



Meeting: Village Board
Meeting Date: 2/11/13
Agenda Item: 5b

Mission Statement

Delivering quality services in a courteous, cost-effective and efficient manner.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: Burt R. McIntyre, President
Village Board of Trustees

REPORT FROM: Paul F. Evert, Village Administrator

AGENDA ITEM: Review and take action on the proposal to expand the Community Gardens to the village-owned property near Fire Station #2

ACTION REQUESTED: Ordinance Resolution Motion Receive/File

POLICY ISSUE

Should the Village Board authorize the establishment of a second Community Garden at the intersection of Shawano Avenue and Milltown Road next of Fire Station #2?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Village established a community garden in the spring of 2010 at Lehner Park. There are 16 plots offered to the public for a seasonal cost of \$20 each. These plots are 20 feet by 20 feet in size.

In the pilot year of the gardens, plot holders were allowed to till multiple plots. However, due to a waiting list in the 2011 season, this practice was discontinued for 2012. In 2012 families were limited to one plot each, which reduced the waiting list to three people.

Also in 2012 water was offered to users via a push button spigot that automatically turned off when not held down. This was ideal for those who wanted to fill watering cans. Gardeners also had the option of paying a \$5 returnable key deposit and \$5 nonreturnable water fee, which allowed them access to the inside of the park building if they wanted to use a hose to water their gardens. Only one person took advantage of the key access, and most of the gardeners were pleased with the outside push-button access.

Staff has been discussing ways to meet the growing demand for garden space. The population of the Village has grown substantially in the western part with the Glen Kent Subdivision, Spencer's Crossing Subdivision and Canterbury Creek Apartments. The plots at Lehner Park are not very convenient for the residents living in these areas. Staff began considering the establishment of a second community garden and quickly concluded that the land east of Fire Station #2 is well suited for this use. Since there is parking available at Fire Station #2 and hydrant nearby, this is the preferred location.

The attached site plan shows a layout that creates eighteen 20'x20' plots as well as five 40'x40' plots. There are no 40'x40' plots at Lehner Park. We feel these larger plots may be attractive to some gardeners who might normally want to rent two small plots. The Village does own a 500-gallon tank that can be moved to this location and filled with water for use by the gardeners. The fire department would periodically fill this tank from the nearby hydrant.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW

The Village Board approved the creation of the Community Garden plots at Lehner Park on April 26, 2010.

Members of the Go Green Save Green Committee indicated support of the expansion at their most recent meeting on January 22, 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Is There A Fiscal Impact? | <u>Yes</u> |
| <u>\$500 in materials plus some staff time.</u> | |
| 2. Is it Currently Budgeted? | <u>Yes</u> |
| 3. If Budgeted, Which Line? | <u>Park</u> |
| <u>Maintenance</u> | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Village staff recommends the Village Board approve the establishment of a second community garden next to Fire Station #2.

If the Village Board agrees with this action, the following motion could be used, "*Motion to approve the establishment of a second community garden next to Fire Station #2.*"

POLICY ALTERNATIVE(S)

The Village Board could take the following actions:

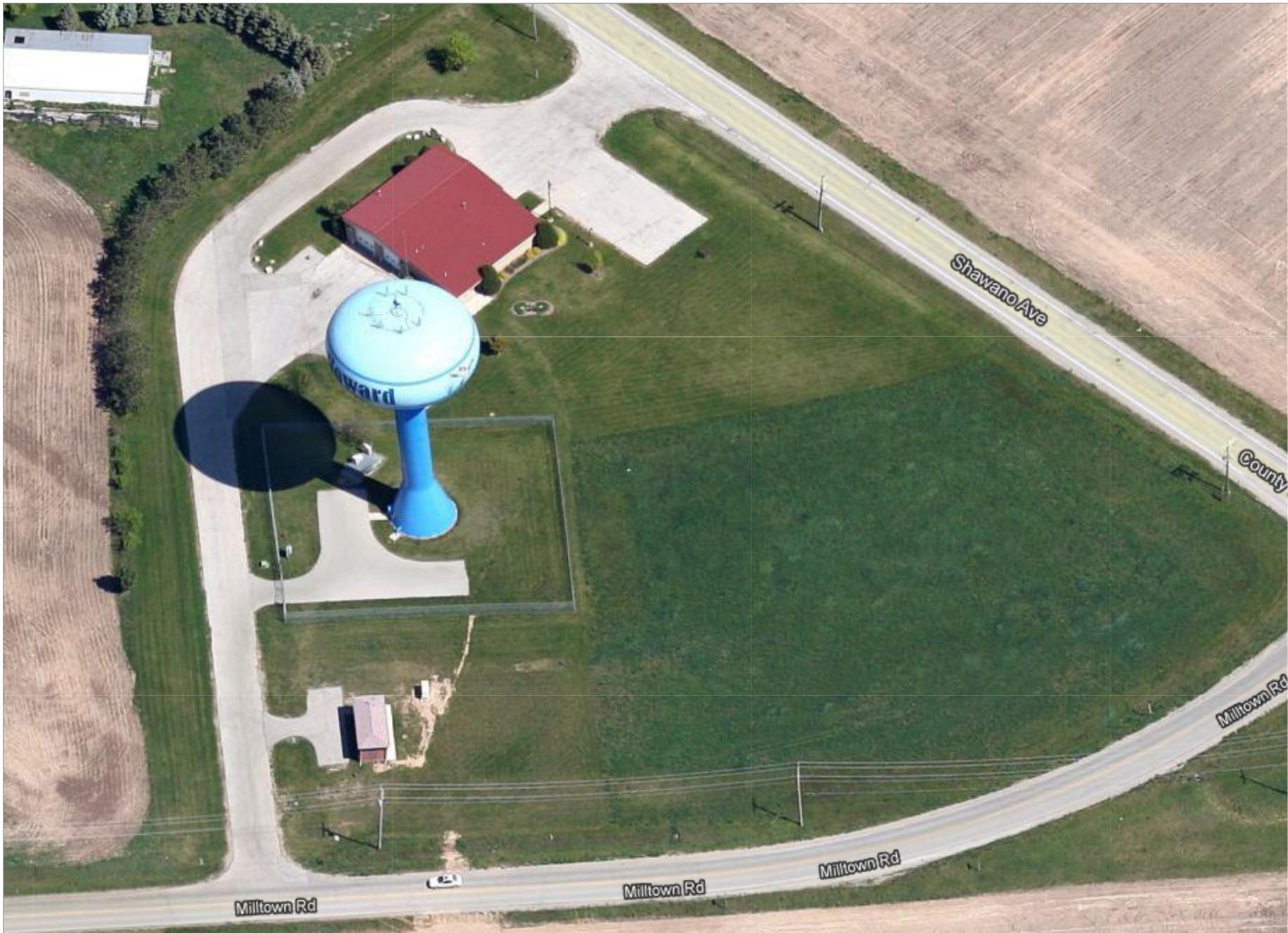
- Approve with revisions
- Deny the suggested motion
- Table the suggested motion and request additional information

ATTACHED INFORMATION

- I. Aerial photos and proposed plot layout.



To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.





4183

4100

Parking

(18) 20x20 Garden Plots

4165

40x40
Option

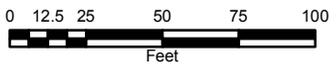
Parking

4183



HOWARD
WISCONSIN
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Community Gardens
at Fire Station 2

0 12.5 25 50 75 100
Feet