

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

I. ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

- A. Chairman: Alex J. Olejniczak
- B. Members: Trustee Paul Mallo
Trustee Alex G. Olejniczak
Trustee William R. Stalker
- C. Staff: Village Manager Tom Phelan
Public Works Director Bill Meyer
Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary
- D. Other: Trustee Ralph Soch
Lee M. Fell, PE - Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.
Pat Eaves, Manager, Nicor

II. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes #2021-6– October 14, 2021, was made by Member Stalker and seconded by Member Mallo.

Roll call: Mallo, yes; Olejniczak, yes; Stalker, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 3-0.

III. DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

A motion was made by Member Olejniczak to advance Agenda Item III, 3 – Nicor Project. The motion was seconded by Member Mallo.

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye. All opposed, none.

Motion to advance passes.

1.) Nicor Project

A. Restoration / Clean Up

Mr. Meyer introduced the Nicor government representative, Pat Eaves and explained that Pat and some of her teams are present to provide an update on current Oak Lawn Nicor projects.

Ms. Pat Eaves, Manager, Nicor, 3655 Parthenon Way, Olympia Fields, Illinois

Ms. Eaves said she is here with her team to discuss Nicor and the process of updating their infrastructure. She explained that as part of the infrastructure process, it drives several other projects and that the projects have several layers.

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

Ms. Eaves introduced herself, stating that she is the Community Relations Liaison and the point of contact for any questions or concerns about Oak Lawn projects or events. Ms. Eaves said that some of her team present include her construction manager, the project manager for the inside meter move-out program, and the project manager for landscaping and paving. Ms. Eaves said that she understands there are many questions and concerns about landscaping and paving. She commented that she does have a list of addresses and said that Nicor is working hard on that list but have been impacted by the weather.

Ms. Laura Higdon, Systems Operation Supervisor, Nicor, 415 S. Craig Place, Lombard, Illinois

Ms. Higdon explained that she is the Construction Superintendent for the inside meter move-out program. Ms. Higdon shared a copy of the communication package that is sent to residents. She explained that the communication describes the program as well as the phases and the impact this program will have on the residents. Ms. Higdon said that the list also includes addresses where Nicor anticipates having to relocate not only the meters but also the service. She explained that Nicor wishes to relocate all meters to the outside. She stated that companywide, Nicor needs to move 91,000 meters. Ms. Higdon pointed out that this project is a multi-year program. She went on to explain how the residents are notified.

She said at first Nicor contacts customers via letters that are mailed to the resident's homes. She said in that correspondence there is a FAQ area that includes contact/email information and who the resident should expect to call them. She explained that they want to avoid any miscommunication and ensure that the customer is at ease with Nicor's presence. Ms. Higdon said the next step is to schedule an appointment to discuss and agree on an outside position of the meter. She indicated that the meter is not placed on the driveway side for obvious reasons. According to Ms. Higdon, the program is entirely dependent on the customer's participation. She said that they will attempt at least 4-5 times to reach a resident by phone, door tag, and so on. She indicated that if they do not receive a response, they will send out a second letter.

According to Ms. Higdon, Nicor has been working in Oak Lawn for the past two years. She said that Nicor's contractor is Pipestrong LLC, and that they have been replacing the service in Oak Lawn with no complaints.

Both Members Olejniczak and Stalker responded that they have received resident complaints.

Member Stalker said that he was surprised to see nine (9) pages of resident addresses for the meter replacement. Ms. Higdon replied that there are approximately 350 locations for replacement of services. Member Stalker asked Ms. Higdon who does the internal piping. Ms. Higdon responded that their contractor, Pipestrong, does that work. Ms. Eaves remarked that there is not a cost to the customer.

Member Mallo asked whether houses that have meters outside of their homes on their driveway side would be included on the list. Ms. Higdon replied that they could be. Ms. Eaves stated that another Nicor program is looking at residential homes with meters on their driveways.

Member Olejniczak asked about the expected live cycle of the meters. Ms. Higdon responded that it really depends on corrosion, where they are placed, and so on. Ms. Higdon said that the average life cycle is between 40 and 50 years.

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

Mr. Josh Janus, Construction Operations Group, 1844 Ferry Road, Naperville, Illinois

Mr. Janus stated that when his group observes deterioration in the aging infrastructure, they replace the gas mains as well as the service lines to the homes. He said any meters inside the house are brought outside. He said if the meters are already outside, those meters will be converted to the new lines. Mr. Janus said there are currently a few projects in the area that they hope to complete by the end of the year, as well as a third that has only recently begun. He stated that the goal is to remove the old gas mains from the system. Ms. Eaves expressed that all of this is done to ensure the system's integrity.

Member Stalker asked about the new material type. Mr. Janus responded that for the most part it is plastic, but that some of the mains are steel coated. Member Olejniczak asked whether the replacement meters are digital flow gas meters. No, said Ms. Eaves. Mr. Janus asked Member Olejniczak whether he was referring to AMI devices. Member Olejniczak responded yes. Member Olejniczak discussed the lifespan and end of certification period reaching to only 10 or 20 years. Ms. Eaves responded that the material and the equipment's life span far exceed that. She said she can certainly get additional information. She also mentioned that Nicor works with the Illinois Commerce Commission and adhere to all state and federal guidelines for their infrastructure, as well as using high-quality materials as required by that agency.

Member Olejniczak brought up Mr. Janus' comments about *hoping* to complete their current projects and asked him to define hoping. Mr. Janus responded that a system cannot be retired until all crossties are completed. Some of the lag times, he explained, occur during the winter or when homeowners delay a transfer. He indicated with any delay a project may be pushed back.

Member Olejniczak asked about the notification process, specifically how Nicor ensures that a customer received it. He mentioned that he received a phone call from a resident and business owner who owns a pizza restaurant at 87th and Major who had asked if any work would be done in his area because Nicor was out marking areas. Member Olejniczak said this resident did not receive any communication. Ms. Eaves stated that before beginning any project, they consult with the Village's Public Works Department. She also mentioned that two meetings are held prior to the start of a project. Ms. Eaves said that Nicor relies heavily on the mail, but that before they turn a customer off or touch their infrastructure, they contact the customer to inform them. She added that even if it is a simple meter exchange, they will schedule an appointment with the customer. Mr. Janus commented that their contractor always contacts the customer to ensure that the meters are installed in the best possible location. Ms. Eaves pointed out that any project they are working on is predicated on the customer's response.

Ms. Tiffany Way, Landscape and Paving Coordinator, 1844 Ferry Road, Naperville, Illinois

Tiffany stated that she is in responsible for Oak Lawn and several surrounding communities. She outlined the contractors and mentioned the following: Trice Construction Co. does the concrete work and Matthew Paving, their subcontractor, does the asphalt work. She said Plum Valley Landscaping handles all the landscaping. Tiffany indicated that as of yesterday, Plum Valley was behind on some project-related work because they did not want to lay the sod while it was hot and dry because customers would likely not water it causing it to shrivel up and die. She mentioned that she spoke with Plum Valley this afternoon and that all the sod for Josh's projects have been laid.

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

She estimates that Plum Valley will be in and around those areas approximately 14 times. She went on to say that 91st Place, 49th Court, 49th Avenue, and 92nd Street were all laid today. Tiffany said as of today instead of 144 open addresses, she now has 63. She explained that once the underground work is completed, a ticket is submitted to her department and then distributed to an associated contractor. She said the paving contractors have 30 days to complete their work, and that the landscaper will follow in 21 days, weather permitting.

