

## **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING**

August 25, 2008

7:00 P.M.

### **DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE (DP&Z)**

- RE:    1)     Fire Suppression (Sprinklers) for Single Family Homes  
          Continued discussion from 6/11/07
- 2)     Review of Side Yard Requirements  
          Continued discussion from 9/24/07
- 3)     Invitation from S.T.A.R.T. (Solutions to Area Rail Traffic) – Referred by City  
          Manager Borchert on 8/18/08
- 4)     Other Business

Committee Members Present:       Rose, Leader (part time), Gutenkauf

Elected Officials Present:        Mayor Marcucci, Ald. Bram (part time), Ald. Nybo (part  
                                          time), Ald. Moriarty (part time)

City Staff Present:                 Said, Dubiel, Kopp, Kubiesa, Borchert (part time),  
                                          Bacidore (part-time)

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. and introductions were made.

The Committee agreed to reverse the order of the agenda, and began with discussion of item #3, the S.T.A.R.T. program. Mayor Marcucci provided a summary of the organization, reasons why it was created and its history. Tammy Wierciak from the West Central Municipal Conference was in attendance and stated that she supports this program and that it will benefit all of their communities. After discussion, the Committee agreed to issue a report recommending Elmhurst join the S.T.A.R.T. organization. This will be placed on the Consent Agenda for the City Council meeting of September 2, 2008.

The Committee then began their continued discussion of side yard requirements. Chairman Rose reviewed permitted side yard obstructions which the Committee agreed are minor encroachments. The Committee agreed that no evidence has been provided to support a change in the current Zoning Ordinance requirements for side yards. After discussion, the Committee agreed to issue a report recommending that there be no change to the existing code regarding side yard requirements, with a recommendation to closely monitor builders' and contractors' adherence to the building code requirements. This will be placed on the Consent Agenda for the City Council meeting of September 2, 2008.

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The Committee then began their continued discussion of item #1, fire sprinklers for single family homes. Chairman Rose reintroduced the issue. Discussion ensued regarding cost and safety. After much discussion, including impact on home sales and values, proper education regarding fire safety, and stronger smoke detector regulations, the Committee agreed to have staff do a study on casualty/fatality rates in relation to sprinklers in single family homes in comparable towns and to revisit this issue in late October, 2008.

There was nothing under Other Business.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by: John D. Said, Director of Planning, Zoning and Economic Development