

# VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK

14700 Ravinia Avenue  
Orland Park, IL 60462  
[www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us)



## Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 7, 2013

7:00 PM

Village Hall

## Board of Trustees

*Village President Daniel J. McLaughlin*

*Village Clerk John C. Mehalek*

*Trustees, Kathleen M. Fenton, James V. Dodge, Jr., Edward G. Schussler,  
Patricia Gira, Carole Griffin Ruzich, and Daniel T. Calandriello*

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

**Present:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich and President McLaughlin

**VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE****2013-0572 Approval of the September 16, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes**

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 16, 2013, were previously distributed to the members of the Board of Trustees. President McLaughlin asked if there were any corrections or additions to be made to said Minutes. There being no corrections or additions,

I move to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of September 16, 2013.

**A motion was made by Trustee Fenton, seconded by Trustee Schussler, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 0

**PROCLAMATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS****2013-0575 Police Pension Board - Appointment**

President McLaughlin recommended the appointment of Raymond O'Brien to replace Kenneth Redman on the Police Pension Board.

I move to approve the appointment by Mayor McLaughlin of Raymond O'Brien to the Police Pension Board.

**A motion was made by Trustee Schussler, seconded by Trustee Gira, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 0

**2013-0582 Oath of Office - Daniel T. Calandriello**

On September 16, 2013, President McLaughlin appointed Daniel T. Calandriello to fill the Village Trustee vacancy that was created with the resignation of Brad O'Halloran. The Board unanimously approved this appointment.

The oath of office was administrated by President McLaughlin.

**NO ACTION was required.**

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello and President McLaughlin

## RECESS

President McLaughlin announced that the Board will take a short recess to attend a reception in the lobby for newly sworn in Trustee Calandriello.

**A motion was made by Trustee Fenton, seconded by Trustee Dodge, that this matter be RECESS. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 0

## RECONVENE BOARD MEETING

The roll was called to reconvene the Regular Meeting and Trustees Fenton, Dodge, Schussler, Gira, Griffin Ruzich, Calandriello, and President McLaughlin were present.

## CONSENT AGENDA

President McLaughlin requested that Item I. Parking Lot Sealcoating - Proposal be removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote.

Trustee Schussler asked that Item O. Proposed Amendment to Board Policy - Village of Orland Park Signage Requests - Road Improvement Construction Zones be removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote.

## Passed the Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Trustee Dodge, seconded by Trustee Gira, to PASS THE CONSENT AGENDA, including all the following items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 0

## 2013-0567 Payroll - Approval

The lists of Payroll having been submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval and the lists having been determined by the Board of Trustees to be in order and having been approved by the various Department Heads,

I move to approve the Bi-Weekly Payroll for September 13, 2013 in the amount of \$19,825.23 and the Monthly Hourly Payroll for September 13, 2013 in the amount

of \$979,955.05.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0568 Accounts Payable - Approval**

The lists of Accounts Payable having been submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval and the lists having been determined by the Board of Trustees to be in order and having been approved by the various Department Heads,

I move to approve the Accounts Payable from September 17, 2013 through October 7, 2013 in the amount of \$4,285,083.11.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0536 Police Department Firearms Range Architectural Services - Approval**

Staff is working on plans for a small construction project on the Police Department Firearms Range. The plan is to erect a new garage structure that will provide for storage and work space for current and future needs as follows:

- Long term vehicle storage needs for seized and evidentiary vehicles
- Storage for firearms program related equipment
- Workplace for department firearms armorers to perform maintenance requirements
- One room toilet facility for employees working/training at the site

The plan is to demolish the existing small shed-like building on the north end of the facility and erect the new garage structure. The plan will include the demolition and removal of the uneven concrete which is becoming hazardous.

The attached proposal in the Board packet from StudioGC Architecture includes a scope of work that will assist in all aspects of this project. StudioGC Architecture will assist in the planning, engineering and preparation of design and construction documents. They will also assist in the competitive bidding process and remain involved through completion of this project. The work of the various consulting firms that will be involved in the design and site assessment for this project.

I move to approve the proposal from StudioGC Architecture in the amount of \$14,500.00 for preliminary design, site assessment, construction documentation and construction administration

And

To authorize the Village Manager to execute the agreement

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0512 Disposal of Computer Equipment - Ordinance**

The Police Department has 18 desktop computers, 4 laser jet printers and 5 computer monitors that are outdated and no longer work. These items can be donated to Infinitec Assistive Technology Programs and Services located in Tinley Park. This company refurbishes donated technology equipment and gives them, free of charge, to Illinois children in Special education programs.

I move to pass Ordinance Number 4844, entitled: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF PERSONAL PROPERTY (COMPUTER EQUIPMENT) OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS

**This matter was PASSED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0569 159th & LaGrange Road Various Invoices - Approval**

Invoices were attached to the Board packet requiring payment due on the 159th & LaGrange Road intersection improvement.

I move to approve payment of invoices for the 159th Street and LaGrange Road intersection improvements in the amount of \$5,515.00.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0545 159th Street Watermain - Engineering Design Services**

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is moving forward with the Phase II Engineering for the widening of 159th Street from Ravinia Avenue to I-355. H.W. Lochner of Chicago, Illinois, is providing the engineering services to IDOT for the segment within the Village of Orland Park from Ravinia Avenue to Will/Cook Road. Village staff has identified a significant gap in the watermain infrastructure extending from Ravinia Avenue for approximately 4,000 feet to the west side of the railroad tracks. This proposed segment of transmission main will connect existing 16" watermain between 108th Avenue and LaGrange Road. IDOT has agreed to include construction of this main as part of the overall roadway construction project.

Ground conditions in the area have been identified as very poor. The north side of 159th Street contains Lake Sedgwick. Marley Creek crosses the road at 104th Avenue and there are significant wetlands on the south side of the street. Due to the extremely poor soil conditions, Lochner Engineering has tentatively proposed the extensive use of pylon supported roadway. This methodology uses numerous wood poles to support the sub-base and roadway above. A similar system will also be required to support the watermain.

To facilitate the incorporation of the watermain into the IDOT plans and take advantage of existing soil condition investigation and engineering, Lochner Engineering was asked to provide a proposal for the design engineering of the watermain. Their proposal which includes coordination, supplemental

geotechnical investigation, design, plans, permitting and project administration totals \$117,018.29. Due to the complexity of the watermain design and construction through unsuitable ground conditions, a contingency in the amount of \$22,981.71 is recommended for a total engineering and project administration cost of \$140,000.00.

I move to approve accepting the proposal from H.W. Lochner of Chicago, Illinois, for design engineering of the 159th Street watermain for a total amount not to exceed \$140,000.00 (\$117,018.29 plus \$22,981.71 contingency).

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0546 151st Street Lift Station Emergency Repair - Amended Payment**

On June 3, 2013, the Village Board approved the repair of two pumps from the 151st Street Lift Station by Gasvoda & Associates, Inc. of Calumet City, Illinois (GAI), for a total cost of \$9,668. The pumps were subsequently sent to GAI and found to be in need of additional work not initially anticipated. The additional cost of repair was \$625 for pump #2 and \$296 for pump #3 increasing the total repair cost to \$10,589.

I move to approve the transfer of an additional \$921 from the Contingency Account to the Machinery and Equipment Account;

And

Approve payment to Gasvoda & Associates, Inc., of Calumet City, Illinois, for the repair of 151st Street Lift Station Pumps #2 and #3 for an amended total cost not to exceed \$10,589.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0548 Wedgwood Lift Station Emergency Repair - Board Approval**

On August 26, 2013, the Utility Division was notified that water was bubbling out of the ground near 88th Avenue and Pebble Beach Lane. Upon investigation, it was determined to be a break in the 20" asbestos cement force main from the Wedgwood Lift Station. Due to the size and composition of the pipe, Airy's, Inc. of Tinley Park, Illinois, was called to facilitate the repair. Sewage flow was temporarily rerouted and the repair was completed on August 27, 2013, at a cost of \$7,180.19.

I move to approve payment to Airy's, Inc. of Tinley Park, Illinois, for the Wedgwood Lift Station emergency force main repair in the amount of \$7,180.19.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0552 Public Works Utility Division Trucks - Bid Award**

The 2013 Fiscal Year Budget has a Board approved line item in the amount of \$175,000 for the purchase of two (2) F350 Trucks for the Public Works Utility

Division. The trucks will replace a 1998 Chevrolet dump truck with 66,785 miles and the other will replace a 2000 Chevrolet van with 75,000 miles.

Legal notices were placed in the SouthtownStar Newspaper for the F350 Extended Cab on Friday, August 9, 2013, and on Monday, August 12, 2013, for the F350 Regular Cab.

Utility Division - One (1) F350 Regular Cab 4x2 Dual Rear Wheel Cab and Chassis with Plow, Salt Spreader and other Aftermarket Equipment.

Two (2) bids were received for processing. Sealed bids were opened by the Village Clerk's Office on Monday August 26, 2013. Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, was the low bidder meeting the specifications as written. Their bid price for one (1) 2014 model year F350 Regular Cab was \$79,427.35 with a delivery time of 189 days after receipt of purchase order.

Utility Division - One (1) F350 Extended Cab 4X2 Dual Rear Wheel Cab and Chassis with Plow, Salt Spreader and other Aftermarket Equipment

Two (2) bids were received for processing. One sealed bid was opened by the Village Clerk's Office on Monday August 26, 2013.

Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, met the specifications as written. Their bid price for one (1) 2014 F350 Extended Cab and Chassis with aftermarket equipment was \$81,983.35 with a delivery time of 189 days after receipt of purchase order.

The second bid packet was delivered late and, therefore, returned unopened to the submitting dealership.

I move to approve awarding the bid for one (1) F350 Regular 4x2 Dual Rear Wheel Cab and Chassis with aftermarket equipment for the Public Works Utility Division to Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed \$79,427.35;

And

Approve awarding the bid for one (1) F350 Extended 4x2 Dual Rear Wheel Cab and Chassis with aftermarket equipment for the Public Works Utility Division to Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed \$81,983.35.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

#### **2013-0555 Public Works Street Division Dump Trucks - Bid Award**

The 2013 Fiscal Year Budget has a Board approved line item in the amount of \$226,000 for the purchase of two (2) dump trucks for the Public Works Street Division. The trucks will replace a 1997 GMC light duty dump truck with 145,714 miles and the other will replace a 1998 Chevrolet medium duty dump truck with

110,612 miles.

