

City of Palos Heights



Municipal Grounds and Property Committee

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Begley called the Municipal Grounds and Property Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. In attendance were Chairman Begley, Alderman Lewandowski, Alderman Basso, Alderman Bylut, Public Works Director Adam Jasinski, and Recording Secretary Margaret Carey. Also in attendance were Alderman Key, Alderman Clifford and one resident.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Begley moved to approve the minutes of the Municipal Grounds and Property Committee meeting held on April 27, 2021 seconded by Alderman Basso. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Adam Jasinski presented the following reports/considerations:

- Spring Maintenance Update: Staff are working on mulch in park areas. We completed Adopt-a-Pot and started placing the pots around town. I would like to commend Katie Broughton for all of her hard work, coordinating PW staff and volunteers. We also assisted with the pool; installing a pump, fixing a valve, and putting up a canopy. We are all done with TruGreen applications.
- Oak Park Avenue Landscape Update: Assessed dead trees and weeds. Five trees died this year. Some trees are not getting enough moisture, so we will attempt to remedy this issue by placing mulch around the tree bases. Dead trees will be replaced.
- Motor Vehicle Maintenance Update: Mostly working on PD vehicles. Truck #7/chipper had a major fuel line issue, and we had Vactor issues. We sold 2 surplus vehicles on iBid.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed solutions to resident query regarding landscaping and maintenance at the entrances to and within the Navajo Hills subdivision.
Chairman Begley explained the issue and the Committee discussed potential solutions. Chairman Begley suggested reaching out to residents for assistance with maintenance and the City assisting with initial cleanup of the areas to make low maintenance improvements. Director Jasinski will secure 3 quotes for: removal of mulch, planting grass or rock.

2. Harlem Avenue Flower Baskets: Seek proposals for installation, planting, and maintenance/watering of flower baskets on light posts.

Chairman Begley reported there are approximately 62 light posts. She suggested starting with 8 baskets to improve the appearance downtown. Director Jasinski was asked to reach out to other communities who already have the baskets to ask questions. He will look for a service to perform this task.

Chairman Begley also mentioned the welcome sign on 127th Street from the east side, needs help. There are weeds, etc. Director Jasinski will address it.

3. Proposed solution to resident queries regarding inaccessibility to park: Potentially remove small portion of shrubbery and one panel of fencing in the area parallel to 76th Avenue at its intersection with 120th Street to create an opening for ingress and egress to the bike path, ball fields, Community Park, and the pool.

The Committee discussed the history of this issue. Residents utilized the area near 121st and 76th Ave to enter Community Park; however, there was no formal crosswalk and the City installed a fence to eliminate the unofficial crosswalk due to IDOT regulations for crosswalks on a minor collector street. Director Jasinski said that IDOT and Morris Engineering would not allow/recommend an entrance at that location. Chairman Begley requested to see that documentation of that requirement.

4. Proposed solution to address rain water accumulation on bike path between softball fields and playground at Community Park.

Director Jasinski discussed possible solutions. The Committee agreed with a plan to install a drainage pipe and catch basin. This can be performed in-house. This would be scheduled for the Fall.

5. Placement of bike racks near Harlem Ave.

Alderman Key explained this suggestion originated in the Beautification Committee as a way to draw additional business to the downtown area. We would need to figure out where to place the racks and also secure permission from business owners for racks to be placed on private property.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Alderman Begley moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Carey, Recording Secretary