the DG ordinance for smoke detectors and sprinklers in line with international standards by eliminating the need for some smoke detectors when sprinklers are also present in the same space. No safety issues will result in this ordinance change. The third matter related to a request by Hertz Rental for a special use permit for its new location along Ogden Avenue. The permit was unanimously approved by the DG Plan Commission.

The fourth matter generated the most discussion and related to adoption of new procedures used by the OASIS program. OASIS is a program for property and business owners within the Ogden TIF district to receive matching grants for property improvements using TIF funds. The suggested program changes were generated by discussion in March with the Village Council which were brought to the OASIS board in April and June, resulting in the changes discussed this evening. After all council members provided comment, it was decided to take the additional suggestions back to the OASIS board for further discussion and place the final program changes on a future agenda, perhaps in August.

Observer: Hilary A. Denk

Date submitted: \_\_July 12, 2012\_\_\_\_\_

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