

**Minutes**  
**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**Village Hall – 418 Main Street**  
**December 09, 2019**  
**6:30 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Lemont Village Board was held on Monday, December 09, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., with Mayor John Egofske presiding.

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II. ROLL CALL:** Kittridge, Maher, McClafferty, Sniegowski, Stapleton; present. Kwasneski; absent.
- III. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. Approval of Minutes
    - 1. November 18, 2019 Village Board Meeting Minutes
    - 2. November 18, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
  - B. Approval of Disbursements
  - C. Ordinance O-90-19 Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to pay Debt Service on \$3,420,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012A (Alternate Revenue Source), and \$4,750,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012B (Alternate Revenue Source) of the Village of Lemont, Cook, DuPage and Will Counties, Illinois
  - D. Ordinance O-91-19 Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to pay Debt Service on \$3,400,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012C (Alternate Revenue Source) of the Village of Lemont, Cook, DuPage and Will Counties, Illinois
  - E. Ordinance O-92-19 Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to pay Debt Service on \$955,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2014A (Alternate Revenue Source), and \$960,000 Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2014B (Alternate Revenue Source) of the Village of Lemont, Cook, DuPage and Will Counties, Illinois
  - F. Ordinance O-93-19 Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to pay Debt Service on \$5,580,000 General Obligation Bonds (Waterworks and Sewerage Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2015A and \$2,690,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2015B and \$1,180,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2015C of the Village of Lemont, Cook, DuPage and Will Counties, Illinois

- G. Ordinance O-94-19 Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to pay Debt Service on \$4,160,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017A and \$1,940,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017B and \$890,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017C of the Village of Lemont, Cook, DuPage and Will Counties, Illinois
  
- H. Ordinance O-95-19 Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to pay Debt Service on \$5,250,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Waterworks and Sewerage Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A and \$3,600,000 Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019B and \$5,200,000 General Obligation Bonds (Waterworks and Sewerage Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019C of the Village of Lemont, Cook, DuPage and Will Counties, Illinois
  
- I. Ordinance O-96-19 for the Levying and Assessing of Taxes for the Village of Lemont, Cook, Will and DuPage Counties, Illinois, for the current fiscal year commencing May 1, 2019, Adopted by The President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Lemont
  
- J. Ordinance O-97-19 Establishing a Street Lighting Tax
  
- K. Ordinance O-98-19 Establishing a Street and Bridge Tax
  
- L. Ordinance O-99-19 Adopting changes to Personnel Policy Manual
  
- M. Ordinance O-100-19 Amending The Village of Lemont Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, Business Licensing and Registration, to Add a New Article 03 Massage Establishments
  
- N. Ordinance O-101-19 Amending Title 10 of the Lemont Municipal Code
  
- O. Resolution R-100-19 Authorizing Settlement Agreement and Release (RTA V. City of Kankakee)  
Motion by Sniegowski, seconded by McClafferty to approve the items on the consent agenda by omnibus vote.  
  
Roll call: Kittridge, Kwasneski, Maher, McClafferty, Sniegowski, Stapleton; 6 ayes.  
Motion passed.

## IV. MAYOR'S REPORT

### A. Mayor's Mention

This past Saturday was our annual Hometown Holiday in the downtown. I was not able to be there, but I understand that it was a great turnout. I hope everyone that attended enjoyed the activities and got to visit with Santa and shop and dine.

We have an exceptional lighting display all around the downtown, and if you haven't seen it, it's something you really must see. So, take a stroll or ride through our historic downtown and enjoy the illuminated holiday decorations sponsored by the Village of Lemont and the Downtown Merchants Alliance. It will be up through the first or second week in January depending on the weather.

2. The Art & Culture Commission is hosting their annual Holiday Artists Bazaar at Lemont Center for the Arts from now until December 21. They are located next to Aldi's and are open Friday, Saturday and Sunday's from 10 am – 6 pm.
3. Hope and Friendship has their personal care item collection along with their Christmas Day Dinner Delivery. Last year 107 residents received a Christmas dinner, and they are again seeking donations of fully cooked food and personal care items. Visit, [hopeandfriendshipfoundation.com](http://hopeandfriendshipfoundation.com), for the information.
4. Lemont Park District's New Year's Eve Bash takes place at The CORE on December 31 with two times to choose from, at either 10-11:30 am or 12:30-2pm. Advanced registration is required by December 26. Visit, [Lemontparkdistrict.org](http://Lemontparkdistrict.org), for more information and to register.
5. Please visit our website's Community Calendar to find out about activities going on around town at, [lemont.il.us](http://lemont.il.us).
6. This is our last Village Board meeting for this year. We will have a Committee of the Whole meeting on December 16. Then in January, we have a scheduled change with the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 13 due to the holiday on January 20. We will have one Village Board meeting in January on the 27<sup>th</sup>. These dates are on our Village Calendar on the front page of our website.

7. On the subject of cannabis, many people have reached out to us and shared their viewpoint on this polarizing topic. We have received information and feedback on the topic at the various public workshops and meetings we have had, and we have placed additional information on the cannabis act and its potential impacts on our website at, [lemont.il.us/adult-Use-Cannabis](http://lemont.il.us/adult-Use-Cannabis). There are FAQ's and responses there as well.

We recognize that, while responsible recreational cannabis usage will be allowed January 1st per state law regardless of any decisions by the Village Board, having a possible dispensary store location in Lemont can be a very polarizing issue with residents. One side may question the possible issues of having such a business in town, and the other will favor the ability to obtain additional sales tax funding to address our unfunded police pension liability and to be able to mitigate any impacts of cannabis becoming legal. Also, a point of consideration is that, even with an opt-out decision for the Village, a dispensary could locate very closely to Lemont, in adjacent towns and even the unincorporated portions of Lemont, and offer no financial benefit to Lemont.

Based on all these factors and the significant feedback we have received on both sides of the decision, the Village Board would like to take some additional time to obtain a better understanding of the entire community's sentiment on the issue. Tonight, we are voting on whether or not to place a question on the ballot for the March 17 election, asking Village residents if we should allow a dispensary to locate within Village limits. We will be getting more general information out on this topic in late winter, prior to the election.

We appreciate everyone's feedback.

B. Audience Participation-

1. Al Rhode asked about other solutions for the Police Pension funding instead of a marijuana dispensary.
2. Edward Gail spoke in favor of recreational marijuana and would like to open a dispensary in Lemont.
3. Debbie Corniker, a nurse, attended a conference about current cannabis and its harmful affect.
4. Matthew Creed is a medical marijuana user who lives in Lemont with his family and has a job. He spoke in support of use of marijuana and recommends a dispensary in Lemont.
5. Joe Karcavich, a physician spoke against recreational marijuana.
6. Mike Gorman stated he is not against medical marijuana. He asked if a dispensary could be more than 100 feet away from childcare facility.

7. Mary Fremarick stated she has lost many people to drugs. She does not want marijuana brought to Lemont because it will just start a drug problem.
8. Carleen Amato, a healthcare worker, feels a dispensary would impact our village and is opposed to a dispensary.
9. Rich Will read a prepared statement opposing to cannabis. He asked the board what message they are going to give by allowing a dispensary in town.
10. Dennis Arkas stated she loves Lemont and thought of bringing recreational marijuana breaks her heart.
11. Bruce Taylor stated this is a golden opportunity to get tax revenue for Lemont. He supports a dispensary being built in the outskirts of the town.
12. Bill Pelen asked the board with a dispensary in town at 5% tax revenue would not make a significant increase on our budget.
13. Suki Abdullah stated he supports the idea of having a dispensary in town.
14. Brian Bentley says he has 3 children and does not feel we should go down the path of kids having addiction problem.
15. Nick Rhode stated that he feels theories about marijuana are not outdated but very current and still very true.
16. Bob Val said from experience all opioid users started with marijuana.
17. Denis Miskovic asked the board to really consider the vote.
18. Tom Ludski just moved from Darien and wants Lemont to remain a family community.
19. Shawn Wilson, who will be moving to Lemont stated she would not have moved if she knew this was happening.
20. Todd Wirnette said opting out is an important message to educators. He is a former educator and superintendent who is afraid for the kids who manage to get it.
21. Terry Lemming resents the fact that the board is associating the possible revenue with Police pension.
22. Mary Jocrandle stated she opposes cannabis dispensary. She asked the board to share alternative plans on funding the Police pension.
23. Darin Mantalton stated he does not want a dispensary in town also.
24. Kevin Cliff doesn't want marijuana in the Village of Lemont and wants us to opt out right away and not hold a moratorium or referendum.
25. Stephanie Kovacic stated she heard the Mayor spoke to seniors and said the dispensary wouldn't be in our Village. She is afraid since the Board isn't opting out right now.
26. Matt Hewitt, a recent resident asked the board to just vote no so things can go back to normal.
27. Karen Marzano wants to know if Board members have a vested interest in the dispensary.

28. Mark Hues realizes we have a lot of pressure on the Board, but feels a dispensary isn't the answer for generating revenue.
29. Kyle Tazarski said marijuana has always been present in Lemont and now it would be legal. He also stated marijuana will be available for adults only.
30. Tim Daniel feels we would be foolish to opt out and not get the increased taxes.
31. Lawrance Dyjak feels what little increased revenue we would get is foolish to do.
32. Mary Djrosh cares about the town and the kids and wants us to protect that with no dispensary.
33. Mike Wilson, new resident wanted to see a business plan 1<sup>st</sup> and asked us to opt out.
34. Kevin Carl said various problems will occur with teenagers using pot.
35. Dave Valenciano asked the Board to opt out.
36. Bryan Bernard asked how many have asked their kids about marijuana. When we allow it in the Village we are giving the wrong message.
37. A Lemont resident said her grandson goes to school in Lemont and most kids' vape, not use marijuana.
38. Mr. Cliff said he wants a legal opinion of a moratorium.

## **V. CLERK'S REPORT**

### **A. Ordinance**

1. Ordinance O-102-19 Creating a Temporary Moratorium on the Processing or Consideration of any Applications or Requests to Locate a Cannabis Business in the Village of Lemont

Motion by Maher, seconded by Kittridge, to discuss said ordinance.

Motion by Stapleton, seconded by Maher to adopt said ordinance.

Roll call: Kittridge, Kwasneski, Maher, McClafferty, Sniegowski, Stapleton; 6 ayes. Motion passed.

### **B. Resolution**

1. Resolution R-101-19 Providing for and Requiring the Submission of an Advisory Question of Public Policy Concerning the Dedication of Resources to Fund the Village of Lemont's Unfunded Police Pension Liability, to Appear on the Ballot of the Electors of the Village of Lemont, in Counties of Cook, Will and DuPage, Illinois at the March 17, 2020 General Primary Election

Motion by Maher, seconded by Kwasneski, to adopt said resolution. Roll call: Kittridge, Kwasneski, Maher, McClafferty, Sniegowski, Stapleton; 6 ayes. Motion passed.

2. Resolution R-102-19 Providing for and Requiring the Submission of an Advisory Question of Public Policy Concerning the Allowance of Recreational Cannabis (Marijuana) Dispensary, to Appear on the Ballot of the Electors of the Village of the Village of Lemont, in Counties of Cook, Will and DuPage, Illinois at the March 17, 2020 General Primary Election

Motion by McClafferty, seconded by Maher, to adopt said resolution. Roll call: Kittridge, Kwasneski, Maher, McClafferty, Sniegowski, Stapleton; 6 ayes. Motion passed.

**VI. VILLAGE ATTORNEY REPORT- NONE**

**VII. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT- NONE**

**VIII. BOARD REPORTS- NONE**

**IX. STAFF REPORTS-**

Police-

1. Vehicles have been broken into or stolen in Lemont. Be sure to lock your car door especially during Christmas season. "Lock it or Lose it."

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS- NONE**

**XI. NEW BUSINESS- NONE**

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION-**

Motion by Stapleton, seconded by McClafferty, to close regular session and to move into Executive Session Discussion under Chapter 5 ILCS 120 of the Open Meetings Act to discuss:

A. Real Estate: Purchase or Lease 2(c)5

Roll Call: Kittridge, Kwasneski, Maher, McClafferty, Sniegowski, Stapleton; 6 ayes. Motion passed.

**XIII. ACTION ON CLOSED ITEM(S)**

**XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Maher, seconded by Kwasneski, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. VV 6 ayes. Motion passed.