Legal notice was placed in the SouthtownStar Newspaper for two F550 trucks on Friday, August 9, 2013.

Two (2) bids were received for processing. One (1) sealed bid was opened by the Village Clerk's Office on Friday, August 23, 2013.

Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, met the specifications as written. Their bid price for two (2) 2014 model year F550 Regular 4WD Cab and Chassis equipped with plows, salt spreaders and other aftermarket equipment was \$177,298.30 with a delivery time of 189 days after receipt of the purchase order.

The second bid packet was delivered late and, therefore, returned unopened to the submitting dealership.

I move to approve awarding the bid for two (2) 2014 model year F550 Regular 4WD Cab and Chassis with aftermarket equipment for the Public Works Street Division to Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed \$177,298.30.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

#### **2013-0556 Replacement Utility Cart - Parks Department**

In July of 2012, the Parks Department's utility cart was stolen. To date, the cart has not been recovered. The utility cart is used for field maintenance and Village events. The Parks Department has requested that the utility cart be replaced.

The Public Works Department requested proposals for a 2013 Club Car Carryall 252 from three dealers. Proposals were received from two of the dealers. The third dealer cannot sell this cart in Illinois. The lowest proposal is \$8,080 from Randall Industries. Randall has the cart in stock and can deliver the replacement cart after receipt of purchase order.

I move to approve accepting the proposal from Randall Industries of Elmhurst, Illinois, for the purchase of one (1) 2013 Club Car Carryall 252 for an amount not to exceed \$8,080.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

#### **2012-0202 Parkview Christian Church Addition - Ordinance**

On August 6, 2012, the Village Board approved a Special Use Amendment, Rezoning, Subdivision, Site Plan and Elevations for Parkview Christian Church located at 11100 Orland Parkway. The approvals allow for the expansion of the church building proper, new landscape areas, expanded parking field, the consolidation of lots and the construction of portions of Waters Edge Drive to public standards. It also includes the rezoning of property not directly associated



with Parkview Christian Church from E-1 to ORI, its original zoning classification. These are subject to conditions as stated in the ordinance.

This is now before the Village Board for consideration of the ordinance.

I move to pass Ordinance Number 4845, entitled: ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN REAL ESTATE FROM E-1 ESTATE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO ORI MIXED USE DISTRICT AND GRANTING AN AMENDMENT TO A SPECIAL USE PERMIT - PARKVIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH (11100 ORLAND PARKWAY)

**This matter was PASSED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0456 Indoor Smoking Ban Village Code Amendments - Ordinance**

On September 3, 2013, the Village Board approved amendments to Title 6, Chapter 2, Section 12 of the Orland Park Village Code regarding the indoor smoking ban.

This is now before the Village Board for consideration of the ordinance.

I move to pass Ordinance Number 4846, entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 6, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 12 OF THE ORLAND PARK VILLAGE CODE REGARDING INDOOR SMOKING BAN

**This matter was PASSED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2012-0591 McDonald's - 11111 179th Street - Landscape Plan**

This is a request for approval of a landscape plan for the proposed McDonald's, to be located at 11111 179th Street. The Village Board approved the Site Plan and Elevations on December 17, 2012 with the condition that the petitioner submits a landscape plan, meeting all Village Codes, for separate review and approval within 60 days of final engineering approval.

Per Code requirements, the petitioner submitted a landscape plan that has been reviewed and approved by the Village's Landscape Architect consulting firm.

I move to accept as findings of fact the findings of fact as set forth in this staff report dated October 1, 2013.

and

I move to approve the landscape plan titled, 'Landscape plan, McDonald's - Orland Park', prepared by Norris Design, project number 012-2250, dated September 17, 2013, sheet 1 with the following conditions:

- 1) Add seven (7) deciduous shrubs to meet the requirements in the South Bufferyard.
- 2) Add one (1) canopy tree to meet requirements in the West Bufferyard.

- 3) Add one (1) parking island tree to the western edge parking island.
- 4) The mitigation requirement of 30 - 2 ½" trees or 15 - 4" trees has been waived per Review #3 comment provided that all proposed Deciduous trees (14 total) and pear trees (6 total) be upsized to 4" caliper. The petitioner has already installed a number of these trees in the North, East and South Bufferyards at a range of 3 - 3 1/2" caliper. In order to meet the revised mitigation requirements and not remove any trees that have already been installed, the Village is requiring that the remainder of the trees to be installed on site be 4" caliper trees and a fee in lieu of \$1000 be provided for the tree mitigation account.
- 5) Five (5) of the proposed trees on the Landscape Plan, provided by Norris Design dated 9/17/13, are within the 40' underground pipeline easement. These five trees can be relocated on site outside of the easement.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0588 McDonald's Restaurant - 11111 179th Street - Ordinance**

On December 17, 2012 the Village Board approved an amended special use permit, site plan, and elevations for McDonald's Restaurant located at 11111 179th Street. The amended special use permit with modifications allows for the construction and operation of a full service restaurant with drive through lane and is subject to conditions as stated in the ordinance.

This is now before the Village Board for consideration of the ordinance.

I move to pass Ordinance Number 4847, entitled: ORDINANCE GRANTING AN AMENDMENT TO A SPECIAL USE -MCDONALD'S 11111 W. 179TH STREET

**This matter was PASSED on the Consent Agenda.**

**2013-0549 Parking Lot Sealcoating - Proposal**

In an effort to extend the life of asphalt parking lots, it is recommended that seal coating be performed on a regular basis. Onyx Sealcoating, Inc. of Midlothian, Illinois, is the Board approved 2013 contractor for providing seal coating, painting and crack filling services to the Parks and Public Works Departments.

The Public Works lot was last seal coated in 2007. Staff requested and received proposals from Onyx Sealcoating to provide seal coating at Public Works and the temporary parking lot at Orland Plaza. They have submitted a total cost of \$12,950.

I move to approve accepting the proposals for parking lot seal coating from Onyx Seal Coating, Inc. of Midlothian, Illinois, for an amount not to exceed \$12,950.

**A motion was made by Trustee Schussler, seconded by Trustee Dodge, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 0

**2013-0562 Proposed Amendment to Board Policy - Village of Orland Park Signage Requests - Road Improvement Construction Zones**

The Village of Orland Park regulates signage through the Land Development Code (Section 6-307). The purpose of these regulations is to promote the use of signs in the Village which are safe, aesthetically pleasing and compatible with their surrounding uses. These regulations also reinforce the need for a well-maintained and attractive physical appearance of the community. Regulations also allow for adequate business identification for commerce and economic development. Staff consistently enforces the signage requirements out of fairness to all of our local businesses.

In 2011, the Village Board approved a policy that allows temporary signage for existing businesses in road construction work zones. The policy approved by the Village Board applies only for businesses directly impacted by the construction zones (i.e. immediately adjacent to) and included the following:

**Current Policy**

Administrative authority be given to the Village Manager or his designee to grant/approve additional temporary signage requests.

Consideration can only be given to those businesses located in the immediate construction zone.

Signage must be safe and not distracting to drivers. Electronic signs will still be prohibited. No signs will be permitted in the ROW.

Signage must be removed within 14 days after completion of the construction impact.

Temporary signage permit fees will be waived for the impacted businesses.

Businesses must still submit the necessary permit information required by code, in order for administrative approval to be granted.

Signage in the Right of Way is permitted on a temporary basis, provided there are no other locations that are feasible and signage is not disruptive or interferes with the construction work zone.

### Additional Policy Change Recommendation

Staff is recommending a change to the existing policy to allow the Village Manager or his designee discretion to approve appropriate types of temporary signage that may not be currently permitted under existing codes (i.e. pin signs, A-frame signs, etc). This discretion would only apply to the LaGrange Road corridor during the upcoming re-construction project.

Trustee Schussler recommended slightly changing the motion so that staff will not have to come back to the Board for approval when other road construction zones are needed. He removed the wording "temporary signage in the LaGrange Road corridor" to "temporary signage in such Road Construction Zone".

I move to approve an amendment to the existing Board Policy allowing additional signage for businesses located in a Road Construction Zones to allow the Village Manager or his designee, as outlined above, to approve temporary signage in such Road Construction Zone provided that such temporary signage may not be currently permitted under existing Village code for the duration of the subject road construction project.

**A motion was made by Trustee Schussler, seconded by Trustee Fenton, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 0

## **PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING**

### **2013-0560 Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update**

In 2012, the Village formalized the initial effort to deal with the identified presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) bug which had been found in Orland Park and surrounding towns. The policy decision was made to remove and replace all Ash trees throughout the Village parks and parkways as the EAB was evident in all areas of our community. Since then, the Village has utilized in-house staff and engaged contractors to begin to remove the Ash trees on Village property that are most affected and began an education program to help residents better understand the EAB and action that must be taken in their neighborhoods.

With the rapid decline of the Ash trees, it is important to constantly reassess the situation and consider adjustments to the program accordingly. Attached (EXHIBIT A) is a status update and a program analyses. The Public Works Committee reviewed this item on September 16, 2013. There was support for accelerating the removal and replacement of Ash trees throughout the community. A four year approach was discussed rather than the original seven year plan outlined in 2012. The first year of the program, 2013, yielded good progress in parks and parkway tree removal and replacement. Unfortunately, the decline of

the Ash trees is more rapid than originally expected.

The Committee recommended advancing the discussion to the Village Board. If a shorter-term plan is selected by the Village Board, the decision will impact the future year budgets accordingly. Cost estimates are provided in the options outlined in the attached report (EXHIBIT B).

Following the Committee, staff was asked by the Mayor to provide information on treating the Ash trees to prolong their life as utilized by some other municipalities. Additional information on this approach has been added to the report in (EXHIBIT C).

