

Executive Summary: Committee as a Whole Meeting June 11, 2026 | 6:31 PM

Attendance Councilpersons Grant, Koss, Martin, Pinter, Camara; Mayor Southard, Chief Delp, Fiscal Officer Wilcheck

Overview

The Committee as a Whole met to discuss matters related to Street Services, Recreation & Parks, infrastructure projects, waste collection services, pool operations, and preparations for the upcoming Phantom Fireworks seasonal sales event. Major topics included renewal of the village waste-hauling contract, resident communication improvements, roadway and utility projects, pool operational efficiencies, and traffic management associated with Phantom Fireworks.

Key Discussion Items

1. Waste Collection Contract Recommendation

Recommendation

Councilperson Grant recommended renewing the Village's waste collection agreement with **Local Waste**, citing:

- Long-standing relationship with the Village
- Weekly recycling service
- 10% senior citizen discount
- Avoidance of resident billing disruptions
- Competitive pricing compared to alternatives

Discussion

Council members generally expressed support for retaining Local Waste. While acknowledging occasional service complaints and missed pickups, members agreed that:

- Recycling frequency remains highly valued by residents.
- Price differences among bidders were relatively minor.
- Resident convenience and continuity of service are important considerations.

Action Items

- Continue monitoring service complaints and response times.
 - Explore improved methods for tracking and documenting complaints.
 - Review contract cancellation provisions before final approval.
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2. Improving Resident Communication & Complaint Tracking

Members discussed recurring challenges regarding residents reporting issues on social media rather than through official Village channels.

Ideas Discussed

- Creation of a centralized email or reporting form for trash-related concerns.
- Maintaining complaint records in a dedicated tracking system.
- Including reporting instructions in Village newsletters.
- Using social media proactively to direct residents to official reporting channels.
- Exploring website chatbot/AI functionality to answer routine resident questions.

Website Considerations

Staff reported that:

- Current website and agenda management systems are approaching end-of-life.
- A future website migration is likely.
- Potential upgrades may include:
 - AI-powered website chat assistance
 - Improved resident self-service
 - Website-hosted livestreaming capabilities
 - Accessibility compliance enhancements

Council agreed that technology investments should be evaluated for both cost and operational efficiency.

Street Services & Infrastructure

3. Leaf Collection Contract

Council discussed future leaf collection contracting.

Consensus

- Solicit proposals directly from qualified vendors rather than conducting a formal bid process.
- Consider a multi-year agreement (potentially three years) to:
 - Stabilize costs
 - Reduce annual administrative burden
 - Improve planning certainty

Potential vendors include current providers and additional interested contractors.

4. Roadway & Utility Improvement Projects

Minerva Lake Road (MLR)

Current work remains in project closeout status, with contractors addressing remaining punch-list items.

North Lake Court Improvements

Engineering design continues, including coordination with utility providers.

Resident Concerns

Council revisited prior resident concerns regarding the possible removal of the North Lake Court cul-de-sac center island/court area.

Discussion included:

- Balancing maintenance costs against neighborhood character.
- Potential alternatives such as:
 - Grass conversion
 - Decorative plantings
 - Smaller landscape features
- Need for engineering input regarding utility access and infrastructure beneath the area.

No final decision was made.

5. AT&T Utility Relocation

Staff reported progress on relocating AT&T infrastructure associated with sidewalk completion work.

A permit approval delay resulted from internal communication confusion but has now been resolved.

Work is expected to proceed shortly.

6. Stormwater (MS4) Compliance

Village staff continue efforts to secure consulting assistance for MS4 stormwater compliance requirements.

Current Status

- EPA has been informed of ongoing efforts.
 - The Village intends to solicit proposals from local firms.
 - Staff believes local providers may offer better value than larger national engineering firms.
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Recreation & Parks

7. Pool Operations

Membership Growth

Pool membership has reached approximately:

- **270 memberships**
- Highest level in recent years

Factors may include:

- Positive reputation
- Referrals from neighboring communities
- Temporary closure of other local facilities

Concession Performance

Preliminary concession revenues are outperforming prior-year figures.

Staff reported:

- Increased transaction volume

- Higher overall concession activity
 - Strong early-season performance
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8. Cashless Pool Operations Discussion

Council discussed the possibility of moving to a fully cashless pool operation beginning in 2027.

Potential Benefits

- Reduced cash handling
- Improved accounting controls
- Greater operational efficiency

Concerns Raised

- Accessibility for children bringing cash
- Gift-card and stored-value account legal requirements
- Handling unused balances
- Need for significant public notice before implementation

Findings

Current financial data indicate approximately half of concession transactions are still cash-based, suggesting additional study is warranted before making changes.

9. Staffing & Operational Efficiency

Council reviewed pool staffing practices and labor costs.

Topics included:

- Lifeguard break structures
- Concession staffing needs
- Front desk staffing utilization
- Opportunities for cross-training and greater operational flexibility

Members emphasized the need to continually evaluate staffing models for efficiency while maintaining safety and service quality.

Phantom Fireworks Operations

10. Seasonal Sales Event Approval Conditions

Council reviewed operational conditions for the upcoming Phantom Fireworks sales period.

Proposed Operating Schedule

Discussion centered on expanding approved operating hours to include:

- June 26
- June 27

- June 28 (full day)
- July 2 (afternoon to close)
- July 3
- July 4

Council generally supported clarifying operating hours and addressing the matter during formal Council business.

Traffic & Safety

Discussion focused on:

- Traffic management
- Parking enforcement
- Police staffing requirements
- Potential need for temporary parking restrictions

Consensus was to:

- Monitor activity levels closely.
- Allow the Chief of Police authority to request additional officers if needed.
- Evaluate conditions after opening days before implementing further restrictions.

11. Phantom Landscaping Commitments

Staff reported that Phantom Fireworks agreed to replace trees removed during site development.

Planned Improvements

- Installation of three replacement native trees.
- Coordination with local landscaping professionals.
- Additional site landscaping already completed.

Council members requested opportunities to review final landscaping plans.

Overall Conclusions

The committee demonstrated broad agreement on several operational priorities:

1. **Retain Local Waste** as the Village's waste service provider, subject to contract review.
2. **Improve resident communication systems** through centralized reporting and potential website enhancements.
3. **Advance roadway and utility projects** while addressing resident concerns about neighborhood aesthetics.

4. **Maintain momentum at the pool**, leveraging strong membership growth while exploring future operational efficiencies.
5. **Prepare proactively for Phantom Fireworks operations**, with emphasis on traffic management, safety, and landscaping commitments.
6. **Continue evaluating technology and infrastructure investments** that improve resident service and long-term operational effectiveness.

The meeting concluded with no major unresolved conflicts, but several items were identified for future Council discussion and formal action.

Jeffrey Wilcheck, Fiscal Officer

Tiffany Southard, Mayor