

Committee of the Whole
August 20, 2012
6:00 p.m.

A Special Meeting of the Village of Lemont Committee of the Whole was held on Monday August 20, 2012 in the Lemont Police Department Training Room at 14600 127th St. in Lemont, Illinois. The meeting was a joint meeting with the Planning & Zoning Commission and Board of Trustees to discuss electronic message centers. The meeting was followed by the regularly scheduled Village Board Committee of the Whole Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brian Reaves called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the following were present:

Trustees Paul Chialdikas, Ron Stapleton, Rick Sniegowski, Jeanette Virgilio, Debbie Blatzer and Cliff Miklos. In addition, members of the Planning & Zoning Commission were present.

Also present were Village staff members Ben Wehmeier, Charity Jones, Ed Buettner, Mark LaChappell, George Schafer, Chief Kevin Shaughnessy, Ralph Pukula, and Village Attorney Jeffery Stein.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of Electronic Message Centers and Sign Illumination.

Ms Jones gave a presentation on electronic message signs and sign illumination for internally lit signage in the Village. The Village Board and the Planning & Zoning Commission met to discuss various aspects of the signage debate: Should the Village allow electronic message signs, if they are allowed where should they be, and finally what type of restrictions should be on the signs if they are allowed. There was much debate on the topic, but at the very least the majority of the officials in attendance said that electronic message signs should be allowed in the Village, but should be regulated to reduce their negative impacts. After much discussion, the Boards directed staff to come up with more examples of what other communities have implemented in code revisions for this topic. The joint committee would meet again at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Discussion closed.

Strategic Plan Update

Craig Rapp, a consultant from Northern Illinois University gave a summarized presentation on the strategic plan the Village Board has been developing over the last several months. The discussion revolved around the process and gave a summary of the goals and objectives set. The majority of the content remained the same from previous meetings, with some clarification items. Staff would be working with Mr. Rapp over the coming months to finalize a plan and present formally to the Village Board.

Discussion of P/T Auxiliary Police

Mr. Stein gave a brief discussion of the recommended revisions to the municipal code regarding part time police officers. The changes would be made to reflect Illinois state Statutes. There was minimal discussion on the topic. The item would be up for approval at a future Board Meeting.

Discussion of Deck Variation for 3 Keepataw Lane

Robert Spsychalsk, owner of a residence at 3 Keepataw Lane is requesting a variation to reduce the side yard setback from 15 feet to 12 feet. The item was heard and recommended for approval by the zoning officer and was recommend by staff. There was minimal discussion on the topic; the item would be up for approval at a future board meeting.

Discussion of Glen Oaks Estates Amended Annexation Agreement

Mr. Brown gave a brief update on the Glen Oaks development. Staff and the developer are working out minor details, and the full amended agreement could be up for approval one of the coming Board Meetings. There was minimal discussion on the topic; the item will be up for approval at a future board meeting.

Discussion of Alley Vacation Request at 523 2nd Street

A resident at 523 2nd Street has requested the Village to vacate an alley along-side its property. The resident is aware that the Village will have to have the property appraised and that they will have to pay fair market value and associated engineering and legal fees. The Board was receptive of the request. Village staff and/or attorney would be contacting an appraisal firm to begin the work. Discussion closed.

Discussion of Lemont Plaza Subdivision

Lemont Plaza Partners, owner of 1052-1150 State Street is requesting a final plat of subdivision approval for the Lemont Plaza Shopping Center. The PCZ and staff recommend approval of the request. There was minimal discussion on the topic, and the Board was generally in favor of the request. The item would be up for approval at a future Board Meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No Audience Participation

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Reaves adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM