

SUBJECT: District #99 Board Meeting on June 20, 2005

The June 20, 2005 District #99 Board Meeting began with a slide presentation given by Controller Mark Staehlin, regarding the Woodridge Property. It was presented with hopes to clear up any misconceptions that may have occurred.

The power point presentation contained the following:

1. We have an obligation to do what is best for all members of the community.
2. We have an obligation to understand all our rights pertaining to the property.
3. We have the right to be educated about our property.
4. We have the right to fully consider selling some, none, or all of the property.
5. We have the right not to be rushed into this decision.
6. What we have done! Started valuation process. The goal of which is to fully understand fair market value of the property.
7. What we have not done! We have not decided to sell the property.
8. District 99 has always been a good neighbor to Woodridge.
9. District 99 has communicated openly with Woodridge about the current process.
10. Timeline of information including meetings, letters, etc.
11. What happens now?

B. Key Talking Points from presentation:

1. Some people have incorrectly connected this sale of a one time asset to the referendum.
2. The top priority is running the school district and to take care of budget issues. District 99 has not had the time to devote 100% of their time to the Woodridge site.
3. The Village wants the District to use the land sale for an operating revenue solution.
4. Woodridge wants us to sell the land at their price.
5. On April 11, 2005, District 99 to start the evaluation process.
6. On April 12, 2005, District 99 contacted the Village to talk about this issue.
7. On April 15, 2005, District 99 had their first meeting to discuss their valuation process.
8. On April 19, 2005 at their second meeting, District 99 offered to honor the spirit of the first right of refusal, offered to suspend the bidding process and offered to get independent appraisals.
9. On April 21, 2005, the Village rejected that offer.
10. On April 22, 2005, a letter from the Village offering to purchase the property for \$8.5 million.
11. On May 2, 2005, the District 99 board members met to discuss the property.
12. On May 6, 2005, District 99 sent a letter to the Village.
13. On May 19, 2005, the Village passed a resolution starting the lawsuit for the condemnation process.
14. This was a rushed decision and a very unfortunate act on the part of the Village.
15. The Village sued District 99 before District 99 could even make a decision on what they were going to do with the land.
16. District 99 made it VERY clear to the Village that District 99 only solicited bids for purpose of evaluation only.
17. District 99 is upset and concerned that the Village of Woodridge did not fully inform their community members of the meetings that they have had.
18. What happens now? We will now have to wait and see what happens with the lawsuit. Because of the lawsuit, our process has changed. Until this is resolved, all communications with the Village and the community will be greatly affected.

After the slide presentation, President Julia Beckman made a public statement to reiterate some of the comments by Mr. Staehlin. She explained that this will not be an open forum as some may have expected due to the lawsuit by the Village of Woodridge. Ms. Beckman pointed out that the Village sued the District to take the property by eminent domain. Over the last few months, District 99 has tried to gather as much information as possible. As much as District 99 would like to share this information with the public, the attorney advised them that this is not possible. She also indicated that District 99 has an obligation to decide what is best for the students and the children. Due to the large turnout, Ms. Beckman allowed visitors to speak at the first Reception of Visitors regarding the Woodridge property. 30 of the 300 citizens, that attended the meeting,

expressed their feelings to the Board about the sale of the Woodridge Property. It was clear that EVERY citizen at this meeting was not in favor of the 202 townhouse development. For 90 minutes, many ideas, points, and concerns were presented to the Board.

Some of the highlights were as followed:

- Zoning will determine what can be built which will determine the cost.
- Why wasn't there a study done for District #68 and the impact it would have?
- Have you considered traffic congestion, flood zones and power shortages?
- Why did District 99 issue an inappropriate presentation of the development potential?
- Ms. Beckman, why are you taking the lead role from Dr. Eblen? The incident you wrote in the newspaper to the Mayor had nothing to do with him. He can not control over 30,000 residents. You should have addressed the individual not the Mayor through printing cost. (Ms. Beckman was extremely offended and requested not to get personal)
- It was pointed out that the information on the slide presentation was incomplete.
- District 99 claims they are all about students but they cancel them out (not allowing a few students address the board regarding the dismissal of a cross country coach).
- I moved from the City of Chicago for green grass and the reputation that Woodridge has for open space. I don't want to look into my neighbors windows. Face it, the root of the problem is Management. Cut into your pocket book, cut management salaries.
- I love Woodridge but I may not love District 99 therefore, I may send my kids elsewhere.
- Why do we have to pay for the legal fees, marketing, advertising etc.?
- Listen to the residents, we are paying for it.
- We have no metro train, but this is our down town area. If this is all about Revenues, build in your own town.
- You claim you are not selling the property (only determining the value). Well, if you walk like a duck, talk like a duck, you ARE a duck. Face it, you are selling the land.
- Don't tear the heart out of our community, this is our downtown area.
- A 45 yr resident of Woodridge told the Board, "You're like socialists, I was born there so I knows what it's all about."
- I am not against selling the property but, the proposed development. Our schools are over congested as it is. Maybe, a third high school should be considered.
- Who is paying for all this advertising, brochures etc? Who is paying for all the typos in the glossy brochures?
- Why wasn't there an environmental impact study done?
- Are you aware of all the lawsuits in Plainfield?
- Why are you not communicating with the Village?
- Why would we rather pay the attorney's big bucks, instead of communicating with the Village?
- There are other ways to generate the money needed such as a slight tax increase.

- I would like to make a statement to the Board and anyone here from the Village of Woodridge Administration...It's a sad day when a group of elected officials sitting up on that stage (all but two, the Attorney and the Controller) and the same thing happens at every other board meeting, when can you NOT address the people that put in those seats?
- Keith Frankland spoke on behalf of the Woodridge Park District, Woodridge Elected Officials, and the Mayor of Woodridge. We have had a long relationship with District 99 over the past 34 years. Mr. Frankland told the Board, The attitudes and opinions witnessed tonight are caused by a lack of communication. We need to get this all straightened out and can't do it without communication. We welcome communication with open arms and open dialog, any time you want. All we asked for in the past and are asking now...*just talk to us.*
- A grade school student spoke about the pollution at the park, garbage, and dying fish. He is concerned about the growth population at his school. He told the Board, they might want to slow it down!
- Why is there a budget deficit? Why are our kids not getting the best education possible?
- As a kid, I pushed weeds down around the lake to fish. I want to keep the space as it is...all 100% of it. No concrete, no sidewalks, no street lights etc. The wildlife is beautiful (the deer, ducks, birds etc). There's always a solution, just watch "Leave it to Beaver".
- The same grade school student as above approached the Board again and said, "We should not be here. We didn't have a problem then and we shouldn't have a problem now. And, that is all I wanted to say.

No citizens utilized the opportunity to address the Board at the Second Reception of Visitors. Meeting adjourned around 9:45 p.m.