

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
JOINT MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF DARIEN
PLAN COMMISSION AND VILLAGE BOARD
Wednesday, June 19, 2024 – 7:00 PM
Darien Village Hall, 24 N. Wisconsin St.

1. **Call to Order.** Village President and Plan Commission Chairperson Jane Stiles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at Darien Village Hall and via Zoom teleconference application.
2. **Roll Call – Village Board.** President Jane Stiles and Trustees Kevin Atkinson, Liz Baumann, Greg Epping, Ken Truckey, Will Volmar and Mark Wenzel were present.

Roll Call – Plan Commission. Chairperson Jane Stiles and Trustees Kevin Atkinson and Ken Truckey were present; and citizen members Dean Logterman and Tom Carney were present. Jim Stirmel and Steve Kastning were absent.

Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Abby J. Zimmerman, Public Works Superintendent Mike Veley and Village Attorney Brad Lochowicz were present. Engineer Jason Feucht attended via Zoom.

3. **Approval of minutes from April 25, 2024 Point Plan Commission/Village Board Meeting.** Trustee Truckey made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Trustee Atkinson, no further discussion. Motion passed 5-0.
4. **Plan Commission consideration of a recommendation for approval of Resolution No. 2024-06, adopting the Initial Resolution for the Discontinuance of 3rd Street within the Existing Wisconsin Southern Railroad (WSOR) right of way, to the Village Board, and to recommend a public hearing date.** Ms. Zimmerman stated that this Initial Resolution is to start the process of the 3rd Street railroad right-of-way closure. The presented timeline has the public hearing at the end of July with the final resolution being presented to the Board at the August Board Meeting. There are a few timeline rules the Village has to follow; the public hearing may not be held less than 40 days after the initial resolution adoption, no less than 30 days before the hearing all abutting properties need to be served with public hearing notices, and a “Notice of Public Hearing” needs to be published as a Class 3 Notice for three weeks prior to the hearing. After the hearing, the Board will vote on the final resolution. Mr. Lochowicz reviewed the proposed timeline dates given and clarified the series of events with his suggestions. He suggested that the Plan Commission meet a few weeks prior to the public hearing/board meeting to recommend to the Board the final resolution; and for the Village to hold the public hearing the same day as the August Board Meeting.
There was discussion amongst the Board and Citizen members regarding the money incentive the railroad and Farm City are offering the Village to close 3rd Street at the railroad right-of-way. Mr. Carney asked what would happen if the Village did not take the incentive being offered. Village Attorney Lochowicz replied that the Village could deny the incentive and deny the road closure. However, in the end the railroad would be granted the right to close 3rd Street at their right-of-way in the future with no incentive. Either way the road is going to close, whether it be now or in the future. President Stiles presented the question as to if the railroad could repair/fix the N. Wisconsin Street railroad crossing prior to the closure of 3rd Street. Allowing 3rd Street to be used as the detour route. Ms. Zimmerman stated she would reach out to the railroad company and ask if this is a possibility,

what the cost would be to the Village and the railroad's timeline is for closing 3rd Street. President Stiles stated she would reach out to Randy from Farm City regarding the N. Wisconsin Street crossing as well. Trustee Truckey asked if the proposal to fix the No. Wisconsin Street railroad crossing prior to closing 3rd Street was approved by the railroad, would that project be under the same contract as the 3rd Street closure or its own separate contract. Per Mr. Lochowicz, N. Wisconsin Street would have its own contract separate from the 3rd Street closure. The Plan Commission took Mr. Lochowicz's recommendation and is recommending to the Village Board that the Public Hearing be set for August 19, 2024. A motion was made by Mr. Logterman to approve and recommend Resolution No. 2024-06, an Initial Resolution for the Discontinuance of 3rd Street within the Existing Wisconsin Southern Railroad (WSOR) right-of-way, to the Village Board with a recommended Public Hearing date of August 19, 2024. Trustee Truckey seconded, no further discussion, motion carried 5-0.

5. **Resolution No. 2024-06: Village Board consideration of adopting the Initial Resolution for the Discontinuance of 3rd Street within the Existing Wisconsin Southern Railroad (WSOR) right of way in the Village of Darien, and to set a public hearing date.** The Plan Commission recommended to the Village Board they adopt Resolution No, 2024-06 and set a Public Hearing date for August 19, 2024, the same day as the August Village Board Meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Truckey to adopt Resolution No. 2024-06, an Initial Resolution for the Discontinuance of 3rd Street within the Existing Wisconsin Southern Railroad (WSOR) right-of-way in the Village of Darien, with a Public Hearing date of August 19, 2024. Trustee Wenzel seconded, no further discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

6. **Adjourn – (Plan Commission & Village Board)** – At 7:49 p.m., Trustee Truckey made a motion to adjourn the Joint Village Board and Plan Commission Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Atkinson. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abby J. Zimmerman,
Village Administrator/Clerk Treasurer

Date approved by Village Board: