

# **Village of Homer Glen**

**14933 South Founders Crossing  
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491**

**February 25, 2009**

**Board of Trustees**

## **Special Meeting**

**Village Council Chamber  
14917 South Founders Crossing  
Homer Glen, IL**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on February 25, 2009 by Mayor James Daley at 6:05 p.m. in the Village Council Chamber – 14917 South Founders Crossing, Homer Glen.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG****C. ROLL CALL**

Present at 6:05 p.m. were Mayor James Daley, Trustees Marcia DeVivo, Christopher Locacius, Mary Niemiec, Margaret Sabo, and Laurel Ward. Trustee Knaack arrived at 6:06 p.m. All remained present throughout the meeting. Also present on behalf of the Village were Village Clerk Gale Skroboton, Village Manager Paula Wallrich, Mike Salamowicz, and Village Attorney Cary Horvath.

A quorum was established.

**D. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**E. PRESENTATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING CIRCLE FOR OAKWOOD BERM (Robinson Engineering)**

Mayor Daley stated that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss traffic calming measures with the residents who will be affected by the removal of the Oakwood berm, and to hear resident's comments, suggestions and recommendations.

Village Attorney Cary Horvath read into the record that all of the Board of Trustees of Homer Glen were served with notice of this meeting and have attended the meeting tonight.

Harry Gilmore from Robinson Engineering presented the options for traffic calming in the Oakwood berm and surrounding areas. Recommendations included:

- . Traffic circle in the cul-de-sac west of the berm area
- . Continuous sidewalks on the north and south side
- . Parking would be prohibited inside the circle
- . Additional street lights
- . Posted speed limit of 20 mph
- . Possible advisory speed limit signs of 15 mph
- . Speed display signs
- . Parkway trees
- . Enhanced police enforcement
- . Possible 4-way stop at Oakwood and Golden Oak

Mr. Gilmore stated that the preliminary estimated construction cost is \$170,000 to \$190,000.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Residents presented the following recommendations and comments:

- . **The circle is a bad idea because trucks are not designed to make the turns and instead the road should be stamped.**

*Dana Ludwig from Robinson Engineering stated that she met with the Fire Department to make certain the fire trucks could pass through the roads.*

- . **Some residents have hired an independent engineer to explore other traffic calming options and they asked the Board to delay a final decision until their engineer can present a report.**

*Mayor Daley stated that he would not support a review by an independent engineer. He further stated this is a Village street and we have hired qualified engineers who have made recommendations for improvements on a street for which the Village is responsible.*

- **Questioned if the decline was adequate to comply with the Village traffic calming protocol if the reprofiling is cut back from 400 ft. to 200 ft.**

*Mr. Gilmore stated they are not reprofiling the road, and with the 20 mph advisory limits the profile meets the 25 or 30 mph speed limit without readjusting the profiling.*

- **Suggested the Village form a subcommittee consisting of representatives from the Fire Department, Police Chief, representative from Old Oak West and Oak Wood South, and the Village to come to an agreeable solution.**

*Mayor Daley stated that the Village is responsible for determining the best solutions and the safest way of handling the situation, and will follow the recommendation of the engineers.*

- **Questioned how Robinson Engineering's recommendation addresses the four major safety issues that Old Oak West presented at previous public meetings.**

*Trustee Locacius commented in the negative, but stated he would get back to anyone requesting information.*

- **At a previous meeting why did the Village Attorney state that the Village was put on notice for the safety issue of the berm.**

*The Mayor commented that the Village now recognizes and is aware of an unsafe situation. As a result of being notified, the Village now has exposure to the situation in the event something happens.*

- **Why was the Oakwood berm singled out when other subdivisions in the Village have only one entrance?**

*Mayor Daley stated that the Village is aware of the several situations and they will be addressed in the future.*

*Trustee Ward commented that from a legal perspective each situation has to be looked at based on its history and with the history of the berm, it is an issue that needs to be addressed at this time.*

- **What kind of studies were done concerning flooding.**

*Dana Ludwig from Robinson Engineering commented that the analysis for this project has been limited to what changes will be made. Once the new profile has been done the peak will have a very minimal change and will not create additional flooding issues.*