**This item is for discussion only, NO ACTION is required.**

## **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND PLANNING**

### **2013-0489 9855 W. 144th Street - Certificate of Appropriateness**

The petitioner is requesting a new Certificate of Appropriateness for 9855 W. 144th Street to approve metal railings on the front porch of the house. The new COA seeks to amend the existing COA approved under case number 2012-0690.

Surrounding Land Use:

North: OOH Old Orland Historic District - (across 144th Street) Single Family Residential

South: OOH Old Orland Historic District - vacant Lot 3 Kelly Grove Subdivision

East: OOH Old Orland Historic District - (across Third Avenue) Multi-Family Residential

West: OOH Old Orland Historic District - vacant Lot 1 Kelly Grove Subdivision

The Village Board approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Lot 2 of the Kelly Grove subdivision in February 2013 for a single family home. The original COA included a depiction of wood porch railings on the house. During construction in June, a field change was made to install metal porch railings. The installation of the metal railing is contrary to the expectations of the Board Approved elevation drawings approved via the COA. The installed metal railings, as designed, do not fit the architectural design of the home and would not have been approved if included on the COA elevations. Staff has recommended a compromise to keep the railing material as metal but use a design more appropriate to the area. The petitioner has declined the compromise and instead wishes to pursue a new COA for the railings as installed.

The petitioner proposes to rectify a field contradiction to the Board Approved elevation drawings to permit metal railings. The metal railings in question are located at the front of the porch. They are cast in a wrought iron/ aluminum metal with a swirl on the rod with diamond shaped medallions. The metal railing system is along the entire front porch, which wraps the front of the house on both Third

Avenue and 144th Street.

The petitioner is not requesting any variances or modifications to the Land Development Code for the proposed improvements.

The recommendation motion for this project is to deny/approve the request to amend the existing COA. The following points can be referenced with greater detail in the attached HPRC report:

- 1) The proposed metal railing is not appropriate to the style and character of the Historic District.
- 2) The proposed material is incompatible with the design of the house.
- 3) Approving a new COA establishes a precedent that weakens the credibility of Board Approved elevations.

It is important to note that an existing Certificate of Appropriateness (2012-0690) that meets the Land Development Code's intent and regulations is already approved for this project. It is also important to note that while elevations drawings are amended regularly, they must still be amended appropriately with consideration to the design and character of the surrounding area-particularly in the Historic District-- and within Code.

The metal railing on the porch of the house at 9855 W. 144th Street was installed without review and does not conform to the Board Approved elevation drawings in case number 2012-0690 and to the policies for this area.

Additional details about the project are discussed in the Historic Preservation Review Commission report, which is attached for reference.

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMISSION MOTION

On September 17, 2013, the Historic Preservation Review Commission moved 0-6 to recommend to the Village Board of Trustees to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to 9855 W. 144th Street for metal railing on the front porch per the elevation drawings titled "Two Story Residence for 9855 W. 144th Street Orland Park IL. 60462," prepared by IJM Group Inc., dated Dec. 11, 2012, received on Aug. 9, 2013.

The motion for approval failed by a 0-6 vote.

#### DISCUSSION

At the HPRC meeting, the petitioner and the HPRC debated the appropriateness of the materials used on the porch. Much of the debate circled on the intent of Section 6-209 of the Land Development Code and the original COA. The below is an excerpt from the staff report that sums up the positions of the debate.

"Section 6-209.F.3.c.2 of the Land Development Code notes the following for

porches in the Old Orland Historic District:

'New porches and over hangs are encouraged for all additions and new buildings. Wood components and wood siding are appropriate and should be painted. Porches on additions or new construction are encouraged to be open and of a compatible scale and material...'

Currently, Section 6-209 of the Land Development Code (Old Orland Historic District) does not expressly require wooden railings or expressly prohibit metal railings on porches. The intent of the Code, however, is clear. It notes the appropriateness of "wood components" while encouraging compatible scale and material. Therefore, the Code's intent is to have "wood components" on residential structures (e.g. porches) that are of "compatible scale and material" to the structure and the surrounding neighborhood. The original COA petition was recommended for approval by the HPRC with this intent and expectation.

While encouragement is not a requirement, the Code's intent is to reach compatibility with that which is appropriate. The COA process provides for review of elements like porches to ensure that if a non-wood material is proposed, it is still complimentary and appropriate to the building design and the Historic District. Therefore, the encouragement clause of this section is associated to the context of appropriateness and the Land Development Code does not state that metal components are appropriate for porches."

Additionally, many of the HPRC members expressed concern regarding fairness to previous cases in which petitioners did something against Code and were required/compelled to make necessary changes to meet Code. They also expressed concern about the precedent this would set in terms of a project obtaining a COA with one plan only to turn around and make field changes without approvals and then seek forgiveness retroactively with inappropriate materials.

The petitioner expressed that it was not his intent to go against Code but that the Code does not expressly require or prohibit the metal railings. He also maintained that the approved plans did not specifically call out the material of the porch railings. Other buildings in the district also have metal railings (although most of these are grandfathered and have been considered consistently as legal non-conforming). He maintained that it was not his fault the Code was not clear and said that the Code should be changed to be clear on the intent. In the meantime, he maintained, his house should not be held accountable for something that is not clear.

The HPRC returned to the fact that this was a contradiction to what was shown on the original elevation drawings approved in the existing COA. They then motioned to give the proposal a chance for approval and the motion failed, at which point the debate was closed.

This case is now before the Village Board of Trustees for consideration.

President McLaughlin explained that the mistake made was the developer submitted and received Board approval of a plan and then later made changes to that plan without bring it back for approval with the new changes. The metal railing that was used was a very expensive upgrade around the porch and the developer and owner probably felt this was an improvement rather than a problem.

The Historical Preservation Review Commission did not recommend one way or the other on how the Board should vote on this issue.

President McLaughlin stated that he and Trustee Schussler drive past this house every day and he believes this is a beautiful home and does not see a problem with the porch or railings; in fact there were probably iron railings back in the 1890's.

Trustee Fenton stated that she has met with staff regarding this issue. She agrees with staff that what was submitted for approval was not the end result. No one came to staff to say we would like to make a change, and if they would have, staff would have told them this cannot be changed because it is not appropriate to the style and character of the Historic District.

Trustee Fenton stated that staff suggested a very good alternate solution that included capping or cladding the hand and foot rails of the porch railings with wood so as to relate the railing back to the house and define the edge of the National style building. This suggestion will also bring the house closer in compatibility with the surrounding neighborhood.

Trustee Fenton noted that the codes in the Historical District have been set for a reason and she is aware they are extremely strict to keep the integrity of this district. She believes if this change is approved, this could cause a precedent for others to make changes to their homes in this area and then after everything is completed (not as the original plans were submitted and approved) come before the Board to request an exception.

Trustee Schussler stated that he agrees what Trustee Fenton and also what President McLaughlin stated. This railing is beautiful around this home; however, it is a beautiful railing in the wrong section of town.

A mistake was made, then a compromise was given by staff that was rejected, he does have a problem with that.

Trustee Gira stated that this is a quality railing and staff has asked for the owner/builder to box the railing in as an alternative. She believes that staff and the Board will learn from this so there will not be a second instance. She agrees this is a beautiful railing, she believes it would be punishing to the homeowner to



remove this.

Trustee Dodge stated that points have been made on both sides of the argument; the Village's process did not catch this change nor did the developer who holds the responsibility to report any changes to the Village, tell staff. What will the costs be for this to be fixed?

Assistant Development Services Director Kimberly Flom stated regarding the cost the builder will need to answer that question. She added that this was not something that was missed by staff, the drawings were very clear what was going to be built. She agrees the materials used are of a very high integrity, but it was a material change in the field with no notification to staff.

Trustee Dodge asked when and how did staff find out about this change.

Assistant Director Flom stated that staff went out to do the inspection and also complaints were received.

Kurt Ringhofer the homeowner stated to the Board that the cost of the railing was just shy of \$10,000, to place a cap on this it could only work on the top not the bottom railing.

President McLaughlin stated because this was an upgrade and not a cheap short cut, if the Board is in agreement to compromise and only requires the builder to place a top railing he is in agreement with that.

Trustee Dodge would like the builder to submit a cost of what it will be to install the top railing.

Mr. Ringhofer apologized to the Board for making this change and stated that if he knew what a headache this caused everyone he would have just placed a wood railing up. When this was brought to his attention to take this railing down, he walked through the Historical District and noticed many of the homes already have metal railings. He was informed that many of these homes had been grandfathered in.

He noted that in the code there is nothing under the prohibited section referring to metal railings on porches in the Historical District. He also stated that he would have never done anything to have this escalated the way it has.

I move to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to 9855 W. 144th Street for metal railing on the front porch.

THIS SECTION FOR REFERENCE ONLY (NOT NECESSARY TO BE READ)

I move to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to 9855 W.

144th Street for metal railing on the front porch per the elevation drawings titled "Two Story Residence for 9855 W. 144th Street Orland Park IL. 60462," prepared by IJM Group Inc., dated Dec. 11, 2012, received on Aug. 9, 2013.

**A motion was made by Trustee Dodge, seconded by Trustee Gira, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Trustee Dodge, Trustee Gira, and President McLaughlin

**Nay:** 2 - Trustee Fenton and Trustee Schussler

**Abstain:** 2 - Trustee Griffin Ruzich and Trustee Calandriello

## ROLL CALL

President McLaughlin had to leave the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem James Dodge resided over the meeting.

**Present:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich and Trustee Calandriello

**Absent:** 1 - President McLaughlin

## 2013-0586 Requesting a "No Cash Bid" - Resolution

Village staff is recommending approval of the attached resolution requesting a "No Cash Bid" for 12 properties where real estate taxes for multiple years have not been paid and have been forfeited. Cook County has established this program to allow municipalities to acquire tax certificates of purchase and tax deeds to tax delinquent property. This eliminates all back taxes, interest and penalties, in order to return such property to a viable use beneficial to the municipalities. The majority of the properties are already being maintained by the Village (i.e. detention areas, ROW, conservation areas, etc.) due to no responsible property ownership.

I move to pass Resolution Number 1315, entitled: RESOLUTION REQUESTING A "NO CASH BID" FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK: 14401 CLARIDGE CT.; 10919 W. JILLIAN CT.; 10840 W. JILLIAN CT.; 15330 S. 108TH CT, (LOT 7); 11801 151ST ST.; 15269 S. RODEO DR.; 10629 163RD PL. (LOT 26); 10609 163RD PL. (LOT 27); 11000 SCARLET DR.; 17820 SOUTHWEST HWY.; 17505 ORLAND WOODS LN., AND 11110 W. 179TH ST.

**A motion was made by Trustee Fenton, seconded by Trustee Schussler, that this matter be PASSED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, and Trustee Calandriello

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - President McLaughlin

**2010-0045 Electronic Sign - Discussion**

Director of Development Services Karie Friling explained this item is for discussion only. Staff is requesting direction from the Board as it relates to whether there is a desire to change Board policy to allow electronic message boards within the Village of Orland Park.

The only thing that is being discussed is the message boards itself. We are not discussing changes in the size of the message board, heights, etc.

Today as signs are permitted throughout the Village a message board has three lines of text only and must be placed manual according to the existing Village Code.

What is before the Board tonight, is if you so desire, is to change that message board part of that sign to be electronic. This message board would electronically change, done through a computer. People would not have to any longer go out and manually change the wording on the message board.

The Land Development Code currently prohibits electronic signs except for those that statically display date, time and/or temperature. The Committee has discussed amending the Code to allow electronic signs in the past, most recently in 2010. Electronic signs are becoming more common, especially for certain uses, like the display of gasoline pricing. This report includes a review of electronic signs and draft code revisions to permit electronic signs.

Regulation of electronic signs ranges from full prohibition (similar to Orland Park's current code) to encouragement (used in some municipalities' entertainment areas), and everywhere in between. There are a number of regulatory aspects to consider when reviewing electronic sign proposals including sign type, location, placement and spacing, area, copy permitted, brightness, animation and more.

The list below includes some of the detailed considerations when regulating electronic signs:

The following summaries highlight how neighboring communities regulate electronic signs.

**Flossmoor:** Limited permissions. Electronic signs are permitted on larger size commercial lots on regional/ arterial roadways (Governor's Highway, Vollmer etc.) but not in the older parts of town. There are regulations on size (60 square feet) and brightness (NITS). There are no time prescriptions for changing copy.

**Frankfort:** Prohibited.

Homer Glen: Electronic signs appear integrated into the existing Code. The electronic sign is permitted, but it must fit within existing Code regulations, specifications and requirements with special consideration given only to the fact that it is electronic.

Mokena: Prohibited. There are a number of electronic signs in Mokena, but these are grandfathered through annexation agreements.

Palos Heights: Attempted to contact, code unavailable at this time.

Palos Park: Allows electronic signs in limited capacities. Temporary electronic signs may not have any flashing, scrolling/tracking etc. Permanent electronic signs can have changing copy but must meet NITS. There is no time prescription for changing copy. Electronic signs are not allowed on pole signs, they must be ground signs (no grandfathering). Advertising via electronic signs can only be done via ground signs. Walls signs may be electronic signs but they are only for the business name.

Tinley Park: Allows electronic signs Village-wide. On monument signs, 20% elevation area can be electronic. Issue they are dealing with: electronic signs not uniform in size. Monument signs have specific dimensions (10 feet tall) but some have been allowed to be bigger. As a result, some electronic signs are bigger than others (bigger monument sign means bigger area that makes up 20%). No time prescriptions for message frequency, no light control. Some electronic signs have PSA abilities and share Village information (community festivals etc.). Mandated gas stations to change price displays to electronic (20 square feet) within 3 years of Code change to allow electronic gas price display.

Based on an extensive review of the available literature, the draft code amendment outlined below presents an option to permit tasteful electronic signage in Orland Park.

The proposed code amendments permit electronic signs in the same area of signs that is currently provided for message boards. Message boards are currently not permitted for office signs or multi-tenant signs so those signs would not qualify for an electronic message board. Additionally, the message board cannot be above the primary sign. The electronic message board must have a black background with white or yellow text. Illustrations are not permitted. Brightness intensity is also regulated and the copy can only be changed once every 24 hours.

In instances where a currently non-conforming sign would like to install an electronic sign, the entire sign must be reconstructed in conformance with the current Land Development Code.

Land Development Code - Section 6-307 Signs

C. Permit Requirements.

4. Electronic message boards shall be governed by the following: Two violations within a twelve (12) - month period will result in a thirty (30) - day suspension from using the electronic message board. Every additional violation within the twelve (12) -month period will result in an additional thirty (30) -day suspension of electronic sign use. A citation will be issued for the first violation, followed by a fine of \$500 for each subsequent offense within the twelve (12) - month period.

M. Prohibited Signs. 4. ".....blinking or flashing signs, electronic signs except time, temperature, date and message board portion of conforming monument signs, interior electronic signs within ten (10) feet of an exterior window, signs which exhibit changing...."

P. Signs Permitted in Commercial/Office Districts-Sign District #2.

1. Freestanding Identification Signs.

a. All areas except for 159th Street (between 71st Court and 94th Avenue)

6. Message boards shall be ..... The message board portion of a conforming monument sign is permitted to be electronic subject to the following regulations: Messages must be static and cannot be changed more frequently than once every 24 (twenty four) hours. The message change must be instantaneous-no fading, flashing, or running script. A default mechanism is required to freeze the sign in one position if a malfunction occurs. The message may consist of letters and numbers only, no illustrations or other graphics. The maximum number of lines for copy is 3 (three). Background is required to be black and copy may be white or yellow only. The brightness of the electronic message board shall not exceed a maximum illumination of one thousand (1000) NITS during sunny daylight hours and a maximum illumination of three hundred and fifty (200) NITS at night as measured at the sign's face. Electronic message board shall be equipped with a censor that automatically lowers light output in accordance with atmospheric conditions. (See Section 6-307 C. 4 for regulations of electronic message board code violations.)

b. All areas along 159th Street (between 71st Court and 94th Avenue)

6. Message boards shall be ..... The message board portion of a conforming monument sign is permitted to be electronic subject to the following regulations: Messages must be static and cannot be changed more frequently than once every 24 (twenty four) hours. The message change must be instantaneous-no fading, flashing, or running script. A default mechanism is required to freeze the sign in one position if a malfunction occurs. The message may consist of letters and numbers only, no illustrations or other graphics. The maximum number of lines for copy is 3 (three). Background is required to be black and copy may be white or yellow only. The brightness of the electronic message board shall not exceed a maximum illumination of one thousand (1000)

NITS during sunny daylight hours and a maximum illumination of three hundred and fifty (200) NITS at night as measured at the sign's face. Electronic message board shall be equipped with a censor that automatically lowers light output in accordance with atmospheric conditions. (See Section 6-307 C. 4 for regulations of electronic message board code violations.)

R. Signs Permitted for Automobile Dealers and Automobile Service Stations-Sign District #4.

2. Freestanding Identification Signs.

a. All areas except for 159th Street (between 71st Court and 94th Avenue):

5. The message board portion of a conforming monument sign is permitted to be electronic subject to the following regulations: Messages must be static and cannot be changed more frequently than once every 24 (twenty four) hours. The message change must be instantaneous-no fading, flashing, or running script. A default mechanism is required to freeze the sign in one position if a malfunction occurs. The message may consist of letters and numbers only, no illustrations or other graphics. The maximum number of lines for copy is 3 (three). Background is required to be black and copy may be white or yellow only. The brightness of the electronic message board shall not exceed a maximum illumination of one thousand (1000) NITS during sunny daylight hours and a maximum illumination of three hundred and fifty (200) NITS at night as measured at the sign's face. Electronic message board shall be equipped with a censor that automatically lowers light output in accordance with atmospheric conditions. (See Section 6-307 C. 4 for regulations of electronic message board code violations.)

b. All areas along 159th Street (between 71st Court and 94th Avenue):

5. The message board portion of a conforming monument sign is permitted to be electronic subject to the following regulations: Messages must be static and cannot be changed more frequently than once every 24 (twenty four) hours. The message change must be instantaneous-no fading, flashing, or running script. A default mechanism is required to freeze the sign in one position if a malfunction occurs. The message may consist of letters and numbers only, no illustrations or other graphics. The maximum number of lines for copy is 3 (three). Background is required to be black and copy may be white or yellow only. The brightness of the electronic message board shall not exceed a maximum illumination of one thousand (1000) NITS during sunny daylight hours and a maximum illumination of three hundred and fifty (200) NITS at night as measured at the sign's face. Electronic message board shall be equipped with a censor that automatically lowers light output in accordance with atmospheric conditions. (See Section 6-307 C. 4 for regulations of electronic message board code violations.)

It should also be noted that any changes to the sign section of the Land Development Code will have to be brought through the public hearing process.

Director Friling reported that this is being presented before the Board at this time because of the LaGrange Road widening project and as a result of that project many or almost all of the commercial signs on the Village's commercial corridor are being impacted. Many of these signs are having to be removed and will need to be replaced. So the question is if the Village is going to have the businesses invest in new signage, is this something that the Board would like to entertain at this time so the businesses can have the opportunity to include the electronic messaging capacity with their new sign or keep the code as it is and not make any changes.

Trustee Schussler stated that he is a director with the Orland Park Chamber of Commerce and businesses have been coming forward to the Chamber to see when electronically signage will be allowed within the Village. The businesses understand Orland Park is a restrictive community regarding signage, but they are also asking why the Village is not keeping up with the times by allowing this signage.

He believes there was a time and a reason when the Board needed strict sign codes. However, maybe it is time to revisit this issue. By placing appropriate restrictions and fines for violation the Village will maintain the character that is in this community.

Trustee Fenton stated that it was mentioned that the messages on the signs would only be allowed to change every 24 hours. Because the Village is so short staffed and other priority code enforcements are falling behind, how would the changing of signs be monitored. She believes it will be very difficult to enforce this. This is a major concern regarding the enforcement of businesses that will not comply. Another major concern is what will all these signs look like riding down LaGrange Road.

Director Friling stated that the Village cannot be the sign police, and Trustee Fenton was correct, staff does have higher priority issues to address in the Village. So the blatant disregard of the Village signage ordinance (the flashing and scrolling) staff will see this and appropriate action will be taken. Part of the code change will be strict enforcement and high fines. Also, if a business is a repeat offender they will not be allowed to use the electronic message board.

