

**VILLAGE OF LANSING
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eidam called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call revealed the following Trustees present:
Zeldenrust, Grady-Perovich, Hardy, Skrbina, Manno, DeLaurentis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Eidam asked if there were any questions or discussion on the minutes of the February 6, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting. There were none.

Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Trustee Manno so moved
Trustee DeLaurentis seconded

ROLL CALL

Yeas – 5 Trustees:

Nays – 0

Abstain – 1 Trustee

Minutes Approved

Manno, DeLaurentis, Grady-Perovich, Hardy, Skrbina

Zeldenrust

MAYOR'S REPORT

None

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

None

VILLAGE ATTORNEY REPORT

A. Public Comment Policy Revisions

Attorney Welch explained that members of the Board have before them a 'red-line' revision of the proposed public comment policy that complies with statutory and legal regulations. Mr. Welch reviewed the proposed changes. Mayor Eidam suggested that 5 minutes be inserted into the section that was left blank with reference to the time limit for members of the public body to speak. Trustee Grady-Perovich asked if a member of the public body refused to give their name, is it simply taken as a refusal and Attorney Welch stated yes. Mayor Eidam asked that approval of the public comment policy be placed on the March 6 agenda.

B. Regulation of Gaming Related Advertising

Attorney Welch stated that all Trustees had before them a memorandum relating to the Village's ability to regulate video gaming related advertising. As stated at the last meeting, concerns have been raised regarding First Amendment rights as it relates to the complete ban of video gaming related advertising, because a municipality can place a regulation on time, place and manner but not content of advertising. Mr. Welch stated that the

courts have found a violation of First Amendment rights when content is restricted, and cited two cases referenced in his memorandum. Mr. Welch stated that the Village's prohibition is potentially unconstitutional if an establishment would like to advertise about gaming. Trustee Zeldenrust asked what the next steps would be and Mr. Welch stated that the next step would be to repeal the prohibition and decide what the goal of the board would be and ultimately put a law into place that would fit those goals without violating individuals First Amendment rights. Trustee Zeldenrust stated that it sounds like further review is necessary. Administrator Podgorski stated that if the Board was in concurrence with what Attorney Welch was proposing, then an amendment to the ordinance would be drafted which would remove the language from the code. Mr. Welch explained that regulations can be put in place for something such as placement of large signs and banners, and he could review the sign ordinance separately. Administrator Podgorski stated that Mr. Welch will prepare an ordinance for approval at the next meeting, which would remove the advertising prohibition and review of the sign ordinance will be discussed further at a later date.

FINANCE & POLICE

A. School Safety Partnership With District #158

Trustee Zeldenrust introduced Police Chief Murrin to discuss a school safety partnership with school District 158, and red light camera enforcement.

Chief Murrin explained that the Village met with officials from District 158 back in fall of 2017 regarding traffic safety issues at Oak Glen and Memorial schools. One of the solutions to the drop-off and pick-up issues was to have police presence during those peak times of the day. The school district has proposed contributing \$40,000.00 to the salary of a police officer that would be at the schools during those times. The proposal will be discussed and possibly approved at the next school board meeting tomorrow evening, and implemented at the beginning of next school year if approved. Administrator Podgorski stated that an intergovernmental agreement would be executed if both the village and school district agreed to move forward with this program.

B. Red Light Camera Enforcement

Chief Murrin referenced his memo to the Board regarding red light camera traffic safety, and introduced Lt. Phillips to give a Power Point presentation based on extensive research he has done on red light cameras. Lt. Phillips explained that the purpose of red light cameras was essentially to change driver habits/behavior. The two intersections within the Village that have been targeted for red light cameras are Torrence Ave. and the I80 interchange, and Ridge and Burnham. IDOT eligibility requires a 3 year analysis of the intersection. Ridge and Burnham has had 47 accidents in the past 3 years (19 of which IDOT recognizes because they were over \$1500 in damages) and Torrence/I80 has had 52 accidents with 1 fatality in the past 3 years. The cameras serve as an added benefit because the technology offers video recordings for 30 days, which can help solve crimes and aid in accident investigations. A bi-product of the cameras will be the revenue generated, which can be used for projects such as road repair. Implementation of the cameras would begin with a request for proposals (RFP) from companies that install the cameras. Once a company is chosen, they will provide more extensive analysis and seek IDOT approval. This will be about a 10-12 month process with no

cost to the Village. Trustee DeLaurentis was in agreement that cameras were a good idea and Trustee Hardy asked about the positioning of cameras. Following discussion, it was agreed that the police department can move forward with the RFP.