Member Olejniczak expressed confusion in that we suddenly have full movement right before this meeting. He said his biggest frustration as it relates to most of the work done in the 2nd District is that construction projects go well and then there is a lag on replacing driveways and landscaping. He mentioned that he was visiting a long-term resident at 9331 52nd Avenue and that this resident's work was completed two years ago but that the landscaping in front of his home was never finished. He said it is a frustration he hears commonly: "not done" or "not done up to the resident's satisfaction". He asked who the resident should contact if it is not completed or not completed to the resident's satisfaction. Ms. Eaves indicated that the landscaping and paving department's contact information is included in the letter the customer received. She expressed that if there are any issues, she should be contacted and that she will work internally to resolve the problem.

Member Olejniczak also mentioned a resident who attempted to contact Nicor on her own but was unable to get any movement to repair a hole on the side of her house; he said no one from Nicor was willing to assist her at that time. He expressed that this is a common complaint among his constituents. He said there is no follow-up/follow-through. Member Stalker mentioned that he had a similar complaint and that when he reached out to someone at Nicor, he was asked for a ticket number. He stated that he does not have ticket numbers, only a resident's address.

Ms. Eaves expressed to the Members that she will give everyone her business card and will help navigate Nicor.

2.) 2022 Street Program Update

A. Phase I

Bill Meyer introduced Lee Fell and explained that he will discuss Phase I before moving onto Phase II. He pointed out that the proposal and street list were included in the Members' packets.

Mr. Fell explained that Phase I was approved by the Village Board and that they are in the process of signing the contract. He said once the contract is signed and returned to the Village, it will be sent to IDOT, and we will be up and running, he hopes within the next week or so. He added that while he is sure everyone is aware of the Local 150 strike, he did provide a link to Bill to share that provides the most up-to-date daily status of where they are with the strike. He said he does not expect it to be resolved within the next week or so, but that the strike is affecting stone gradation, which affects getting stone, making asphalt, and so on. He said he will find out how this will affect M&J.

Village Manager Phelan mentioned to Mr. Fell that he was with someone last Thursday who he believes works for Gallagher. He said Gallagher has a plant in Bourbonnais. Village Manager Phelan said he was told to not let the contractors hold us hostage. Mr. Fell replied that a lot is dependent on where the

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

contractor obtains the stone. He said some quarries are open and not affected by the strike. Another option, he said, is to get a different mix design. Village Manager Phelan said he could understand the streets being delayed but not what has been opened. Mr. Fell agreed, saying patches are much easier to manage.

Mr. Meyer commented saying that he sent a truck out to Gallagher today for asphalt and although it was a harder mix, it worked. He said he will continue the internal patch work. Mr. Meyer said there are approximately 138 locations. He said some areas are passable and that they are focusing on those that require immediate attention. He mentioned that Local 150 is not picketing Gallagher.

Mr. Fell mentioned that there is also a letter from Ozinga in the link he provided. He said Ozinga is not part of the strike but that Local 150 is attempting to delay their projects.

Village Manager Phelan mentioned the property on 87th Street west of Central. He said the auto owner wanted to purchase parcels of land in that area, specifically the one adjacent to him. The Village Manager said he discussed with Bill adding the alley to Phase II if it was not too late. Mr. Meyer responded that the alley is part of Phase I. Mr. Meyer said he was not sure if additional lots would be added to Phase II to consolidate the parcels. Village Manager Phelan said he will obtain the map and distribute it to the Public Works Members.

Member Olejniczak said his one concern is that we are in the month of July, and we are only discussing Phase I. He asked staff to consider 2023 and getting the information to this Board in January or February so that we are ready to go. Mr. Fell commented that one of the reasons for the delay was survey work due to the recon streets. Mr. Fell said as far as 2023, the sooner he receives a list of streets, the sooner they can begin field work and then get it out to bid. He said implementing hot-in-place will make things much easier. Mr. Meyer pointed out that we have a lot of hot-in-place in our Phase I. Member Olejniczak asked whether the strike has an impact on Phase I of the hot-in-place. Mr. Fell responded yes. Member Olejniczak asked why. Mr. Fell explained that the surface and binder course that goes in must have the stone, and the strike is with the quarries where the stone is mined. Mr. Meyer mentioned that he calls Lindahl (located in Chicago Ridge) daily and said they are completely shut down. Mr. Meyer pointed out that Lee and his team have shared the 2023 streets with him and that they are currently surveying them. He expects to have the list to the PW Committee for approval. He said we will be conducting surveys late this year or early next. Mr. Fell said that if everything goes well, we can try to get bids in January and be ready to go when the weather warms up in March.

B. Phase II

Mr. Meyer reminded the Board that the list of streets for Phase II is in their packets. He said there is a proposal from Burke that requires Committee approval.

Member Olejniczak made a motion to approve the Professional Engineering Services Proposal of Christopher Burke. The motion was seconded by Member Mallo.

Roll call: Mallo, yes; Olejniczak, yes, Stalker, yes.

Motion to approve passes.

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

Member Stalker said he would like to read the information. Member Olejniczak said this will go to the Village Board for approval so there is a lot of time for review. Mr. Fell said he will move forward with design. He explained that if he waits until August and then go out to bid in September, they will not finish it this year.

A motion was made to advance Agenda Item IV. The motion was seconded by Member Stalker.

Voice vote: All in favor, aye; All opposed, none. Motion passes.

4) Lead Service Line

A. General Discussion

Mr. Meyer explained that the EPA is pushing for the removal of lead service lines that connect the Village Water Mains to the home. He said if a crew clips a line during repair season, we now own it. He went on to say that if there is any damage, the service must be completely removed within 30 days. He pointed out that the regulations are becoming increasingly stringent. He explained that one of the problems is that we do not have a current plan in place. His concern is losing out on federal dollars, and he is anxious to leverage federal funds because this is not a cheap project. He is making a recommendation to engage Burke for this project which would be a basic design plan that would qualify Oak Lawn for federal funding. He said we have approximately 2,267 lead service lines.

Mr. Fell told the Board that there is information in their packets. He said Bill has already completed the inventory that must be submitted to the EPA by April 2024. He referred to page 3 and the “EPA Public Water Loan Program” which is what we will submit. He said in order to apply for funding, we must complete a project plan that basically states that the Village wants to do however many replacements at whatever cost, and we will work with the Village Finance Department to come up with how it will look and how it ends up whether it is forgivable or not, and how we repay it or not, and we submit that project plan to EPA with all the necessary environmental information. He said they will then provide approval for funding and then we will then go to design. Mr. Fell said the goal is to obtain federal funding. He explained that we will replace from the Main to the house and so we will have to work on how we bid this because we will have an underground contractor do the outside work and then a sub-contractor do the inside work.

Member Stalker asked about the material used. Mr. Meyer responded that it could be either lead or copper. Member Stalker then asked whether each home would be surveyed. Mr. Fell responded that this is part of what Bill has already finished and said it would have to be bid in the most economical way for the Village while not making it difficult for contractors. Mr. Meyer said that they will look at a trenchless technology and will boor from the B-Box (Buffalo Box).

A motion was made by Member Mallo to present the Proposal for Lead Service Line Replacement to the Village Board. The motion was seconded by Member Stalker.

Voice vote: All in favor, aye; All opposed, none.

Motion passes.

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

3.) Speed Humps

A. Policy and Application

Mr. Meyer said the packet includes a list of speed hump locations that were never approved by the Village Board even though we all know there has been numerous requests and installations over the years. Mr. Meyer said there was discussion on this last year, and he learned that a lot of our community does not support these speed humps. Mr. Meyer said he has created a general guideline on the process and rules pertaining to speed humps and is looking for feedback. He said he wants the Board to be involved in the approval of the speed humps.

Member Stalker pointed out the area of 107th & Cook Avenue and said when a train crosses Central, cars cut through Eagle Ridge. He mentioned that there was an accident there a few weeks ago. He expressed that speed bumps are necessary in that location. Mr. Meyer said that he and the Village Manager believe it is best to get a policy completed so that future requests are submitted at the committee level and then ultimately approved by the Village Board of Trustees. Mr. Meyer contends that there is no record of approval of the existing speed humps.

Member Mallo asked Member Stalker if he supports the speed humps even though they clearly will not have an impact on traffic when a train crosses Central. Member Stalker responded yes and said if he had a choice, he would close the access in Eagle Ridge so that cars would not use that route during a train crossing. Member Stalker said he is receiving more complaints now that the speed humps have been removed than when they were present. He said residents who have speed humps in front of their homes are the ones who complain. Member Mallo said this policy would give an opportunity to vet out the speed hump request. Member Mallo said the proposed policy would allow the vetting of speed hump requests. He believes that the speed humps in his neighborhood make no sense because they are right next to each other.

Mr. Meyer indicated that there is an existing form that the Traffic Review Commission could use for speed hump requests. He said he would follow the process in the same manner as we do for requests of additional stop signs. He said such requests would be routed to the Traffic Review Commission and staff would also obtain police data, and then the request would then go to the Village Board of Trustees. Mr. Meyer said his proposed policy sets a two-year timeframe for the speed humps. He said he would like feedback on his recommendation before proceeding. He also mentioned that he believes traffic circles would be more effective at calming traffic.

Member Olejniczak said the flow and the speed of traffic is the number one issue for which he receives the most calls. He said it is a common theme: Cars are evading streets such as 95th Street, 87th Street, or Southwest Highway. He said he would like to see a comprehensive traffic study. He said the Board is doing their best. He mentioned one of his favorite stories. He recalled the story of residents that lived on Menard between 91st and 93rd Street petitioned to have speed humps and then demanded that they be removed soon after they were installed. He expressed that he does not believe that speed humps are the solution. He pointed out that we as a Village are held responsible for irresponsible drivers and that in every one of these circumstances it is because a driver is not following traffic laws. Member Olejniczak said once we begin creating policy and procedures and disseminating that information, there will be an influx of requests for speed humps. Member Mallo agreed. He said that as soon as a speed hump is added, he receives a flood of

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois
Village Hall Auditorium
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes #2022-1

requests for them. Member Olejniczak said that speed humps may make sense in the area to which Member Stalker is referring but he believes we should have a more comprehensive plan. He said that the requests for speed humps have become more emotional than factual, such as living near a school, having 26 children on the block, and so on. Member Olejniczak said the proposed policy is a good start but that we must be careful what we wish for, and that people will not be satisfied with fact-based discussion. Member Olejniczak, said the increased speed of traffic flow statistically happens between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., or 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Meyer clarified that he is looking for direction in that if the Commission believes that this is something we want, it will include the previously mentioned application process. Member Olejniczak said he feels speed humps do not produce the desired results. Mr. Meyer agreed. Member Stalker said that the Trustee that takes the resident call should have a say in what happens in his district. Mr. Meyer explained that if we follow the process that he outlined, the Trustee will have the ultimate say. Trustee Stalker said he would “take the heat” if he requests a speed hump or a traffic circle. The Village Manager said the requests are subjective to some extent, but it is a matter of having a streamlined process so that no one is accused of favoritism when it comes to speed humps.

Member Mallo mentioned that there are three stop sign requests on tonight's BOT agenda and he believes these types of requests will not stop. The Village Manager said that a Trustee can also deny a request Member Olejniczak proposed a speed bump beta test. Member Mallo pointed out that in the past there was no review process for speed humps, just as there is no process for roundabouts. Member Olejniczak responded that roundabouts were a beta test. Mr. Meyer said the Public Works Department has concrete barriers from the Illinois Department of Transportation that can be cut and used to create temporary traffic circles as part of a beta test.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None.

V. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Mallo and seconded by Member Stalker.

Voice vote: All in favor, aye.

Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned 7:07 p.m.