



# Village of Downers Grove Meeting Minutes Downers Grove Village Council

Civic Center  
801 Burlington  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
630-434-5500

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Tuesday, June 7, 2005

6:30 pm

Council Chambers

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## 1. Call to Order

*Mayor Brian Krajewski called the regular meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Downers Grove Village Hall.*

### **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

*Mayor Krajewski led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.*

## 2. Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Ron Sandack, Commissioner Stan Urban, Commissioner Marilyn Schnell, Commissioner Martin Tully, Commissioner William Waldack and Mayor Brian Krajewski

Absent: Commissioner Sue McConnell

Non Voting: Village Manager Riccardo Ginex, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca and Village Clerk April Holden

*Mayor Krajewski said he would like to remind everyone present that the Council meeting is broadcast over the local FM radio station, WDGC. In addition, a tape recording and videotape of the meeting are being made using Village owned equipment. The videotape of the meeting will be used for later rebroadcast of the Council meeting over the Village cable television Channel 6.*

*The Council will follow the rules of conduct for this meeting as provided in Sec. 2.5 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code. These offer the public the opportunity to comment at several points in the meeting. First, immediately following approval of the minutes of the past meetings, an opportunity will be given for public comments and questions on the active agenda items for this evening's meeting. Following this, an opportunity is given for public comments and questions on any subject. Finally, if a public hearing is scheduled for this meeting, an opportunity is given for public comments and questions related to the subject of the hearing.*

*The Mayor stated that at the appropriate time the presiding officers will ask if there are any comments from the public. If anyone wishes to speak, the individual should raise their hand to be recognized and, after acknowledgment from the presiding officer, approach the microphone and state their name and address. He stated that remarks be limited to five minutes, and asked that individuals refrain from making repetitive statements.*

*The Mayor said there are agendas located on either side of the Council Chambers, and he invited the audience to pick up an agenda and follow the progress of the Council meeting.*

## 3. Minutes of Workshop and Council Meetings

*Council Meeting - May 17, 2005*

*Workshop Meeting - May 24, 2005*

*Commissioner Waldack said he provided his corrections to the Village Clerk. Mayor Krajewski said the minutes would be filed as corrected.*

*Learn Not to Burn*

*Marsha Giesler, Public Education Coordinator for the Fire Department, explained the Department's Learn Not to Burn Poster Contest. This year's poster was to incorporate the*

statistics from the ambulance and fire calls in 2004. The 4th graders of Mrs. Beckefeld's class from Downers Grove Christian School won first place. This is the first school to win two years in a row.

Mayor Krajewski thanked the 4th grade students, teachers and the schools for their participation. St. Joseph won 2nd place, Highland came in 3rd place, and the Lester School received an Honorary Mention. He had some of the children give fire prevention safety tips for the residents at home to follow.

## 4. Public Comments and Questions

### A. Comments and Questions on Active Agenda

1. John LeDonne, 1930 55th Place, and owner of 1220 Parkway thanked the Council for its discussion on the May 24 Workshop concerning the Downtown Transition District. He said the Prince Pond residents appreciated the Council's recommendation to keep that corner property zoned as R-4, and to move the transition area to the original CCA line proposed in the 1960s.

2. Laurel Bowen, 829 Clyde Drive, read a letter from a Library employee expressing her concern about removing half of the parking spaces in the CBD. There are concerns for the Library employees, as well as other people in the area. She said the Parking Deck is more convenient to commuters than it is for employees in and around the Library. She suggested another permit to allow parking in the Library parking lot. Many employees are there for a four-hour shift and would not monopolize the lot for the full day.

Ms. Bowen then commented on the resurfacing of the Library lot at a cost of \$300,000. She asked why this was done as a priority when many streets could have been resurfaced instead. She also recommended relocating the beer garden for Heritage Festival to the parking deck. She said that the Council's ordinance to reassign CBD parking appears to be an effort to justify the parking deck which the Council forced on the citizens at a cost of \$22 million. She said the Council should live within its means. Ms. Bowen said there is not a revenue problem, but a spending problem in the Village.

Mayor Krajewski explained that there is an annual program regarding resurfacing of streets and parking lots. The Library lot was supposed to have been resurfaced a few years ago, but was repeatedly delayed.

### B. Comments and Questions on General Matters

1) August Campagna, 4227Northcott, expressed his concerns to preserve the health of Downers Grove citizens by guaranteeing fresh air. He has been victimized by outdoor burning which creates a health risk for citizens and seniors with respiratory problems. He said he spoke with a Fire Prevention officer who made statements condoning open fires with which Mr. Campagna disagreed. The Officer said that smoke was not a contributing factor to polluting the air, which Mr. Campagna said is not true. Open burning is a pollutant. Mr. Campagna said his neighbor recently cut down a tree and is burning the green wood branches. He believes the Council has a responsibility to revoke this ordinance.

The Mayor said the ordinance was modified a couple of years ago. He said that Mr. Campagna's neighbor's actions are illegal. It is illegal to burn freshly cut branches and trees. The only thing allowed to burn is seasoned wood. He noted that previously, as long as people had food on the site, they were allowed to burn anything they wanted. That has now been changed.

