

**MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS
FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

President Byrne called the meeting to order at 7:22 pm.

IN ATTENDANCE: President Byrne, Trustees Koch, Hebda, Grieb, Schultz and Marquardt. Trustee Williams was absent. A quorum was established.

Also present were: Village Manager Kalmar, Assistant Village Manager Carey, Building Commissioner Atkinson, Chief Fleischhauer, Finance Director Larson, Attorney Kenny and Recording Secretary Fischbach.

1. APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2016

Motion by Trustee Marquardt, second by Trustee Hebda to approve the Committee of the Whole Minutes for the February 2, 2016 meeting.

Roll call vote:

AYES: 5 –Hebda, Schultz, Marquardt, Koch, Grieb

NAYS: 0 - None

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 1 - Williams

Motion carried.

2. PRESENTATION OF THE 2016 VERNON HILLS GOLF COURSE BUDGET

Representatives from Kemper Sports Management appeared before the COW to present the proposed 2016 budget and discuss operational enhancements to the facility.

Please note that as a part of the proposed FY16/17 Village budget, we have included approximately \$65,000 of course related improvements. The improvements include replacement of the driving range cage, tree replacements, brick paver repairs on Hole #1, fence repairs adjacent to the Hawthorn Club homes, carpeting on the bridges and a dumpster enclosure. Staff will review these items with the COW during the budget discussions.

Trustee Hebda suggested they utilize Channel 4 for advertising of the food and wine menus. She also suggested they contact VHHS about using their coupon program for fundraising.

No action was taken by the COW.

3. REQUEST FROM FANTASY AMUSEMENT COMPANY, TO OPERATE AN OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENT AT HAWTHORN MALL, 122 HAWTHORN CENTER

William Johnson, representing Fantasy Amusement Company on behalf of Hawthorn Mall, appeared before the Committee of the Whole to request approval of an outdoor special event. The event would take place from Thursday, June 2, 2016 through Sunday, June 5, 2016.

As in past years, the carnival would be staged on the Sears parking lot located at the north/west corner of Milwaukee Avenue and the access drive next to Denny's. Customer parking would be provided to the north and west. Barricades would be provided to separate participants from vehicular traffic. The carnival would include adult and children's rides along with games and food. A license would be obtained from the Lake County Health Department in accordance with their requirements. The hours of operation would be: Thursday 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm; Friday 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm; Saturday 2:00 pm – 11:00 pm; and Sunday 2:00 pm – 10:00 pm.

Section 13.7.6 of the Zoning Code authorizes the Village Board to approve outdoor uses within the B-1, General Business District.

If the Board feels that the temporary use is appropriate, staff should be directed to prepare a Resolution approving the special event subject to the following conditions:

1. The special event will take place from Thursday, June 2, 2016 through Sunday, June 5 2016.
2. The permitted hours of operation shall be: Thursday 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm; Friday 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm; Saturday 2:00 pm – 11:00 pm; and Sunday 2:00 pm – 10:00 pm.
3. The Village reserves the right to close off portions of Ring Road for the purpose of creating a pedestrian crossing.
4. Fantasy Amusement Company is required to submit a list of all employees working at the carnival to the Vernon Hills Police Department at least seven (7) days in advance of the event.
5. Fantasy Amusement Company is required to hire two (2) off-duty Vernon Hills' police officers to be on-site during the operating hours of the carnival. Fantasy Amusement Company shall be responsible to pay the cost of the officers at a rate determined by the Village.
6. Compliance with the application and site plan dated January 18, 2016.
7. Garbage receptacles shall be provided and the general vicinity shall be cleaned immediately following each day of the event.

Motion by Trustee Koch seconded by Trustee Schultz, directing staff to draft a Resolution approving the special event subject to the conditions outlined above.

Roll call vote:

AYES: 5 –Hebda, Schultz, Marquardt, Koch, Grieb

NAYS: 0 - None

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 1 - Williams

Motion carried.

4. **KIDS CASTLE – REQUEST FOR DONATION TO ASSIST WITH COST OF CONSTRUCTION**

James Ballowe, Cindy Kessler and Jeff Fougrousse of the Park District appeared before the COW to discuss the proposed Kids Castle project and formally request a financial contribution from the Village to offset a portion of the cost of the new structure and related improvements.