AIRPORT

No report

FIRE, IT & LNN

A. Fire Department Station Re-Organization

Trustee Manno introduced Fire Chief Verkaik to discuss the Fire Department station re-organization. Verkaik explained that back in 2014, the Village was awarded a \$500,000 grant from DCEO to be used for conversion of the old village hall into a new fire station. Unfortunately, State of Illinois budget issues resulted in the Village not receiving the full grant award. Treasurer Frye explained that the Village was awarded 25% of the grant funds, or \$125,000, however the state has indicated that the remaining funds most likely will not be available. Following an extension of the grant, expenditure of the \$125,000 will expire in June of this year. Chief Verkaik explained that the fire station on Chicago Avenue is extremely old and in need of extensive repairs beyond the funding that is available, therefore the department is working expeditiously to use the funds to move the offices of Chief, Deputy Chief and their Administrative Assistant to the old village hall on Chicago Avenue, thereby making room for the Chicago Avenue fire station staff to combine with the Burnham Avenue station. The Chicago Avenue location will then be utilized only for equipment storage. Frye indicated that a grant modification would be necessary to use the funds differently than what they were originally intended for. If the grant modification is approved by DCEO, the funds would be utilized for alterations at the Burnham Avenue station to accommodate the additional firefighters. The long term goal is to have another fire station centrally located within the Village.

B. Website Refresh

Trustee Manno introduced I.T. Director Fabian Newman, who gave a brief presentation on the Village's new website refresh, which went live this afternoon. The new website features the Village's new logo and color.

PUBLIC WORKS & ADA

A. Sanitary Sewer Cleaning & Televising – Review Bids

Trustee Skrbina explained that the Village received 3 bids for the MWRD sewer cleaning and televising project in the Oakwood Estates area. The low bidder for the project was Visu-Sewer of Illinois, at \$58,744.50. Trustee Skrbina asked that approval of the contract with Visu-Sewer be on the March 6, 2018 agenda for approval. Engineer Jeff Pintar further explained that work on the project will begin approximately 3 weeks following approval of the contract, and the purpose of the project was to find any defects in the sewers that may be allowing storm water to leak into the sanitary sewers.

BUILDING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. Citgo Gas Station, 17600 Torrence Avenue – Request for Support of Cook County Tax Incentive Class 8

Trustee Hardy explained that this request was only for 400 square feet of the property, not for the entire business. He also explained that Administrator Podgorski has worked out several property improvement conditions prior to approval of this incentive. Trustee Hardy introduced Mr. Adam Dotson from Sandrick Law Firm, and property owner Jaspal Singh. Mr. Dotson spoke about the need for this incentive and Mr. Singh gave a brief history of his years in business. With no questions from the Board, Trustee Hardy asked that this be on the March 6 agenda for approval.

B. Recreational Vehicle Parking & Storage on Private Property – Proposed Change

Trustee Hardy stated that there is a proposed change to Ordinance #14-036, due to the unsightly parking and storage of recreational vehicles throughout the Village. The proposed changes specify that recreational vehicles be parked behind the front wall of the principal dwelling, and the deletion of the language from Section 1(b)(3): Outdoor storage, where the vehicle is visible to neighbors, shall be limited to April 1 through October 31 of each year. Trustee Hardy asked that the proposed changes be put on the agenda for approval on March 6.

YOUTH CENTER & INSURANCE

No report

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:19 p.m.
Trustee Manno so moved
Trustee Hardy seconded

ROLL CALL

Yeas – 6 Trustees:
Nays – 0
Meeting Adjourned

Manno, Hardy, Zeldenrust, Grady-Perovich, Skrbina, DeLaurentis

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Payne
Lansing Village Clerk
/vp