Mr. Campagna asked who is overseeing this as there are blatant violations everywhere. The Mayor said staff will check into this, noting that an officer should be called to investigate the

*complaint.*

*Commissioner Tully said that there was an ordinance in the Village that allowed many things to be burned as long as people were "cooking" over it. There has been a great deal of interest on this subject, with community input. Many of the residents wanted the open burning to remain the same. Other people presented environmental and health issues which resulted in an amended, more restrictive ordinance.*

*Mayor Krajewski asked Mr. Kozlowski to include information on this issue in the next newsletter as to what can and cannot be burned.*

*Commissioner Waldack said he was in the audience during the discussion on recreational burning. The Environmental Concerns Commission was formed, in part, due to this issue. He said the Council hasn't heard from the Commission, but he understands that this subject might be on an upcoming agenda.*

*Commissioner Schnell said that she received e-mails from others on this as well. It is difficult for an officer to determine what is being burned. She agreed that this should be included in the newsletter. She said it might be good to find out how many complaints similar to Mr. Campagna's were submitted to the Village.*

*Mr. Campagna said he has contacted the EPA, County Health Department, senators and representatives who want him to report back to them as they are concerned with what the Village is doing on this issue. Mr. Campagna stated that no one is overseeing the rules, and the Village is depending on residents to call them in. He asked who is overseeing this.*

*Manager Ginex said he would check into this complaint.*

*The Mayor suggested sending a letter to the EPA, senators and representatives to inform them of the Village's Ordinance.*

*2) Laurel Bowen, 829 Clyde Drive agreed that the open burning ordinance should be revisited. She called in a complaint and no action was taken. Smoke is objectionable and it doesn't matter what is being burned. According to the ordinance, a fire extinguisher must be available, and she is sure that not many people have an extinguisher next to their fire. Ms. Bowen said that residents are located in an urban environment with lots that are getting closer together and getting tighter with every lot split and variance granted by this Council. She said Chicago is the fifth top city in its amount of air pollution. Citizens are being placed at risk for lung cancer, emphysema and asthma. She asked what happens when a recreational fire gets out of hand. Ms. Bowen said that other towns are banning smoking in public places, while the Village is bending for the will of a few. She said the Council should reconsider not permitting open burning.*

*3) John Scofield, 1125 Jefferson Avenue, thanked the Council for passing the ordinance for the protection of parkway trees. He asked what the plan is to foster a climate for actual tree protection by the Village employees, and what score keeping system is going to be used to be sure tree protection is being achieved. Secondly, he said that when the ordinance was brought forward it was separated into two parts regarding public property and private property, with the private property discussions being deferred. He asked what the Council's plan is to bring forward discussion on those sections of the ordinance which were deferred on May 17.*

*The Mayor said staff would obtain that information for Mr. Scofield through the Manager. Regarding the second question, the majority of the Council does not want to get involved with trees on private property.*

*Mr. Scofield said he understood there was a commitment to bring this issue forward again. He asked if the Council is saying now it will not discuss it. The Mayor said the Council had concerns about restrictions on private property rights. They want to have an education process established for residents through the Environmental Concerns Commission.*

*Mr. Scofield said that he understood that the subject would be part of public discussion and debate; however, it appears now that opportunity has been deferred informally because the Council has decided not to have further discussion of the portion of the ordinance deferred.*

*Commissioner Tully said that portion of the Motion was tabled indefinitely, and not deferred informally. Someone would have to request that it be brought forward again, and the majority of the Council does not want it to be brought forward again.*

## 5. Public Hearings

## 6. Consent Agenda

**COR 00-01973** Claim Ordinance: No. 5585, Payroll, May 13, 2005  
No. 5587, Payroll, May 27, 2005  
**Sponsors:** Accounting  
**A motion was made to Approve this file on the Consent Agenda.**

**Indexes:** N/A

**BIL 00-01974** List of Bills Payable: No. 5576, June 7, 2005  
**Sponsors:** Accounting  
**A motion was made to Approve this file on the Consent Agenda.**

**Indexes:** N/A

**BID 00-01975** Bid: Award \$180,482 for Dump Bodies, Service Bodies and Accessories for One 2005 Ford F250 Pickup and Six 2006 Ford F450 Chassis Cabs to Auto Truck, Inc. of Bensenville  
**Sponsors:** Public Works  
**A motion was made to Approve this file on the Consent Agenda.**

**Indexes:** Vehicle Purchases

**BID 00-01976** Bid: Award \$20,878 to Mayer Material for Ready-Mix Concrete; \$39,405 to K-Five Construction for Asphalt; and \$34,400 to Mid-American Water for Fire Hydrants  
**Sponsors:** Public Works  
**A motion was made to Approve this file on the Consent Agenda.**

**Indexes:** Public Works - Cement and Concrete Materials, Fire Hydrants

**BID 00-01977** Bid: Award \$22,000 to Multiple Vendors for Uniform Accessory Items  
**Sponsors:** Fire Department