

November 12, 2024

Dennis Poehler
425 Park Street
Worden, Illinois, 62097

Village of Worden
115 Wall Street
Worden, Illinois 62097

Mayor Preston Hall

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Illinois Freedom of Information request, I am requesting all forms of communication with individuals involving grant funding financial documents, approved funding, expenditures, and planned development regarding all grant applications involving federal or state funding and sources of grant funding or donations unknown received by the Village of Worden, Illinois or the Edwardsville School District CUSD 7, involving planned projects located in the Village of Worden, Illinois to include but not limited to the accounting and use of all funding received from American Rescue Plan Grant, Strong Community Grant Program also referred to as Illinois Development Authority Grant (IDHA), Metro East Gymnasium and Parks Grant Program (Recreational Center), and the Recreational Center Spending and Metro East Grant Reimbursement repayment involving the renovation of a building located at 105 South Shirley Street, Worden, Illinois, identified by Madison County Tax Identification Number parcel number 12-2-04-35-07-203-014 identified as being owned by Edwardsville CUSD 7 located at 708 St. Louis Street, Edwardsville, Illinois which will include all ledgers of spending for all grant information requested.

This request should include all architectural designs submitted for approval for expenditure of the grant funding for property construction improvement, the identity of contractors that submitted bids and copies of all financial bids for planned expenditures of funds, copies of any recorded Village of Worden Board meeting, emails, records, text messages, photographs or drawings discussing the approval or use of the obtained grant funding or donated funds.

I understand that the Act permits a public body to charge a reasonable copying fee not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction and not including the cost of any search or review of records, 5 ILCS140/6.

My request is in support of transparency in public government and the use of federal and state grant funding. The disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding and transparency of the Village of Worden's operations or activities involving the obtaining and use of grant funding by elected officials.

If you choose to deny this request, then you are required to respond in writing and state the statutory exception authorizing the withholding of all or part of the public records. This process ensures fairness and justice, and an appeal will be filed in accordance with State of Illinois FOIA laws governing the disclosure of documents by a government body in the required period with the Public Access Counselor, 500 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62706.

Respectfully,

Dennis Poehler