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MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

January 26, 2009

7:00 P.M.

DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE (DP&Z)

- RE: 1) City of Elmhurst Wireless Radio Network – Fire Alarm Direct Connections
 Continued discussion from 12/08/08
- 2) Environmental and Sustainability Initiatives – Report
 Continued discussion from 12/08/08
- 3) Historic Preservation Commission Recommendation -
 Property Tax Freeze Letter of Support
- 4) Other Business

Committee Members Present: Rose, Leader, Gutenkauf

City Staff Present: Said, Corner, Bacidore, Wallace, Spiroff

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and introductions were made.

The Committee began discussion of Item #1, the Wireless Radio Network. Approximately 500 alarms in Elmhurst would be required to be changed to radio alarms by August 1, 2009, with 6 months to do so. It was noted that alarm holder's costs should decrease as they are currently paying for phone wires, and that there are often problems with phone lines, usually due to moisture content. It was stated that it will take the City approximately six years to recoup the installation costs. The benefits to the wireless network include more reliability, less expense, quicker response time, and reduced false alarms due to greater accuracy. City buildings would be done first to begin the changeover. It was noted that the initial expense would be approximately \$950,000 which would come out of the City's capital funds. After discussion, the Committee agreed to issue a report to be placed on the Consent Agenda for the City Council meeting of February 2, 2009.

The Committee then began the continued discussion of the Environmental and Sustainability report. The Committee, after discussion, agreed that they would like to move this issue along and agreed to keep the report as it is currently written, but change the order of one of the paragraphs. This report will be placed under Reports on the City Council agenda for February 2, 2009. There was also an affirmation of the current procedure of having the committee chair review all draft reports before distribution to the other committee members for their review.

Finally, the recommendation by the Historic Preservation Commission regarding the property tax freeze was introduced and described by Chairman Rose. After discussion, the Committee agreed to issue a report recommending approval of this recommendation to be placed on the Consent Agenda for the City Council meeting of February 2, 2009.

Under Other Business, the Committee briefly discussed the topic of the Canadian National Railroad radio tower in the York/Vallette area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

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