In response to questions raised by the Village Board, the Park District prepared the following information regarding the funding of the new community playground:

- Cost estimate (including all fees) - \$600,000
- Fundraising total to date – \$75,000 (includes all in-kind products and services as well as brick donors and paid sponsor donors).
- Playground design is fully accessible – many features are specifically designed for individuals with disabilities.
- Restroom facility (accessible) included on site of the playground
- Community support – we have over 150 VH families who have signed on to assist with the playground demolition and installation.
- Reason for removal/replacement of the original structure – the playground no longer met National Playground Safety Standards, significant wood rotting, several beehives on apparatus, outdated equipment and many features required daily maintenance.

The Village is reviewing several residential projects that may generate impact fees for the District. The most ready of these include the Pulte Homes project, Taxman apartment project and Lexington Homes in the Vernon Hills Town Center TIF.

The projected impact fees from these developments are as follows:

- Lexington Homes \$162,189
(27 TH units - Currently under construction)
 - Pulte Home \$887,872
(128 SF Homes - Assumes 64 three bedroom & 64 four bedroom units)
 - Taxman Apartments \$314,255
(75 units - Assume 10 three bedroom, 33 two bedroom and 32 one bedroom units)
- Total Estimated Impact Fees \$1,364,316

The Park District is currently repaying the loan to the Village that allowed them to purchase the former YMCA building. The remaining balance on that loan is nearly \$900,000. Repayment of this loan should be coming out of the impact fee proceeds collected from the projects above.

Trustee Hebda was concerned that the Park District had approached the Village for assistance before contacting corporate entities for contributions. Park District Director Fougrouse indicated he would email John Kalmar the listing of companies that have been contacted by the Park District for contributions.

Motion by Trustee Schultz seconded by Trustee Koch, directing staff to create a budget line item authorizing a \$200,000 payment over the next two fiscal years.

Roll call vote:

AYES: 6 –Hebda, Schultz, Marquardt, Koch, Grieb, Byrne

NAYS: 0 - None

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 1 - Williams

Motion carried.

5. **COMMUNITY SURVEY – OPTIONAL QUESTIONS**

Village Manager Kalmar noted that the Village has initiated the process with the National Citizen Survey “NCS.” The survey gathers resident opinions across a range of community issues or topics. The survey is designed to measure Community Livability as a whole and is not meant to be limited only to services directly provided by the Village.

Village Manager Kalmar indicated that the Village was working with the Company on the survey questions and finding ways of shortening the length of the survey. The staff is reviewing the survey questions in an attempt to focus the survey on the community.

Village Manager Kalmar indicated that in previous discussions, the Board also requested that some additional questions be added to seek thoughts/direction from residents on several key topics. The Board also asked that we look at the Priority List from the Strategic Plan (see below) and to try and relate these additional questions to the highest rated seven (7) topics as set forth below:

- Following legislation (8)
- Economic development of Mall and Hawthorn Commons (8)
- Route 53 (9)
- Long-term financial needs (10)
- ID initiatives to promote existing and new businesses (10)
- Resident Communication (11)
- Community Marketing of Retail and events (12)

Village Manager Kalmar provided in the packets a draft list of eleven possible questions for consideration. The questions focus on how the Village communicates to residents (#2, 6 & 7), should we implement certain programs or activities (#3, 4, 5, 7 & 10) and how/where residents shop if they aren't shopping in the Village (#8 & 9). These last two questions were generated from a discussion with an Inland RE representative.

He noted that we have the ability to add up to five (5) questions to the survey at no additional charge. Above that, we will pay \$1,850 per question. We can also ask open ended questions where it requires the respondent to provide the response. Question 11 was an example of this type of question.

No action was taken by the COW

6. ADJOURNMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Trustee Schultz, second by Trustee Koch, the Committee of the Whole was adjourned.

Roll call vote:

AYES: 5 - Hebda, Schultz, Marquardt, Koch, Grieb

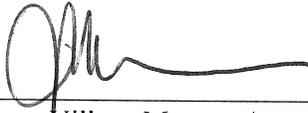
NAYS: 0 - None

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 1 - Williams

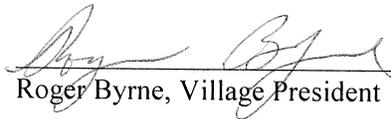
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:57 p.m.

Approved this 1st day of March 2016



John M. Kalmar, Village Manager/
Village Clerk



Roger Byrne, Village President

JMK/LLF