

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole

of the

CITY OF DARIEN

JULY 19, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor Weaver.

2. Present: Halil Avci Sylvia McIvor
John Galan John F. Poteraske, Jr.
Carolyn A. Gattuso Ted V. Schauer
Joseph A. Marchese

Absent: None

Also in Attendance: Kathleen Moesle Weaver, Mayor
Joanne F. Coleman, City Clerk
Michael J. Coren, City Treasurer
Bryon D. Vana, City Administrator
Daniel Gombac, Director of Community Development/Municipal Services
David Skala, Deputy Chief

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM — There being seven aldermen present, Mayor Weaver declared a quorum.

3. **75TH STREET EXPANSION**

Mayor Weaver advised that the meeting was called in order to be certain all Council Members had a chance to see all of the revisions to the county's 75th Street Expansion Plan prior to approval of the resolution on this evening's agenda.

Mayor Weaver asked if there were any questions and/or comments. There were none.

Mayor Weaver remarked that the city should have requested overhead, illuminated signs at Cass and 75th as a part of the expansion plans.

Director Gombac advised that the lighted signs were requested. The county is conducting a study as to whether or not the signs will be made a part of the plan.

Alderman Marchese recalled, from the meeting, that the signs could be installed at the city's cost.

Director Gombac advised that the county's main concern is that the signs would not be visible at night if the power goes out.

Administrator Vana believes the city would bear the expense of the overhead, illuminated signs if the lighting selected was theme or above the standard.

Director Gombac agreed, and recalled the county will look into the overhead, illuminated signs.

Mayor Weaver questioned how an overhead, illuminated sign at Fairview and Maple was merited. Mayor Weaver would like to be assured that the city is not charged for something other municipalities received at no cost.

A discussion took place on various locations where the overhead, illuminated signs are posted in other municipalities.

Mayor Weaver would like to see overhead, illuminated signs at the major intersections in town.

Alderman Avci stated that he is comfortable with the county's proposal, and as long as the city is reserving the right for further input, he will support the resolution.

Alderman Schauer inquired about the right turn lane when heading southbound on 75th Street near Walmart. Alderman Schauer advised his concern is due to the fact that motorists are consistently using the shoulder at this location.

Director Gombac responded that he will double check the plans and report back.

Clerk Coleman expressed concern with how motorists will enter Brookhaven when traveling northbound on Cass.

Alderman Marchese stated that the county found it necessary to create an extended median in order to have a longer stacking lane. There is to be a sign posted which will allow motorists who are traveling southbound on Cass to make a U-turn at Plainfield Road to enter Heritage Center. Alderman Marchese added that once Heritage Center is redeveloped, the county will be open to new curb cuts on 75th Street and Plainfield Road just east of Cass.

Administrator Vana noted that the county verbally agreed to the curb cuts. Administrator Vana added that, as with any new development, the county would have to review the plans prior to any formal agreement.

Alderman Poteraske added that the curb cuts would need to be further away from the intersections.

Mayor Weaver agreed.

Administrator Vana commented that the expansion plans have been in process since 1991. The city passed resolutions opposing the plans in 1991, and again in 1995.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Weaver adjourned the meeting at 6:56 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk

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