- **Additional lighting and the sight line on the hill.**

*Mr. Gilmore from Robinson stated that the speed limit will be lowered to slow down traffic and create a safe stopping site distance.*

- **Blind spot on Parker Road when turning left.**

*Mayor Daley stated that the engineer will look at the line of site and additional lighting on the curve just east of Parker Road.*

- **Additional traffic signal on Parker Road and Oakwood Court.**

*Mr. Gilmore stated there is not enough volume of traffic for a traffic light.*

*Village Attorney Horvath stated that if we ever control a situation by adding a traffic light, the Village will be liable after the berm is removed.*

- **Requested that the Fire and Police Department be involved in determining the solution for traffic calming measures.**

*Trustee Ward stated that the Board will not approve this project until it goes through engineering, we make sure our road standards are followed, and we have input from the Fire and Police departments. This meeting was called to see if the residents feel the traffic circle is the best solution, and to discuss their concerns.*

**. Was the installation of a gate for emergency access investigated?**

*Trustee Knaack commented that installing a gate would solve the emergency access issue, but there are other issues it wouldn't solve and the long term solution is to open the road.*

**. Have traffic studies been done on Golden Oak and are speeding issues being addressed.**

*Mayor Daley commented that Robinson Engineering is looking at additional traffic calming measures that may be needed on Golden Oak.*

**. What other options were identified that led to the traffic circle.**

*Dana Ludwig from Robinson Engineering stated other options considered included: Speed display signs; parkway tree planting; increased police enforcement; post speed limits; traffic circles; roundabouts; center islands; median barriers; vertical deflections; speed bumps; speed tables; speed cushions; raised pavement; textured or patterned pavement; striped bike lane; curbed extensions; or striped lane widths.*

**. Suggested that the site distance issue on Parker should be looked at because of the increased traffic.**

*Trustee Niemiec commented that she is concerned about the demographics of the subdivision, and there will be peak times when traffic increases because of the park and ball games. This issue must be addressed along with the site distance at night.*

- . Maureen Keane, 13422 Oakwood Ct., stated, for the public record, that they have asked for the formation of a subcommittee to make sure that the four major safety concerns are considered that Old Oak West residents have expressed at previous meetings and tonight. Mrs. Keane stated that the residents would like to be involved in the final decision, along with the police and fire protection district.**

**. Could consideration be given to putting a cross walk through the circle.**

**. Could the trees currently on the berm be put on the circle.**

*Trustee Sabo stated that she will investigate if the trees can be moved to the traffic circle or to another location in the subdivision. She stated that the residents who will be affected by the removal of the berm should be involved in discussions with the Village. Sabo recommended that a subcommittee or some other type of group be formed so the residents can continue dialog with the Village. Trustee Sabo stated that the Village should take advantage of the residents' hiring their own engineer. Sabo voiced her concern about sidewalks encroaching into residents' driveways by the traffic circle. She recommended a 4-way stop at the intersection before Golden Oak and Oakwood Court, and asked that consideration be given to putting a stop sight or speed table before the circle for traffic traveling east on Oakwood Court.*

**. Can the bridge support additional traffic.**

*Harry Gilmore from Robinson mentioned that culverts like the one on Oakwood Drive are designed for a heavy duty truck. He further stated that the roadway currently receives truck traffic, including trucks that are required to back up or turn around (garbage trucks, snow plows)*

**. Concerns of the steepness of the hill and what can be done to stop a vehicle that may run off the road or go into the creek when there is an ice storm.**

**. Will the residents have an opportunity to get answers to the questions raised tonight.**

*Mayor Daley stated that the Village Manager can send a memo to the residents with answers to the question, and he asked residents to send additional questions to the Village Manager.*

*Trustee Ward stated that this is not a solution to all the issues, and asked that the Board continue to look at the southern extension that would make the Homer Township open space accessible to the public and provide for more traffic going south.*

*Trustee Knaack suggested that some type of landscaping be put in the berm to maximize its visibility. He asked that full cut-off lighting fixtures be used.*

*Mayor Daley commented that when we move forward with future development, if it is possible to have two entryways it will be part of the approval process to the plan.*

## **G. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee DeVivo made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by Trustee Knaack.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Gale Skrobuton, Village Clerk

*Approved at the Board of Trustees Meeting dated March 24, 2009*