

Committee of the Whole
May 16, 2011
7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Village of Lemont Committee of the Whole was held on Monday May 16, 2011 in the Board Room of the Village Hall at 418 Main Street in Lemont, Illinois.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Reaves called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the following were present:

Trustees Paul Chialdikas, Ron Stapleton, Cliff Miklos, Rick Sniegowski, Debbie Blatzer and Jeanette Virgilio.

Also present were Village staff members Ben Wehmeier, James Brown, Ed Buettner, Chief Kevin Shaughnessy, Ed Buettner, Mark LaChappell, George Schafer and Village Attorneys Dan Blondin and Jeffery Stein.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of 703 Porter Street Variation

The Mayor moved up the variation discussion on the agenda because the homeowner was in attendance. Mr. Brown briefly described the issue at hand. Keith Michalek of 703 Porter Street was requesting a side yard setback variation in order to construct a garage within three feet of the property line. The petitioner is looking to replace the existing garage with a new garage. However, because of the 5 foot from the lot line requirements, he would need a variation. There would be no change in the footprint and the Planning & Zoning Commission approved the request. The Board did not have an issue with the request. The item would be in front of the Village Board at the June 13th Board meeting. The Mayor stated that there would be no issue with the petitioner submitting plans in the mean time so he can get started right away. Discussion closed on the topic.

Discussion of 10985 Archer Avenue – Annexation (Hot Dog Stand)

Gus Tingles, owner of the property at 10985 Archer has requested annexation to the Village, a rezoning and a special use for a drive through for his hot dog shop. The Planning & Zoning Commission voted 6-0 to approve the request. There were some questions about the position of the drive-thru. The drive-thru was shown on the site plan as having egress in 2 locations, on Archer and on Old Bell Road. The property is not in the TIF district, but could be added to the TIF at a later date after the property is in the Village. The Board was supportive of the request and the item would be up for a formal vote at the June 13th Board meeting. The petitioner is looking to start construction very soon on the project.

Discussion of Updated Purchasing Authority Policy and Procedures and Purchase Car Policy and Procedures

Mr. Schafer explained that staff has been working with Sikich on the update of many of its financial policies. The goal is to have a new draft financial policy in front of the Village Board Committee of the Whole for review each month and eventually formally approve all policies based on feedback from the Board. The first 2 policies being reviewed are the Village's purchasing policy and credit card policy. There are elements of the old policies that will be incorporated into the new ones, with new provisions as well. Some of the changes include changes to accounts payable process, purchasing authority changes, pricing requirements, emergency procurement and budget amendments. Some of the comments included a recommendation from the Board that any purchase above \$2500 require three written quotes. In addition, a local purchasing provision should be put into policy as a general guideline and not restrict purchases to the provision. Another change discussed was to send out checks weekly instead of bi-weekly at board meetings. The Board recommended that they would still like to see certain expenditures before sending them out the door to the vendors. Staff will be working on provisions to clean up this issue. Another issue of discussion was the authority needed to make budget changes between line items within the same budget. The Board recommended that the Village Administrator approve budget transfers in these instances. The policy will be revamped based on the recommendations from the Board and should be ready for implementation after July 1st.

Review of Police Agency Agreement with Singer Landing

In order to enforce parking and other violations on private property, the Village requires an agency agreement between the two parties. The Board reviewed a draft agreement with Lennar Singer Landing for this purpose. Attorney Stein stated that the Village will require a formal letter from the development stating the request for the agency agreement, and then the Village board can approve the agreement. The Board did not have an issue with the request.

Review of Proposed Contract with NCIC

Chief Kevin Shaughnessy brought up the proposed contract with NCIC for in-mate collect call services. Currently the Village passes its phones through the security gate to give access to in-mates for phone calls. The service would provide free wall mounted phones for the phone calls. The service does not cost the Village anything and the Village would receive 25% of the proceeds. There was little discussion on the topic; the item would be in front of the Board for a formal approval at the next Board meeting.

Review of Identity Theft Protection Act Ordinance

The Illinois Identity Protection Act requires each local and State government agency to draft, approve and implement an Identity Protection Policy to ensure confidentiality of Social Security Numbers the Village collects. The policy is drafted after the Attorney General's sample policy and will bring the Village into full compliance when passed. The Village Board had no issue with the request; the item would be in front of the Village Board at the next Board meeting.

Discussion of Leash Only Ordinance

The wording in the municipal code regarding leashes to be required for dogs has made it difficult to enforce uncontrolled dog issues. Under the definition of control of a dog, there is a provision allowing for the dog to be under voice control of the owner. Staff is recommending this provision be stricken from the code, as dogs should be on a leash at all times when in public areas. The Board did not have an issue with this request; it will be up for formal approval at the next board meeting. On a related issue, there have also been issues in the various parks owned by the Park District on enforcement of uncontrolled dogs. The Board directed staff to talk to the park district about an agency agreement so the Village can enforce these rules as well. Discussion closed on the topic.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Slammers – Business Expansion & Outdoor Café

The Mayor handed out a site plan for the proposed expansion of Slammers outdoor seating area to the property adjacent to slammers, in which Slammers will be acquiring. The proposal is going in front of the Planning & Zoning Commission on May 18th, but the petitioner wanted to get preliminary feedback on the request. After discussion, it was decided that the Board and the liquor commission will need additional information in order to process the request, as it may require a change in their current liquor license. The item will be back in front of the Committee of the Whole and liquor commission at future dates. The discussion brought up many other areas of town in which outdoor seating is allowed. Staff and the Attorneys will be examining the section of the code dealing with outdoor seating and cafes and draft changes to address fairness issues for all.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No Audience Participation

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Reaves adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM