

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 28, 2007

Call to Order

President Fischer called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Trustee Elrick, President Fischer, Trustee Joosten, Trustee Ransbottom, Trustee Van Ooyen, Trustee Verstegen, Trustee Vanden Heuvel

ALSO PRESENT: C. Kell, T. Flick, R. Van Gheem (7:10), V. Schneider,

Public Appearance for Items not on the Agenda

None

Discussion – Status of Park Planning Committee

Trustee Vanden Heuvel stated he asked for this agenda item so the Board could discuss whether the Park Planning Committee should remain as a standing committee of the Village. Trustee Vanden Heuvel stated the Committee was formed in 2000 from the recommendation of the late Village President to review and make recommendations for the Master Plan for Van Lieshout Park and since then the Committee has worked with the Parks Director to develop plans and make recommendations for additional Village Parks. T. Flick reported that the Committee had twelve members at one time and now there are seven members and the Committee is now meeting quarterly instead of monthly. T. Flick stated the Committee members receive \$35 per meeting and he sees the Committee as an asset to him and they represent a cross section of the community and provide representation of their neighbors and the community at the meetings. President Fischer and the majority of Trustees expressed their appreciation and support of the Committee and the consensus of the Board is to keep the Park Planning Committee as a standing committee of the Village. Mary Janssen, Reuben Wittman, and Charles Stangel were present and Mary Janssen commented that the Committee is a positive group that enjoys their committee work and they appreciate that the Board takes their recommendations into consideration and they also understand when financial constraints do not allow for all the recommendations for the parks to be acted on.

Discussion – Proposed Increase in Court Fees

The recommendation from Judge Hammen is to raise the court fees by \$5 in accordance with ACT 54 which went into effect in April of 2006. C. Kell reported that Kimberly is also proposing the increase and it is in the best practice for the Police Department to have consistent bond schedules. Board members indicated agreement with the recommendation and the item will be placed on next week's agenda for action.

Discussion – Developing Additional Criteria for Granting Class B Liquor Licenses

Trustee Elrick stated that he requested a discussion on this issue as the Village currently does not have any Class B liquor licenses available and he suggested criteria should be developed so future licenses that are applied for can be approved or denied based on the benefit to the Village. Trustee Verstegen commented on SB 322 that would allow a quota exception for full service restaurants where the sale of alcohol beverages accounts for 50% or less of the establishment's gross receipts and does not require the restaurant to have a 300 person seating capacity. Discussion took place on the possible criteria that could be developed. Trustee Joosten stated he did not support stifling entrepreneurship and is opposed to additional governmental regulation. Board members discussed the use of a list of applicants for licenses and whether the Village should keep a waiting list of those who request an application for the next available license and what criteria could be used for reviewing all the applicants on a list instead of going

by a first-come, first-served priority basis. Board members agreed that anyone requesting to be added to a waiting list will be added without priority given to when the applicant was added to the list. Trustees also agreed to send a letter from the Board to the legislature to show support for SB 322 and Trustees were requested to bring back to the meeting on December 12 suggestions for the criteria to be used for consideration in granting a Class B license.

Review/Approval of 2008 Meeting Schedule

The Clerk pointed out that the 2nd Committee of the Whole meeting in December of 2008 falls on Christmas Eve and asked the Board how they wanted to handle that situation. Board members agreed to cancel the 2nd Committee of the Whole meeting in December of 2008.

Moved by Trustee Verstegen, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to approve the 2008 meeting schedule and to cancel the 2nd Committee of the Whole meeting in December of 2008.

Ayes 7 - Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Unfinished Business

R. Van Gheem thanked Board members for their attendance at the East Main Street construction design meeting.

Items for Future Agendas

C. Kell reported on the meeting with elected officials, the DOT and other parties interested in the funding and development of the Mill Street Bridge informing the Board that the meeting was very positive and the Village was instructed to move ahead with hiring a design consultant at this time. C. Kell stated the Windmill Committee will be deciding on December 18 on the location of either building the windmill downtown or on Island Park and he plans to introduce a resolution for Village financial support for the project being constructed at Island Park at next week's meeting for review with action to be taken at the following Village Board meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:14 p.m.

All Ayes – Motion Carried Unanimously

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By: Charles Fischer, Village President

Attest: Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk