

HOMER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees
Special Meeting – March 19, 2012

President O'Brien called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Dr. Edward O'Brien
Mike Budde, Treasurer
Phyllis Levine

STAFF PRESENT

Sheree Kozel-La Ha, Library Director
Sara McCambridge, Assistant Director
Carol McSweeney, Business Manager
Patti Nakutis, Recording Secretary

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Jane Klunk, Vice President
Adelyne Parker, Secretary
Brian Smith
Kevin Owen

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

President O'Brien welcomed staff and the following guests:

Mayor Jim Daley; Village of Homer Glen
Pam Meyers; Homer Township Supervisor
Mike DeVivo; Homer Township Hwy Commissioner
Aaron Fundich; Robinson Engineering
Cameron Davis; HG Village Manager
Kevin Hoffmeister; HG Village Chair of the Plan Commission
Mike Salamowicz; HG Village Director of Development Services
Tony Drabik; Homer Stallions President
Dan McDevitt; Homer Stallions Football Coach
Ron Jonites; Homer Stallions Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENT

Trustee Budde made a motion to open the floor to public comment.

Mayor Daley opened by stating that Homer sports organizations use the Township property and have concerns regarding revised drainage from the expansion project. He is unaware if they have attended any previous meetings regarding the library expansion.

Tony Drabik introduced himself, Dan McDevitt, and Ron Jonites. Tony stated that they were not here to complain about losing practice field/areas. Their concern is for the water. There are 400 families registered in football and cheerleading with games on Saturday. He stated that natural drainage runs northeast and he would like to know what is going to be done and what the impact would be for the field and grass areas adjacent.

Dan McDevitt congratulated the library on the expansion and noted that they were in support. He also thanked the library for use of library property as a practice field over the years. There are almost 600 children registered in their program and he wants to ensure that the library is considering the impact of potential water/flooding. The fields are used all week with games on Saturday. He is concerned with the drainage in the northeast corner and wants to be assured that there will be no adverse impact. He is also concerned with water from the east and water from the golf course. Dan expressed that he would like the library to consider the opportunity to take advantage of a drainage line with the Township to improve drainage.

Mike DeVivo stated that he spoke with Aaron at Robinson Engineering previously. He suggested one option was to connect into the Highway Department line. He has plans to put a sanitary sewer along the east side of his driveway this summer. He thought this line would be able to encompass any drainage along the area that they would be working on. He also noted that having the same engineer would be beneficial and will work with us any way he can.

Director Kozel-La Ha stated that this option was discussed and reviewed with the Village of Homer Glen. It is not favored for several reasons:

- Monetarily, it would be exceedingly expensive and cost prohibitive to the Library to run lengthy piping. This expansion is not being funded by a referendum.
- We are not affiliated with the Township or Highway Dept. so this plan would require an intergovernmental agreement with two other boards.
- There were concerns expressed about maintenance of the line.
- We were advised by the Village of Homer Glen not to look at outside venues but to address the water issues on our site and that is the avenue we followed.

Aaron stated that there is an existing drainage problem well known in Homer Township areas, including the sports fields which are adjacent to the library. The library is less than 5 acres and is a small part of the problem. This revision will in fact decrease water impact from library runoff and improve sheeting currently taking place when it rains. The library's drainage portion will run east and west. If there are concerns with water along the fence at Woodbine, minor regrading may be necessary.

The football fields are above the drainage area and will not be affected. Everything that drains north including 3 downspouts from the library roof currently drain without any detention (sheeting). Drainage after the expansion will be 95% less than it is today.

The library is going above and beyond allowing for 10% additional volume in the pond which is more than the Village Ordinance requires. Also, the water will be dispersed with a level spreader to ensure that the water dissipates. The library project will *not* solve all of the drainage problems but it *will* improve those that exist on the library property.

Tony asked if the standing water on the east side near the golf course will get worse. Dan added that Woodbine's water flows toward the library. Aaron replied that there will be storm sewer structures in place on the east side of the library. It will not flow back onto the northeast corner of the library and that a water detention area is not the ideal place for athletic practice.

Mayor Daley added that the Village and Township would not have approved plans that would worsen the problem. It is designed to improve the problem. It will have 10% more capacity than required by ordinance. Our engineer worked with the Engineering Supervisor in addition to an outside engineering consultant. It should improve the fields, especially baseball.

Dan stated that they were concerned and wanted to make sure that the library addressed every situation.

Mayor Daley stated that Mike DeVivo will be making improvements on his property and it's possible that his project can help. Mike replied that it will be up to Illinois American Water. Aaron added that the Hwy Dept project should take place this summer.

Pam Meyers stated that we have all worked together. The library came forward even before drawings were presented and worked with the Township. The library is keeping storm water on site. The detention area behind the Township cannot be filled to be used as a field. The Township and Highway Department storm water needs improvement, but she does not feel that the library is contributing to those problems.

Tony asked if the drainage to the west behind the Township would be a larger retention. Aaron stated that the Library will not contribute to that area. It should improve because the library water will be kept on site. Run-off will improve. There was a short discussion.

Mayor Daley stated that the library expansion will not impact the Township property in a negative way. Permits would not be issued if that were true.

President O'Brien thanked all the guests for attending and at 5:36 p.m. the meeting was closed to public comment. President O'Brien noted that they are free to contact Director Kozel-La Ha or himself with any questions.

EXPANSION OVERVIEW

President O'Brien invited all guests to stay for a power-point presentation, but they declined. President O'Brien thanked Aaron for his attendance at the meeting. Aaron stated that he wanted to be more positive moving forward in light of their representation at a previous meeting. He stated that we need to make sure our Contractor knows to keep the lines of communication open. There was a short discussion.

President O'Brien asked if it would help to make the retention/detention deeper. Aaron explained that it has been redesigned and cannot go much deeper. Director Kozel-La Ha asked about the other 2 ponds that were required. Aaron stated that they will be small swales – like depressions and they will be spruced up with landscape.

Director Kozel-La Ha noted that a fact sheet was provided to Homer Athletic Club previously and Tony was aware that Jim Ludwig is in support of the expansion.

Aaron noted that construction improvements are possible between the Township and Highway Department but it is not known if there is money to support it.

Director Kozel-La Ha stated that the bid documents have been sent to the attorney. The next step is to go out for bid and we will break ground in June. Aaron added that we will still need final approval from the Village but noted that the Mayor is in full support of the library. There was a short discussion.

Director Kozel-La Ha stated that Jim Ludwig has offered to allow library staff to park on the west portion of his parking lot during construction. The new Library parking lot will be the first step in construction.

President O'Brien noted that the Township owns 5 acres of property that they offered to Homer Athletic Club/Homer Stallions but they declined because there is not lighting or parking.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:50 p.m. President O'Brien adjourned the meeting.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Monday, March 26, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Nakutis

Recording Secretary

cc: David Lennon