Director Friling stated that the majority of the businesses in the Village are good corporate citizens and they do follow Village rules.

Trustee Gira stated that she believes the point has been well taken; the Village does not want flashing lights or obnoxious signage.

She believes that this change should be discussed, especially with the construction going on LaGrange Road, obviously the businesses are going to invest in new signage and why wouldn't the Village allow them to come into the

21st century. If someone has an obnoxious sign, the Village will notice! The Village does not want to punish its good corporate citizens because of a very few bad ones. She believes this will be a good change.

Director Friling stated that part of the way the code language will be written is it will be an opportunity to get rid of legal nonconforming signs. There are several in the Villages commercial corridor. This code is written that if the business would like to use electronic signs they would need to come into compliance with all the other sign requirements as well. So that will take care of a lot of legal nonconformity that the Village has currently.

Trustee Schussler stated that the current sign ordinance was adopted in 1991. There are many legal nonconforming signs over 22 years old within the Village that are still in good standing condition. The Board has a very unique opportunity because of the construction on LaGrange and the businesses are making their decisions to replace their signs and remove them off the right-of-way. This is a good opportunity to have all business signage in conformity. He believes this decision to change or keep the signage requirements the same should be made quickly so the Village does not lose this window of opportunity to eliminate those nonconforming signs.

Trustee Ruzich questioned if only 25% of the signs can be covered with the electronic message board.

Director Friling replied it is 20% and no more than three lines.

Trustee Ruzich stated that if the signs were tasteful done, this would be a big improvement in the Village unlike some of the current dated looking signs that are up now.

Keloryn Putman representing the Orland Park Chamber of Commerce spoke before the Board and reported that the Chamber contacted their business members and the main concerns the businesses are having is regarding signage. With the LaGrange Road Construction project going on, the businesses stated they cannot be without signage for two years.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated that he agrees that this issue needs to be decided quickly. He agrees with Trustee Schussler regarding the nonconforming signs. He does believe there are a number of open issues that need to be resolved first.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated that he is not convinced staff has figured out the enforcement regime. Is there an estimate of how many electronic signs staff thinks there will be. That is a material fact Mayor Pro Tem Dodge needs to know before he will vote on this.

Regarding time, temperature and date on signs – if a business wants to place this



on their signage will it be allowed to blinking or rotate.

Assistant Director of Development Services Kim Flom answered the electronic signs are not for time, temperature and date to be flashing – but this information will change, which means the display will change more than once every 24 hours, this is the intent so the language would need to be more clear.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated that he does not want time, temperature or date to be displaced or flashing on any signage within the Village. This is a deeply sensitive issue. He understands the needs of the Village's businesses to do what they want to do, however he does not want to forget that a certain ascetic has been built in this Village over the past 20 years.

He requested that staff come back with a comparison report of what is being done in Oak Brook, Northbrook, and other areas that have a different feel and look to their signage in their control. He believes there needs to be points of comparison.

He stated that coming down 159th street tonight near Oak Park Avenue; you could land a plane from a few miles away with some of the signage on gas stations alone.

As this issue moves forward, it needs more discussion at either the Committee or Board levels, staff will need to find a way to convince Mayor Pro Tem Dodge what the operational definition of 1,000 NITS's means.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated that he is against having message boards with numbers. He likes the idea of banks or gas stations being able to put up a message and having it static and being operational efficient and effective. But if the Village is going to do something this comprehensive he wants to make sure it is done "just so" because he does not want Orland Park to look like every other community. He does not want to be so open-minded and destroy the ascetic that has taken over 20 years to build.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge asked Village Attorney E. Kenneth Friker regarding American Sales and School District 230, that their scrolling on their signs is so fast it cannot be read. Are those grandfathered or not grandfathered, compliance or not compliance if this ordinance is passed? Also what will be done regarding the bill boards?

Director Friling stated that American Sales is grandfathered and she doubted that they will change their sign because they get to do things that the Village would not allow in the existing code. Unless Village Attorney Friker can advised differently, that would allow the Village to stop that.

Regarding bill boards – Any new bill boards are prohibited in the Village and the few that the Village has are grandfathered.

Trustee Schussler stated regarding District 230, the school code controls that and the Village has no control, this is why they have an electronic sign.

Village Attorney Friker stated regarding the existing bill boards in the Village, the courts have said this is private property, if you want to get rid of the bill boards, then you buy the property and pay full cash market value. The courts have been specific regarding this issue.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge once again stated he would like an estimate from staff on how many businesses will place message boards up.

Director Friling stated that she can tell Mayor Pro Tem Dodge how many existing message boards are in the Village. She cannot tell how many businesses are planning to take advantage of the new code.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated that this starts to become a very serious problem from a policy prospective. He has spoken to many people regarding this issue, and when their opinion is asked about whether the Village should allow electronic signage many are not in favor of this. He believes staff and the Board really need to be mindful of what LaGrange will look like in five years when businesses light up LaGrange, with a dutiful black with white or yellow lettering electronic sign, three feet, three lines, no scrolls, it is an important change. He does not believe there is enough information in front of the Board tonight to do anything other than continue to discuss this.

Trustee Fenton stated that she totally agrees with Mayor Pro Tem Dodge and her being the Chairman of the Development Services & Planning Committee she believes this should go back to staff for further research. She suggested staff survey businesses that are in this area where the signage will be allowed and find out if they would consider electronic message signage if this would go into effect. This way the Board would have some idea if only four businesses are interested or all businesses down LaGrange Road.

Director Friling stated that she has no problem doing the survey; she wishes she could have an answer for Mayor Pro Tem Dodge on how many businesses would take advantage of the electronic signage. She stated that she is being completely honest that regardless of what the survey says or how many businesses have manually message boards as of today, once the change is made to this code it is open to everyone, a new business comes in town they may want the new signage or a business that says no in the survey, 6 months later changes their mind, now they can put up this signage.

She agrees with Trustee Dodge this is a huge policy change, unfortunately or fortunately this is a good time for this decision to be made.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated let's send this back to Committee with perhaps a directive from the entire Board for staff to begin tuning this up with perhaps the final ordinance so this can be voted on.

Mayor Pro Tem Dodge stated his concern is for example Darvin Furniture would like to say "Anniversary Sale" on their electronic sign, this would be perfect. He would be uncomfortable if across the street, Long Horn is advertising an \$8.99 prime-rib steak. That is what he means about the ascetic and the visual appeal. Currently, the Village is spending \$8 to \$9 Million on upgrades to improve the appearance of LaGrange Road. Tasteful signs work; the flashing of the latest sale at a TGIF does not work. That is why this has become a very serious policy matter decision and that is where "tasteful" becomes exceedingly difficult to enforce and define.

Trustee Schussler did not agree to send this back to Committee because this is going to be an entire Board decision. He stated that staff should research issued that have been raised tonight and bring this back to the full Board. If this goes to Committee, it will need to come back to Board and then this will also need to go to a Public Hearing. He is concerned that the window of opportunity will be lost, then why even make the change.

He agrees there are things that need to be worked out. He stated that he would never vote for anything that would allow flashing, scrolling, or banding. As far as he is concerned this is going to be static and if it is anything more than static he will not vote in favor.

Trustee Gira asked if the Village has multi-tenant signs - is it possible each tenant would want their own individual message board.

Director Friling stated no, the code would not allow that.

Trustee Gira stated that she believes this should go back to Committee and then the Board. She asked if there is a tight time frame.

Director Friling stated that no, her staff is strongly advising the businesses to wait until the Road Construction is over before any permanent signage is placed. Tonight the Board approved signage in road improvement construction zones which will help the businesses with their temporary signage until the construction is completed in two years.

Discussion took place if this item should go Board or Committee. It was decided this item go back to Committee first.

I move to approve that this item return to Committee after staff has looked into and resolved the questions that were asked this evening and will be able to report back their findings; and

After Committee, this item will then be brought back to the full Board with or without a recommendation and then follow the procedure as set forth after that into public hearing and back to the Board.

**A motion was made by Trustee Fenton, seconded by Trustee Griffin Ruzich, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, and Trustee Calandriello

**Nay:** 1 - Trustee Schussler

**Absent:** 1 - President McLaughlin

## MAYOR'S REPORT

### 2013-0576 Amend Number of Liquor Licenses - Title 7 Chapter 4 - Ordinance

Increase number of Class A liquor licenses from fifty-nine (59) to sixty (60) for Yucca restaurant, 16081 South LaGrange Road.

Increase number of Class B liquor licenses from twenty-two (22) to twenty-three (23) for Trader Joe's to allow packaged sales of alcoholic liquor in addition to their current packaged beer and wine sales.

Increase number of Class C liquor licenses from ten (10) to eleven (11) for Italo Modern Italian Kitchen, 15139 South LaGrange Road.

Decrease the number of Class D liquor licenses from one (1) to zero as Trader Joe will change to a Class B License.

I move to pass Ordinance Number 4848, entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 7 CHAPTER 4 OF THE ORLAND PARK MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE AVAILABLE NUMBER OF CLASS A, CLASS B, CLASS C AND CLASS D LIQUOR LICENSES ISSUED BY THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

**A motion was made by Trustee Fenton, seconded by Trustee Griffin Ruzich, that this matter be PASSED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, and Trustee Calandriello

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - President McLaughlin

## BOARD COMMENTS

TRUSTEE GIRA – Congratulated staff on their weather prediction and then rescheduling the Great Pumpkin Party from October 5th to the following weekend on October 12th.

TRUSTEE SCHUSSLER – Informed the Board that Trustee Gira and himself are the only two Board members that have volunteered to help with the 35th Orland “Open” Spelling Bee on Sunday, October 20, 2013 beginning at 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM at the Orland Park Civic Center. He also recruited a few more Trustees to help on this day.

TRUSTEE RUZICH – Welcomed Trustee Calandriello to the Board.

TRUSTEE CALANDRIELLO – Thanked the Board, President McLaughlin, and his family for all their support. He is looking forward to serving this community that he was born and raised in. We all have a special responsibility to make sure that this Village is better when we leave it than when we arrived.

