

VILLAGE BOARD

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2017 – 7:00 PM

Lemont Village Hall - 418 Main St. - Lemont, IL 60439

I. **Call to Order**

Mayor John Egofske called the COW Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **Roll Call**

Present were Trustees, Blatzer, Kwasneski, McClafferty, Sniegowski and Stapleton. Maher, absent. Also present were George Schafer, Mark LaChappell, Marc Maton, Ralph Pukula, and Chris Smith and Village Attorney, Andrew Paine.

III. **Discussion Items**

A. Village Conflict with Cook County Minimum Wage and Sick Leave Ordinances.

Cook County Board of Commissioners adopted a series of ordinances impacting the provision of paid sick days as well as increasing the minimum wage paid to private sector workers in Cook County. Both ordinances provided workers in Cook County higher than those provided via state and federal laws, with an effective date of July 1, 2017. State minimum wage is currently set at \$8.25 per hour and the County ordinances would include a four-year increase in the minimum wage starting with \$10.00 per hour beginning July 1, 2017. There is a mechanism in which the Village Board can effectively “opt-out” of the regulations via passing its own conflicting ordinance amending its municipal code. Attorney Andrew Paine explained the legalities of the options the Village Board had in the matter.

Mr. Schafer stated that staff’s recommendation would be for the Village Board to approve an ordinance effectively opting out of Cook County’s ordinances due to providing for an environment of competitive balance among Village businesses and those in neighboring counties and municipalities. Several members of the business community have asked the Village Board to opt out of these regulations.

Mayor Egofske stated that the business community has reached out and communicated that the regulations would put their businesses at a competitive disadvantage and would be detrimental in many respects. Several of the Board Members voiced their agreement with Mayor Egofske. The Mayor and the Board directed staff to prepare the appropriate ordinance for the June 26th VB Meeting.

B. Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding Property Tax Appeals

Finance Director, Chris Smith presented an agreement with School District 210, School District 113a, Library District, Park District and Township to assist with Tax Objections. The Village’s share of the cost to object is 9.75%. Tax objections will only occur if it is more than \$100,000. The agreement states the agencies have engaged

Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, LTD as their attorneys to intervene in and defend the tax objection cases. Staff was directed to create a resolution for the June 26th Village Board Meeting.

C. Parking Garage Permitting

Chief Maton explained the parking garage permitting. In order to offer downtown residents authorized parking in the parking garage, staff recommended authorizing the permit hang tags costing \$250/year. Display of the permit hang tag would exempt the holder from the four our parking ordinance for the parking garage only. The permits would allow permit holders to park on the third or fourth floor of the parking garage.

D. McCarthy Road Bicycle Path Accommodation

Public Works Director, Ralph Pukula requested direction from the board regarding a proposed bike path project on McCarthy Rd from Walker Rd. to Illinois St. There are two options to choose from, 10 ft. separated path or 6 ft. side paths (shoulder lanes.) The estimates for both options were reviewed with the decision to pursue the 6ft. side path lanes. Trustee Sniogowski cautioned that with the future cuts made by the state of Illinois we should be careful how we proceed. Staff will contact IDOT regarding this project going forward.

E. Goal Setting Process Options

Mr. Schafer briefly presented options for a new strategic planning effort with the new Board. With the existing plan expiring, the early stages of a new administration is an ideal time to move forward with a new strategic goal setting process with the new Board and Village staff. The result of a strategic goal setting process is a strategic plan that is generally consistent with the Village's longer term comprehensive plan and is designed to be tightly focused on implementation of initiatives that help achieve board priorities over a finite period, typically four years. The Board was receptive to the idea of starting a longer range planning process, with data collection to support the process occurring over the next couple months. Mr. Schafer will coordinate dates with the board during fall or early winter for a planning session. Mr. Schafer stated that while the longer term planning process takes time, there are several areas of focus and prioritization that need discussion to implement in a shorter-term time frame. Mayor Egofske mentioned economic development initiatives being an immediate focus area and a direction of resources towards economic development initiatives is necessary, especially data collections and interaction with the business community. The board concurred and discussed general areas of economic development for future consideration.

IV. New Business

A. ATV Use within the Village

The Police Chief summarized state law and Village ordinance on the use of All Terrain Vehicles on Village streets and sidewalks. ATV's are not allowed to be driven on Village streets and sidewalks. The police have no enforcement authority on private property unless a landowner complains of trespass. The Police Department can then enforce the trespass statute. It is the responsibility of the individual stopped on private property to

obtain permission from the landowner.

B. Purchase of Less than Lethal Sponge Rounds

The Police Department is purchasing two less than lethal sponge round launchers in order to have another force option available should the department have contact with a knife-wielding suspect where it is unsafe to get close enough for a Taser deployment. The rounds are designed to knock down a non-compliant individual. The goal is to de-escalate the situation with resorting to deadly force when possible.

V. Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.