

**Lincoln Avenue SSA #35-2015
Commission Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2018 | 9:00 a.m.
Lincoln Station, 2432 N. Lincoln Ave.**

Commissioners Present: Kenneth Dotson, Mark Davis, Edda Coscioni, Benn Hamm, Malcolm Craig

Commissioners Absent:

LPCC Staff: Kim Schilf, Frank Kryzak, Bryan Biello

Public Forum: Amanda Stamos, Cassie Dickson, Michael Johnston, Mark Rochon, Sean McKay

Alderman's Office: Michele Smith, Erik Wallenius, Joanna Zaidin,

Public Meeting – Levy Increase

I. Kryzak Summary

- a. Every summer, the Lincoln Avenue SSA #35 Commission votes to approve a budget for the following year.
- b. The budget is made up of carryover (anticipated unspent funds from the current year) and a tax levy on current properties within the SSA.
- c. When the Lincoln Avenue SSA was reconstituted in 2015, the community agreed upon and the City approved a maximum tax cap of 0.4%. SSA Commissions may increase or decrease the tax levy each year depending on the makeup of their budgets, but the tax cap cannot be exceeded. When a levy increases more than 5%, a public meeting is required to share information about how the additional revenue will be spent.
- d. The 2019 budget levy is under the Lincoln Avenue SSA tax rate cap, but the tax levy increase is more than 5%. The tax levy for the 2018 budget was \$330,199 and the tax levy for the proposed 2019 budget is \$380,796.
- e. The Equalized Accessed Value (EAV) for the 2019 budget is \$95,915,939 which is significantly lower than the EAV for the 2018 budget (\$104,692,929). With a lower EAV, an increase in the levy is needed to receive the same revenue.
- f. When the Lincoln Avenue SSA was reconstituted in 2015, it was expected that the levy would significantly increase to be able to pay for enhancements to Lincoln Avenue before the Lincoln Common project was complete. Once complete, the additional EAV from the Lincoln Common project will provide additional revenue so the tax levy can go back down.
- g. The levy increase will fund recommendations from the recently completed Lincoln Avenue Revitalization Strategy. Some of the projects for Lincoln Avenue include:
 - i. Enhancing the space underneath the CTA train tracks that cross over Lincoln Avenue in the SSA
 - ii. Designing and installing branded crosswalks on Lincoln Avenue
 - iii. Lincoln & Altgeld and Lincoln & Montana intersection design
 - iv. Adding pavers and bump-outs to the Belden/Orchard/Lincoln intersection
 - v. Installing metal identifiers on light poles at the north, south, and middle portions of the SSA
 - vi. Adding wayfinding signage along Lincoln Avenue
 - vii. Additional projects based on recommendations from the plan

II. Public Comment

- a. Cosconi wanted to know what the 2019 tax rate was going to be with this proposed budget. Kryzak noted that the rate would come in just below the cap at 0.39%.
- b. Craig asked if this was a permanent increase or if another increase can occur. Schilf confirmed that it will depend year to year based on that year's EAV.

Call to Order

- I. Call to order by Dotson at 9:21 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

- II. Dotson asked for and received approval of the minutes from the July 12, 2018 meeting.

Motion to approve the July 12, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum

- III. Alderman Michele Smith
 - a. The digital art projection mural is being tested. Malcolm Craig with McCaffrey recently had a conceptual test with the artist. The projection will be a wildlife video on the side of one of the buildings in the Lincoln Common development.
 - b. For next steps, the artist will figure out the weather proofing for the outdoor projector and then she, along with McCaffrey, will determine how to mount and run power to the projection.
 - c. The idea is to have the projection run for about 3-4 hours each night until midnight.
 - d. This project came out of the year of public art the City announced in 2017.

Reports

- I. Financial Report (Davis)
 - a. Currently, the budget is on track for this year.
 - b. Some of the percentages on the balance sheet may look low, but that's because some of the invoices for September have not come in yet.

Action Items

- II. PORT Urbanism Under L Project Presentation (McKay)
 - a. McKay gave a presentation with concepts for ways to enhance under the L along Lincoln Avenue.
 - b. Davis commented that he loves the concept, but he's very concerned about the color palette and thinks because it's a yellow/tan color it will get dingy and dirty quickly.
 - i. McKay noted that this was the first pass, but they intend to study the palette more intensely.
 - c. Cosconi agreed with Davis and asked that PORT make sure the colors used complement the overall colors of the wayfinding plan.
 - d. Alderman Smith asked if PORT has spoken to the Apollo Theater, because the initial concepts seem to be impeding on the Apollo's space. She was also concerned about the true mission of this project, because the plan looked like it's more about getting people to hang out under the L rather than safely pass through.
 - i. McKay says the initial plan is to get people to pass through, but PORT's approach is to look at long term goals as well.
 - e. Cosconi is not sure this palette and design is the right feel for this area. She suggested looking at the Argyle streetscape as an approach, which has a clean look to it, whereas this is retro feeling.
 - f. Craig suggested just focusing on the north side of the site.
 - g. Schilf suggested we take this feedback and work with PORT on the second round of the plan.
- III. Lincoln Hall Mural Design and Funding Approval for Alley Improvements
 - a. The LPCC presented several different mural options, but recommends the mural by Mac Blackout.

- b. The goal is to make a big splash for the community and not only have a mural, but enclose the dumpsters and repave the alley.
- c. Michael Johnston of Lincoln Hall let the commission know that they are really excited about this project because it will create a better experience for their patrons who wait in long lines that wrap down the alley.
- d. Lincoln Hall will pay for the electricity for the lights once they hang in the alley.
- e. The cost of the mural will not be more than \$15,000, but most estimates have been about \$10,000.
- f. The mural is expected to be completed by the end of October depending on weather and if approved today.
- g. Commissioners all agreed that the Mac Blackout mural would be the best fit for that alley.

Motion to approve the Mac Blackout mural design and funding for alley improvements. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

IV. 2018 Holiday Décor Vendor

- a. Received only one bid this year for holiday decorations. It was from Liberty Flag & Banner. They've been our vendor for the past two years.
- b. The budget for holiday décor is \$18,000 and that's how much they bid.

Motion to approve Liberty Flag & Banner as the 2018 holiday décor vendor. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

V. 2018-19 Snow Removal Vendor

- a. Received two bids this year one from Christy Webber (our previous vendor) and one from One and Done Snow.
- b. Our remaining budget for this category is \$29,000 and Christy Webber came in at \$26,800 for a 1" tolerance. One and Done Snow came in at almost \$92,000 for a 1" tolerance.

Motion to approve Christy Webber as the 2018-19 snow removal vendor. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

VI. 2019 Litter Abatement Vendor

- a. Received two bids this year from Cleanstreet and Clean Slate.
- b. Current vendor is Cleanstreet and they've been doing a good job and have been very responsive with Kryzak on any issues.
- c. Cleanstreet's bid is \$30,900 and Clean Slate came in at \$35,500.

Motion to approve Cleanstreet as the 2019 litter abatement vendor. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

VII. Metal Identifiers

- a. CDOT has approved the Phase 1 locations for the metal identifiers. They will likely be ordered later this month.
- b. The identifiers will be installed later this year at the Lincoln/Fullerton/Halsted intersection.
- c. Phase 2, of this project will happen in 2019 and the plan is to order 6 more for the intersection by Lincoln and Diversey to create a gateway experience when entering the neighborhood.

- d. Previously the price per identifier was \$7200 when we had originally planned to order 12 identifiers. Now that we will only order 8 identifiers it's going to be \$7600 each.

Motion to approve moving \$10,000 from line item 2.04 (Wayfinding/Signage) to line item 1.05 (Decorative Banners) for metal Lincoln Park identifiers on light poles. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

New Business

VIII. Marketing and Events (Biello)

- a. Lincoln Park Uncorked: A Lincoln Avenue Wine Stroll
 - i. Thursday, September 27, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
 - ii. The stroll will run along Lincoln Avenue from Fullerton to Diversey
 - iii. There are 13 businesses on Lincoln Avenue participating as stroll stops and 9 additional participating restaurants. There is a chance there will be 14 stroll by the end of this week.
 - iv. The event is currently being promoted on social media, in participating businesses, and mailer postcards went out to LPCC members. The event will also be promoted at Evening in the Garden tonight; at Green City Market this Saturday; and in ELEVATE's lobby on Tuesday.
- b. Upcoming LPCC Events
 - i. Networking Extravaganza
 - 1. Thursday, October 11, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 - 2. WhirlyBall, 1825 W. Webster

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bryan Biello.