TRUSTEE FENTON – Welcomed Trustee Calandriello to the Board.

MAYOR PRO TEM DODGE – Welcomed Trustee Calandriello to the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT - 8:50 PM**

**A motion was made by Trustee Fenton, seconded by Trustee Gira, that this matter be ADJOURNED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, and Trustee Calandriello

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - President McLaughlin

**/nm**

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

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**John C. Mehalek, Village Clerk**

## VOP Ash Tree Removal/Replacement Program (ATRRP) Board Report 10/7/2013

### ATRRP Program at a Glance

Initial Seven (7) year tree removal/replacement program	2013 to 2019
Village-wide inventory of parkway trees	28,803
<i>Inventory of ash trees (only) located in Village parks</i>	<i>1,032</i>
<i>Number of ash trees in parkways based on *ARA study</i>	<i>8,085</i>
<i>Estimated number of ash trees adjacent to ponds</i>	<i>200</i>
Total number of ash trees inventoried prior to Removal/Replacement Program	9,317
Ash trees removed by end of 2013 ( <i>number may vary slightly</i> )	2,402
<b>Projected number of trees remaining after Dec. 2013</b>	<b>6,915</b>
<i>The following numbers assume 100% contractor participation with no staff tree removals</i>	
Number of trees that can be removed/replaced <u>annually</u> based on funding <b>(7-year program completion Dec. 2019)</b>	1,220 trees/\$500,000
Number of trees to be removed/replaced <u>annually</u> for : (6-year program completion)/(additional funding needed)	(1,383 trees)/(\$567,030)
Total Cost to Remove/Replace Remaining 6,915 Ash Trees using current contract costs (7-year program)	\$2,835,150
Total CIP Funds Identified through 2014 through 2019 (\$500,000 annually)	\$3,000,000
<b>Current Contract Costs</b>	
Average cost for contractor to remove, stump grind and *restore a single tree	\$230 per tree
Contract cost to replace a single tree	\$180 per tree
Total Contracted cost to remove and replace a single tree	\$410 per tree
<i>The following numbers assume Village tree removal participation in conjunction with contractor</i>	
Number of trees that can be removed/replaced annually based on funding <b>(6-year program completion Dec. 2018)</b>	1,463/\$500,000
Total Cost to Remove/Replace Remaining Ash Trees using workload share of staff and contractor for a 6-year program	\$2,389,830
Number of trees that can be removed/replaced annually based on funding <i>(5-year program completion Dec. 2017)/(additional funding needed)</i>	1,729/(\$70,788)
Number of trees that can be removed/replaced annually based on funding <i>(4-year program completion Dec. 2016)/(additional funding needed)</i>	2,305/(307,050)
<b>Further Expedited Tree Removal/Replacement Option (Staff and Contractor workload share)</b>	
Four year completion program using Village funds for tree <i>removal only</i>	\$1,500,000
Using Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) Loan Program for "tree replacement" costs	\$1,244,622
Total Cost of 4-year completion program ( <i>cost does not include interest for loan</i> )	\$2,744,622
Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) EAB Revolving Loan Fund <i>(Per the IFA, the EAB Revolving Loan Fund is dependent on the State's appropriation process and has yet to be funded as of 9/30/13)</i>	-Zero to Low Interest -Up to \$5M for 20 years -5% of principal, or 5% of remaining balance

\*Applied Research Associates (ARA) was hired to perform a pavement condition survey, also inventoried roadway signs, street lights, pavement markings, sidewalks, crosswalks and parkway trees (Board Approval: Feb. 6, 2012)

\*Restoration process does not include tree replacement. Restoration simply backfills area where tree was removed

## **Introduction and Background**

The Emerald Ash Borer beetle (EAB) is an invasive, non-native insect that feeds on and ultimately causes the demise of Ash trees. The beetle is metallic green in color and approximately one half (1/2) inches in length. The EAB was first discovered in the United States in Michigan in 2002 and is believed to have been transported to the United States from Asia via shipping crates.

Until recently, the EAB was without a known natural enemy, which facilitated the widespread destruction of ash trees nation-wide. The beetle has destroyed tens of millions of ash trees in southeastern Michigan alone, with tens of millions more lost in Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Quebec, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

### *Regional Issue*

EAB has resulted in millions of dollars being spent for tree removal, preventative treatments and disposal by municipalities, property owners, nursery operators and forest products industries. The EAB is now a regional and local issue. According to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Emerald Ash Borer was confirmed in the Village of Orland Park, Illinois, on July 27, 2010 (10 IDA EM-066). Small and large communities across the north, south and west suburbs of Chicago are taking action to mitigate EAB devastation. In many cases, municipalities having varying degrees of budget concerns are opting for the removal and replacement of entire ash tree inventories. From Toledo, Ohio, to Lake Forest, Illinois, and Tinley Park, Illinois, removing all or a substantial portion of municipal ash tree inventories appear to be the most cost effective and permanent solutions for eradicating the EAB.

### *Policy Implementation/Board Action*

In 2012 the Village formalized its initial EAB efforts with the policy decision to remove and replace all ash trees. The Village engaged two separate contractors. GroundsKeeper Landscape Care, LLC was contracted to perform ash tree removal/stumping and surface restoration, while Mid-America Tree and Landscape was contracted to implement the Village's one-for-one tree replacement program. In most cases, when an ash is removed, a replacement tree will be planted in its place. There may be some areas where a one-to-one replacement is not possible due to underground infrastructure concerns. Because of the sheer number of ash trees, three entities are engaged in the removal of ash trees: Parks & Building Maintenance, Public Works Street Division and contractor, GroundsKeeper Landscape LLC.

### *Village of Orland Park Ash Tree Inventory*

Recent tree surveys were performed by both Applied Research Associates (consultants) and Village staff arborists.

- 28,803 trees in its overall tree inventory.
  - Of the 28,803 trees, 9,317, (32%) are ash trees; in comparison, Tinley Park has 9,000 ash trees
  - Of the 9,317 ash trees, 8,085 are located in parkways
  - 1,032 are in parks and on municipally owned property
  - 200 are immediately adjacent to ponds (approximation)

### *Contract Information*

- Contract with Groundskeeper Landscape Care LLC ends in December of 2016.
  - Average cost to remove a tree per Groundskeeper contract is around \$230.
- Mid-America Tree and Landscape contract ends in December of 2013.
  - Current cost for tree replacement is \$170 per tree (Mid-America Landscaping).
- The total average cost for individual tree removal and replacement is approximately \$410.
- Excellent contract price: similarly sized municipal tree removal projects ranging from \$415 to \$1,200 per tree.

### **Removal Challenges and Concerns**

A major concern that communities have when dealing with EAB tree removal is the limited speed at which a tree removal program can be completed due to various funding limitations. Municipal budgets can only accommodate the removal/replacement of a limited number of trees during the fiscal year. Meanwhile, the remaining inventory of trees is left to continual and rapid decline. While trees scheduled for years one and two are removed before they reach a point of deterioration, trees scheduled and budgeted for removal in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years can become a danger to people and property. Even with prioritizing the removal of large diameter trees, the Village's expansive inventory of relatively smaller trees, when left to the EAB for two or three years, will die and become brittle posing a danger to the communities where they once added value.

### **Budget, Cost and Completion Year**

Prior to 2013, the Village allocated \$100,000 every year for the purposes of cutting and trimming trees. With the arrival of the EAB, the Village now budgets \$500,000 per year in its capital improvement program (CIP) for the ash tree removal/replacement program. This seven (7) year program is scheduled to be funded from FY 2013 through FY 2019. To date, nearly 2,000 trees have been removed. Approximately 365 new trees have been planted. This is due to the seasonal lag of trees only being able to be planted in the spring and fall. The Village anticipates that approximately, 2,402 trees will be removed by the end of December 2013, leaving roughly 6,915 trees to be removed and replaced.

### **7-Year Removal/Replacement Plan (100% Contractor)**

All charts assume FY 2013 as the first year of the removal/replacement program. The seven (7) year program schedule details a seven year ash tree removal completion program based on a budget allocation of \$500,000 per year. This chart also makes the assumption that 100% of the removal program is performed by the contractor. Staying within the \$500k budget, the Village could remove and replace approximately 1,220 trees every year to complete the project by 2019. The 2019 budget could be reduced to \$355,000 with 817 trees needing to be removed and replaced in that final year.

Unfortunately, the seven (7) year program provides more time for ash trees that are already in a rapid decline to worsen. The sheer volume of the Village's ash tree inventory, as it relates to EAB, requires a level of heightened attention as thousands of trees that are scheduled for later year removal will become hazards well before their removal phases. Also, once trees become visibly degraded, citizens will contact the Village Hall and Public Works Department requesting immediate removal. Public Works staff will then evaluate the condition and prioritize the removal based on the existing extensive list.



## **Alternative Program Schedules**

Each of the following groups of schedules show two possible scenarios. The first scenario shows what a potential ash tree removal/replacement schedule would look like as it relates to its length (i.e., 6-year program, or 5-year program), its cost based on the current budgeted amount, and the workload participation between staff and contractor. Staff has added a noticeable value to the Village's tree removal/replacement program. Currently, the program has been shortened by 1-year from completion in December 2019 to completion in December 2018. The ash tree removal/replacement program could be handled 100% by the contractor, but the program would extend to 2019, creating various dead tree hazards in the community. Staff's participation at 600 tree removals per year shortens the program schedule and reduces the overall funding needed from the capital improvement plan.

### 7-Year Program Scheduled (100% Contractor)

- 6,915 ash trees remain for removal/replacement for a current contract cost of approximately \$2,835,150
- At a current funding level of \$500,000 per year, Village will complete the project in seven (7) years (2019)
- \$334,150 program cost reduction compared to 7-Year Program

### 6-Year Program Schedule (100% Contractor)

- The 6 year program schedule can be accomplished with an annual budget increase of \$67,030
- While not ideal, decreasing the program from 7 years is a step forward in shortening the overall program schedule

### Current 6-Year Program Schedule (Staff and Contractor Workload Sharing)

- Village staff to supplement tree removal/replacement program by removing 600 trees per year
- 6,915 remaining ash trees removed and replaced for a cost of \$2,389,830
  - \$444,320 savings from 7-year program
  - \$444,320 savings from the 6-year 100% contractor scenario
- Current funding level of \$500,000 per year, Village will complete project in six (6) years (2018)

### 5-Year Program Schedule (Staff and Contractor Workload Sharing)

- Utilizing Village staff at 600 trees per year would require an additional budget increase of roughly \$70,788 per year
  - \$572,930 annual budget versus the \$500,000 current budget
  - \$2,283,150 program total

### 4-Year Program Schedule (Staff and Contractor Workload Sharing)

- Utilizing Village staff at 600 trees per year would require an additional budget increase of roughly \$307,050 per year
  - \$807,050 annual budget
  - \$2,421,150 program total

### **Illinois Finance Authority (Emerald Ash Borer Revolving Loan Fund)**

The Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) has been given the authority to administer an emerald ash borer revolving loan program. The program shall provide low-interest or zero-interest loans to units of local government for the treatment of standing trees and replanting of trees on public lands that are within emerald ash borer quarantine areas as established by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The Village of Orland Park is included in the Cook County and Will County EAB quarantine areas.

Per legislation, the IFA may make loans based on the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture. The loan funds, subject to appropriation, must be paid out of the Emerald Ash Borer Revolving Loan Fund, a special fund created in the State treasury. Moneys in the Fund may be used only for loans to units of local government for the treatment of standing trees and replanting of trees within emerald ash borer quarantine areas established by the Department of Agriculture and for no other purpose.

A loan may not exceed \$5,000,000 to any one unit of local government. The repayment period for the loan may not exceed 20 years. The unit of local government shall repay each year, at least 5% of the principal amount borrowed or the remaining balance of the loan, whichever is less. According to the Chicago office of the Illinois Finance Authority, the IFA Revolving Loan Program is currently an unfunded mandate and subject to State appropriation. Once implemented and funded, the revolving loan program could be implemented in the following scenario.

#### **IFA 5-Year Scenario (100% Contractor)**

Assuming that the contractor would handle 100% of the work, Village funding would be exclusively used for the removal of ash trees. No funding would be used to replace the trees once removed. The Village could make application to the IFA for a loan (\$391k per year) (\$1.2M program length) that would cover the cost of tree replacement. If successful, this IFA option would reduce the program to 5-years with only 393 tree left to remove in year 5 (2017). The IFA revolving loan fund could be an option to complete the removal/replacement program by December of 2017.

#### **IFA 4-Year Scenario (Staff and Contractor Work Load Sharing)**

Assuming that staff continues work load sharing for the ash tree removal/replacement program, the Village could complete its ash tree removal/replacement program in 4 years utilizing the IFA revolving loan program. The cost for -tree removal only- is \$1,245,410. The cost to replace the trees would be covered by the IFA loan at \$1,244,669, for a total cost to the Village of \$2,490,079. This total does not include interest costs.

The IFA loan scenarios allow the Village to shorten the overall ash tree removal program. Utilizing staff to supplement the tree removal program has shortened the initial program from seven (7) years to six (6) years. Even with a shortened six year program, trees scheduled to be removed in years 4, 5 and 6 still present a potential threat to neighborhoods. Short of adding additional funding to the Village's ash tree removal/replacement program, there are few options with regard to shortening the overall program. With such a large volume of trees a phased program is inevitable; the only identifiable goals are to find supplemental funding in the form of grants and loans, and/or ways to increase the program's existing budget.

*Staff and Contractor Work Load Sharing*

*Illinois Financing Revolving Loan for Tree Replacement*

- Using loan funding to cover the cost of replanting only, the Village's total program cost would be approximately \$2,490,079
  - \$1,1,245,410 for tree removal (staff and contractor workload share)
  - \$1,244,669 loan
- 6,915 remaining ash trees would be removed by December of 2016 (a four year program schedule)

**EAB Removal/Replacement Schedules and Completion Year Options**

EAB Ash Tree Removal/Replacement Schedule Summary	7 Year	6 Year	5 Year	4 Year
	(100% Contractor)	Staff & Contractor 2018 Completion	Staff & Contractor 2017 Completion	Staff & Contractor 2016 Completion
Annual Budgets	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$572,000	\$807,050
<b>Total Program Cost</b>	<b>\$2,835,150</b>	<b>\$2,260,310</b>	<b>\$2,283,000</b>	<b>\$2,421,150</b>
VOP Annual Tree Removal	0	600	600	600
Contractor Annual Tree Removal	1,220	956	1,132	1,705
Trees Planted Annually	1,220	1,556	1,732	2,305

**Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) Revolving Loan Program**

<i>EAB Ash Tree Removal/Replacement</i>	<i>4 Year Plan</i>
Annual Budget	\$500,000
Total Program Cost (Removal Only)	\$1,245,410
Contractor's Annual Tree Removal Costs	\$500,000
Total Cost to Replace Trees (IFA Loan)	\$1,244,669
<b>*Total Program Cost</b>	<b>\$2,490,079</b>

*\*Total Program Cost does not include interest*

### Expedited 4 Year Completion Schedule Detail

**100% Contractor**

**4 Year Removal/Replacement Programs**

<b>4 Year Program Schedule</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Initial Annual Budget for removal/replacement program	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
Trees needed to be removed/replaced per a 5 year schedule	2,305	2,305	2,305	6,915
Contractor Cost to Remove/Replace Trees	\$945,050	\$945,050	\$945,050	<b>\$2,835,150</b>
Running Count of trees remaining per year	4,610	2,305	0	<b>0</b>
Annual Budget <b>Increase</b> Required for 5 Year Program	<b>\$445,050</b>	<b>\$445,050</b>	<b>\$445,050</b>	<b>\$1,335,150</b>

**Staff and Contractor Work Load Sharing**

**4 Year Removal/Replacement Program**

<b>4 Year Program Schedule</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Initial Annual Budget for removal/replacement program	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
Trees Removed by Village Staff	600	600	600	1,800
Replacement Cost for Staff removed trees	\$108,000	\$108,000	\$108,000	\$324,000
Trees Remaining to be Removed by Contractor	1,705	1,705	1,705	5,115
Contractor Cost to Remove/Replace Remaining Trees	\$699,050	\$699,050	\$699,050	\$2,097,150
Total Number of Trees Removed/Replaced	2,305	2,305	2,305	6,915
Running Count of trees remaining per year	4,610	2,305	0	<b>0</b>
TOTAL Cost to Remove/Replace Trees for 4 Year Program	\$807,050	\$807,050	\$807,050	<b>\$2,421,150</b>
Annual Budget <b>Increase</b> Required for 4 Year Schedule	<b>\$307,050</b>	<b>\$307,050</b>	<b>\$307,050</b>	<b>\$921,150</b>

## **Best Practices Proactive Removal and Reactive Removal Pros and Cons**

Once infested with EAB, ash trees typically begin declining over a period of 2-3 years. The burden of dealing with hundreds or thousands of dead and dying trees in a short period of time can place an enormous strain on community budgets, personnel and resources. Having a relatively large inventory of ash trees, the Village uses its staff to augment our contractor's tree removal/replacement efforts. The Village has been successful in aggressively reducing the overall ash tree inventory using both a proactive and reactive removal strategy. The following recommendations are based on best practice compilations and EAB management plans from various communities and state agricultural agencies.

### Proactive Removal - Removing ash trees regardless of condition or health.

#### **Pros:**

- Opportunity to spread removal costs over a longer time frame
- Reduces problem of dealing with many dead &/or hazardous ash trees at one time
- Opportunity to start the replanting/recovery process immediately
- Greater flexibility in organizing removal and routine work schedules
- Establishes a definitive grasp of the overall problem

#### **Cons:**

- Immediate impacts to tree canopy and aesthetics
- Does not take into account that research may find an effective control for EAB

### Reactive Removal - Removing ash trees which are either infested with EAB or dead

#### **Pros:**

- No negative public perception of removing healthy trees.
- Further EAB research may offer effective control, minimizing need for removals.

#### **Cons:**

- Budget impacts can be severe once EAB is in community.
- Replanting funds may not be available due to extreme removal costs.

## **Tree Removal Categorization (Good-Fair-Poor-Priority)**

The Village began with a standard tree rating system to rate its ash trees. Due to the aggressive infestation of EAB, an additional category was needed to better manage our tree removal program. The Village's Good-Fair-Poor system was adjusted to include "Priority." An ideal scenario would be to create a rating system that identified poor trees and have them removed before the "good" trees deteriorated to "poor." Far from ideal, the Village's large ash tree inventory is in severe decline and the amended rating system provides some guidance for the systemic removal of severely degraded ash trees (priority).

### *Contractor by Neighborhood*

Groundskeeper Landscape Services is tasked to perform Village-wide ash tree removals. To ensure efficiency the contractor progressively moves from neighborhood to neighborhood. To better facilitate and prioritize contractor removals, neighborhoods are evaluated and staff creates a more detailed list of tree sizes within a targeted neighborhood. The list also assists staff in monitoring and predicting contractor invoice cost based on a tree's DBH (diameter at breast height). Removing trees proactively and reactively, the Village uses the following process for prioritizing the order of tree removals.

### *Staff Removals (Targeted Removals)*

A four person village crew is tasked to augment the contractor's tree removal efforts by removing trees throughout the Village categorized as "priority." Staff will locate these targeted trees either by observation or through the Village's work-order process. Because hazardous conditions exist in nearly all parts of the Village, and to ensure that a moderate level of attention is given to the entire Village, the four person tree removal crew must consistently relocate to different areas of the Village to extend removal efforts to the various neighborhoods. Crews will generally perform tree removals in a neighborhood for a maximum of two weeks before moving to a different neighborhood.

