

VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES
GRASSMERE, HAVERTON, OAKSBURY (GHO) PROJECT
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll Call was answered by Trustees Kelleher, Morrow, Pais, Vandenberg and President Sweet McDonnell. Also present were John Biessel and Jacob Wellbank of Robinson Engineering, Village Treasurer Mo Ashab, Administrator John Lobaito, and Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy.

Presentation of GHO Project

President Sweet McDonnell began the PowerPoint presentation by reviewing the history and background of the flooding issue on IL Route 59, Oaksbury Subdivision, and Haverton on The Ponds subdivision and how the current GHO stormwater mitigation project evolved.

Previous engineering studies were performed in 2019. President Sweet McDonnell and Village Administrator John Lobaito met with Lake County Stormwater Management Commission executive director in 2021, learning about potential grant funds. A long-term solution to the current stormwater problems is the goal, along with establishing a partnership between the Village and the residents.

Meetings and presentations have been conducted with residents whose property is affected by the flooding and proposed project. There are five government regulatory agencies that have jurisdiction over the project.

Overall, it is the lack of proper drainage that is causing the flooding. By law, in the State of Illinois, drainage water must be allowed to flow naturally where it will flow. There are approximately fourteen (14) homes in the Haverton on The Pond subdivision and about twenty-nine (29) homes in the Grassmere Farms subdivision. She explained that the Village has no legal obligations to solve water problems on private property. The Village is optimistic about the possibility of receiving grant funds to help pay for a portion of the project cost.

John Biessel of Robinson Engineering introduced himself and Jacob Wellbank to the Board. Robinson Engineering is the appointed Village Wetlands and Stormwater representative. Mr. Biessel and Mr. Wellbank provided a PowerPoint summary of the project. The overall improvement can be summarized as three (3) projects in one. The first is the restoration of the wetlands on the west side of IL Route 59 after much of the water is drained down to a designed level. The second improvement is the replacement of the

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Box culvert pipe underneath IL Route 59. Lastly, is the construction of a swale/channel on the east side of IL Route 59 that connects to an existing swale near IL Route 22 and the replacement of two (2) undersized driveway culvert pipes on Duck Pond Ln. in Oaksbury subdivision. The Village Engineer explained that there is no increase to peak flows through Oaksbury Subdivision due to an existing sixteen (16) inch restrictor pipe south of IL Route 22 that will remain in place. Likewise, the project will not increase the water level of Honey Lake.

There was discussion about the long-term maintenance and responsibility once the project is complete. The Army Corps of Engineer will require a five-year monitoring and maintenance plan. This cost is not part of the project budget and is estimated to cost approximately \$20,000 per year. The long-term role of the Village was discussed as it relates to maintenance.

The project is contingent on the acquisition of easements from the private property owners. If all the easements are not obtained, the project as designed cannot be constructed. A question about the Village using Eminent domain was asked and the Village Administrator opined that it is not a viable option as the process is lengthy and costly. Voluntary cooperation by the private property owners is the best course of action.

President Sweet McDonnell thanked John Lobaito, John Biessel and Jacob Wellbank for their efforts. Trustee Martin Pais thanked the participants as well.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Pais and seconded by Trustee Morrow to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote Trustees Kelleher, Morrow, Pais, and Vandenberg voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Submitted by,

John A. Lobaito, Village Clerk