In general, staff targeted tree removals are categorized as follows:

#### **1. Good:**

- a. Trees are infected, but in relatively good condition
- b. Trees will eventually be removed, but not the primary focus
- c. Full to moderate canopy; some tree dieback (dead branches)

#### **2. Fair:**

- a. Trees are infected, but show signs of deterioration
- b. Wilting and yellowing foliage throughout the tree or limited to certain branches
- c. These trees will be removed, but they are not the primary focus
- d. Declining to moderate canopy (above 50%)

#### **3. Poor:**

- a. Trees have some canopy foliage, but in an obvious state of decline
- b. Trees will be removed as a secondary focus
- c. Canopy less than 50%
- d. Canopy thinning and branch dieback occurring initially in the upper third of the tree

#### **4. Priority:**

- a. Trees requiring immediate and high priority focus
- b. Trees having zero canopy that may pose a danger to life and property
- c. A large number of shoots that arise below the dead portions of the tree, particularly at the tree base
- d. Larger dead/dying trees that can cause injury to persons or property
- e. Trees having zero canopy with moderate to large diameter dead branches, located in high traffic and pedestrian areas or areas in direct proximity to property



## Photo Examples of VOP Tree Removal Categories



**Healthy Ash Trees**



**Good**



**Fair**



**Poor**



**Priority**





Poor



Priority



Priority



Priority



Priority



## Community Comparisons (Varying Responses to EAB)

Communities across the region had varying levels of responses to their respective EAB infestation. It appears that most if not all of the communities reviewed responded to their EAB infestations with phased plans that were limited by their respective budgets.

### *Removal Only*

The communities of Libertyville and Mundelien, with small ash tree inventories, made the decision to remove and replace their trees without consideration for treatment. Some larger communities like Naperville and Chicago with well-staffed forestry divisions, were able to begin treatment of their inventories in 2008, which led to fewer ash trees being removed.

### *-Villages of Niles and Norridge-*

Two smaller communities made the decision to focus much of their attention and resources on treating their ash trees. The Villages of Niles and Norridge have relatively smaller ash tree inventories than Orland Park (Niles 450; Norridge 370). Both communities have what arborist refer to as “manageable” ash tree inventories. Even with a modest inventory of 370 ash trees and an aggressive treatment program, the Emerald Ash Borer’s inevitable pattern of destruction became clear prompting the Village of Norridge to remove 46 ash trees (12% of the total ash tree inventory).

### *Ash Tree Inventory Comparison*

Community	Total Area	Population (2010 Census)	Total Parkway Tree Inventory	Parkway Ash Tree Inventory	% of Total Inventory
Niles	5.85 sq. mi.	29,803	8,500	450	5%
Orland Park	22.16 sq. mi.	57,016	28,803	8,085	28%
Norridge	1.81 sq. mi.	14,572	6,000	370	5%

### *Treatment and Removal*

In general, communities that discovered EAB early on used insecticidal treatment as an option. In most cases, communities understand that the only definitive method of eradicating EAB is ash tree removal. Mokena and Tinley Park, while engaged in aggressive removal programs, have expended funding to treat otherwise healthy ash trees. Mokena is treating 200 of their ash trees, but they are removing the remaining ash tree inventory of 3,400 trees. Tinley paid nearly \$58,000 to treat 600 of their ash three inventory, with the rest being contracted out for removal. Downers Grove created a phased plan to chemically treat their entire inventory of 3,860 trees from 2008 through 2012 and has taken down only a handful of ash trees.

The City of Des Plains decided to remove its entire ash tree inventory of 3,700 trees in 2012. During a council meeting aldermen and residents questioned why treatment of ash trees was not being offered as an alternative to replacement. Staff members explained that because all of their ash trees were likely infected to some degree, treatment would merely prolong the death of the trees.

## Insecticide and Treatment

Best practice authors all agree that chemical ash tree treatment is best served when EAB has not affected a given tree. It is also a consistent theme that insecticidal treatments are more effective when the tree is in its initial state of decline having a canopy above 50 to 60%. It is also commonly agreed that Ash trees infected by EAB have a much lower likelihood of recovery when chemicals are introduced to trees falling below these standards. By the time the emerald ash borer is verified in a



community by the Department of Agriculture, the EAB is certain to have a well-established presence in the community.

According to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Emerald Ash Borer was confirmed in the Village of Orland Park, Illinois, on July 27, 2010 (10 IDA EM-066). Experts assert that EAB kills ash trees within three to five years of infestation. According to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, within two (2) years of observing symptoms most of the crown of the tree will be dead. Complete tree death typically occurs within five (5) years, but may take as few as 2-3 years. According to experts at

the Morton Arboretum EAB infestations usually go undetected until trees begin to show symptoms of infestation. It may take at least one year before symptoms first appear. It is at this point that insecticidal treatments would be most effective. Unfortunately, the ash trees that have been removed in the Village of Orland Park over the past two years have in, most part, been trees that are completely dead and those having less than a 50% canopy. It would appear that the Village's EAB infestation, similar to many of the surrounding communities, has been both rapid and aggressive.

#### *Ash Tree Value*

The only definitive way to completely eradicate EAB and its long-term infestation is ash tree removal. While ash wood is valued for its strength and elasticity (often used for baseball bats, bows and tool handles) its aesthetic, community and general utility value is the same as those attributable to the oak tree, maple, lindens and honey locust trees. The Village's ash tree replacement program will, in most cases, replace every ash tree that is removed one-for-one.

#### *Insecticide Use*

Applying protective insecticide treatments to a healthy ash tree to prevent an EAB infestation is the best strategy for managing EAB. However, if a tree becomes infested and the infestation is detected early, you may be able to treat your ash tree to prevent further damage and help the tree recover. Research suggests that insecticide treatments are significantly more effective on EAB-infested ash trees with less than 50% canopy thinning. Insecticide treatments are not recommended for trees with greater than 50% canopy thinning; these trees should be removed. Trees that become infested with EAB and are not treated will ultimately die and will need to be removed. Insecticides can also be used as a means of controlling the decline of an ash tree inventory allowing for a successful implementation of long term ash tree removal plan. Communities may use insecticide to aggressively treat their larger DBH trees that are located in historical districts. Universities have used treatments to study and monitor the relative decline of trees once EAB has been identified in the tree. Larger cities that detected EAB early on were able to use insecticidal treatments to treat their entire ash tree inventories.

<http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/eab/files/2012/12/Is-My-Ash-Tree-Worth-Treating-for-Emerald-Ash-Borer.pdf>

#### *Insecticide effectiveness*

- Most insecticide control measures against EAB must be used each year for the life of the tree.
- Most ash trees have life spans of well over 30 years generally reaching maturity after 20 to 25 years.
- Insecticide treatments may not be effective in controlling EAB in your ash tree. Storm damage, other injuries to the tree, age of the tree, soil moisture, soil compaction and other site and environmental factors influence the effectiveness of these products.
- **The only proven method of ending EAB infestation is ash tree removal.**

- Treatments are most effective as prevention, before EAB finds the tree. If your tree has an early EAB infestation – less than 40 percent dieback of crown – treatments may stop the infestation.
- Treatments are suggested only if you live within 15 miles of a confirmed EAB infestation.

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pme/Publications/EAB/MGMTPM2084EmeraldAshBorer0609.pdf>

**Treatment Cost and Removal/Replacement Cost**

According Municipal costs for ash tree treatment can range anywhere from \$7.00 to \$14.00 per diameter at breast height (DBH) depending on the DBH (diameter at breast height) of the tree. Chemical applications must be repeated every year or every other year depending on the chemical being used. The treatment must be applied for the life of the tree.

*VOP Removal (only) vs. Treatment*

Using current contract tree removal (only) numbers, a single ash tree can be treated for three (3) years for the same cost needed for tree removal. As in the case of Orland Park, lower than average tree removal costs, can change the long term outcome of treatment vs. removal costs.

Using the assumption that a replacement tree matures in twenty (20) years, it currently costs the Village an average of \$230 to remove, stump grind and restore an ash tree. The Village’s average ash tree size is between 16” and 18” DBH. Many arborists agree that an effective treatment for EAB ash trees is emamectin benzoate, used under the TREE-Age® brand, at a conservative cost of \$7.00 per Diameter at Breast Height (DBH). Tree-Age must be applied every two (2) years. Using \$126 for the treatment cost per tree (18” × \$7.00), a comparison of treatment and removal costs could be demonstrated by the following:

Growth Year of Newly Planted Tree	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 19
<b>Cost to Remove</b>			\$230							
Cost to Treat Existing Tree per Year	\$126	-	\$252	-	\$378	-	\$504	-	\$630	\$1,260

It is important to note that the cost to treat the tree must continue for the life of the tree. Another key point of the treatment and removal comparison is that chemical treatment does not guarantee the continued health of the tree.

*VOP Removal and Replacement vs. Treatment*

Using current removal and replacement costs (\$410), the next chart demonstrates that the cost to treat a single tree would equal the cost to remove and replace a single tree in year (7) seven.

Growth Year of Newly Planted Tree	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 19
<b>Cost to Remove &amp; Replace</b>							\$410			
Cost to Treat Existing Tree per Year	\$126	-	\$252	-	\$378	-	\$504	-	\$630	\$1,260

Treatment costs for the tree would continue for the life of the tree making long term costs higher (\$1,260) than the cost to remove and replace the tree (\$410). Treatment dollars could better serve to offset the cost of removing and replacing the tree. Also, making the case for removal/replacement, the replaced non-ash tree would have reached maturity by year 15.

## **Conclusion**

Management of EAB is a complex topic. Applying lessons learned from leaders in EAB Management like the Department of Agriculture in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, only give guidelines in the decision making process. Ultimately, communities must make decisions based on budgets, staffing levels and level of ash tree decline. According to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, EAB was confirmed in the Chicago region in 2006. Since that time, communities have adopted one of two options: treatment and removal, or removal only.

Treatment in the early stages of EAB infestation is effective in that the tree has a better chance of surviving with lifetime treatments. There are also instances where treatment during the more advance stages of infestation can extend a trees useful life. Unfortunately, treatments and insecticides have only proven to prolong the life of ash trees infected with EAB. All experts agree that the removal of ash trees is the only 100% effective method of eliminating EAB. Orland Park and its surrounding communities are experiencing an aggressive and devastating infestation of EAB. While treatment may provide a temporary solution to some trees affected by the EAB, long term costs analysis, particularly in the case of Orland Park, reveal that insecticidal treatments would prove more expensive than removal.