

MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Committee of the Whole
January 26, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Village Hall of Tinley Park – Council Chambers
16250 S. Oak Park Avenue
Tinley Park, IL 60477

President Pro Tem Glotz called the special meeting of the Committee of the Whole on January 26, 2021, to order at 6:38 p.m.

At this time, President Pro Tem Glotz stated this meeting was conducted remotely via electronic participation consistent with Governor Pritzker’s Executive Orders suspending certain requirements of the Open Meetings Act provisions relating to in-person attendance by members of a public body due to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Pro-Tem Glotz introduced ground rules for effective and clear conduct of Village business. Elected officials confirmed they were able to hear one another.

Clerk Thirion called the roll. Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members Present: M. Glotz, Village President Pro Tem
 K. Thirion, Village Clerk
 C. Berg, Village Trustee (Arrived at 6:52 pm)
 W. Brady, Village Trustee
 W. Brennan, Village Trustee
 D. Galante, Village Trustee
 M. Mueller, Village Trustee
 J. Vandenberg, Village President

Members Absent:

Staff Present: D. Niemeyer, Village Manager
 P. Carr, Assistant Village Manager
 L. Godette, Deputy Clerk
 M. Walsh, Police Chief
 F. Reeder, Fire Chief (Participated Electronically)
 J. Urbanski, Public Works Director
 B. Bettenhausen, Village Treasurer
 H. Lipman, Management Analyst
 P. Connelly, Village Attorney

Others Present:

Item #2 - CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 15, 2020 – Motion was made by Trustee Mueller, seconded by Trustee Brennan, to approve the minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 15, 2020. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Brady, Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: None. Absent: Berg. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #3 – DISCUSS VIDEO GAMING REQUEST FOR AURELIO’S PIZZA, 15901 OAK PARK AVENUE – President Vandenberg presented the video gaming request for Aurelio’s Pizza. The petitioner, Tom Gangas of Aurelio’s Pizza, has approached the Liquor Commissioner seeking a Class AV Liquor License to add video gaming. The establishment currently has a Class A Liquor License which allows for the sale of alcoholic liquor. Aurelio’s has been in Tinley Park for over 20 years, but with the challenges restaurants have faced due to COVID-19, would like to add video gaming as an additional revenue source. They will continue to remain a family-style restaurant. An email from Joe Aurelio was

received stating a decision to allow individual Franchisees to petition for video gaming was approved at a Franchisee meeting.

Tom Gangas, Aurelio's Pizza, presented a sketch and photos showing the terminal placement. The petitioner is aware of the requirement and is willing to install a seven (7) foot separation wall. He inquired if the wall needs to be solid or if a reciprocal mirror that appears reflective on one side and transparent at the other can be used on the upper half of the wall. Also, if the bar area where the terminals will be located is deemed for adults 21 and over, can the wall be omitted.

Trustee Galante asked if any seating would be removed. Mr. Gangas stated seating was removed previously for remodeling that was not completed due to COVID. No additional seating will be removed.

Trustee Glotz stated he is fine with no wall as long as the gaming area will not be visible from the dining area. Mr. Gangas confirmed the area is not visible from the dining area. Trustees Brennan, Mueller, Galante concurred with Trustee Glotz.

Trustee Brady feels a wall should still be required but likes the idea of the reciprocal mirror.

Patrick Connelly, Village Attorney, stated the 21 and over wall requirement should be drafted into the code.

Motion was made by Trustee Mueller, seconded by Trustee Brennan, to recommend the video gaming request for Aurelio's Pizza, with the stipulation that there is no wall requirement as long as the area is restricted to those age 21 and over, be forwarded to the Village Board for approval. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: Brady. Absent: Berg. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #4 – DISCUSS VIDEO GAMING FEES - TERMINAL OPERATOR SPLIT – Trustee Glotz explained in the past, the Illinois Gaming Board (IGB) allowed Terminal Operators (TO's) to pay various licensing fees on behalf of the establishments, even though it is not permitted anywhere in the Illinois Video Gaming Act. Many establishments in town would split the \$1,000 per terminal renewal fees with their TO's; some establishments would pay the full fee upfront and be reimbursed by their TO, and in some instances, both the establishment and the TO would submit payment. However, moving forward, the IGB has made it known that they will no longer permit this practice as it contributes to what they call inducement. Trustee Glotz spoke with the TO's, asking if they would agree to a split fee. It was understood the TO's would be responsible for \$750 and the establishment would be responsible for \$600, per machine. Hannah Lipman, Management Analyst, explained this would shift some responsibility to the TO's and require their cooperation, and help ease the burden on establishments. Splitting the fees increases administrative work, however, the establishment's portion would assist to offset this cost. 501(c)(3) and veterans organizations establishment fee would be 400 per machine.

Trustee Galante is concerned that this violates the rules put in place to prevent fraud and is not recommended by the IGB and feels this is a bad practice. Ms. Lipman responded if the Village amended the Code of Ordinances to include a split fee structure, it is permissible. Mr. Connelly stated this is legal. Trustee Glotz added the TO and the establishment fees are separate and the TO would not reimburse the establishment therefore eliminating the inducement.

Brad Bettenhausen, Village Treasurer, noted that Fraternal organizations that fall under the 501 category may not necessarily be a 501(c)(3). Mr. Connelly stated this can be tracked in the gaming statutes.

Motion was made by Trustee Brennan, seconded by Trustee Brady, to recommend the Video Gaming Terminal Operator split, be forwarded to the Village Board for approval. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Brady, Brennan, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: Berg, Galante. Absent: None. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #5 – DISCUSS VIDEO GAMING FEE DUE TO COVID-19 – Ms. Lipman explained both Liquor Licenses and Video Gaming Licenses are renewed annually at the end of December. Liquor Licensing fees vary; Video Gaming license holders pay \$1,000 per terminal. There are 96 active Liquor Licenses - 38 of which also have active Video Gaming licenses as an additional revenue source. Most Liquor License holders received a six (6) month fee waiver in 2020, and have been extended a six (6) month waiver for 2021 as well. Video gaming fees were not waived.

The Liquor Commissioner received a few requests to reduce or waive the Video Gaming fees due to COVID after renewals were mailed out to the establishments. To date, 29 out of 38 Video Gaming license holders have already paid the fees for 2021.

Video gaming terminals were shut off by the IGB on November 20, 2020, and turned back on January 19, 2021. Given the shutoff and impacts of COVID, no late penalties have been applied to any establishment paying late or that has yet to pay.

Trustee Glotz feels as video gaming is an additional revenue source that not all businesses in the Village have, it would be unfair to waive or refund these fees. Trustee Galante concurred, noting extending the due date is an option. Trustee Glotz added the video gaming is not a business model and other discounts have already been given. He reiterated that 29 of the 38 Video Gaming license holders have already paid their fees, noting that for every refund that is less money the Village can use for services for residents. President Vandenberg stated some of the businesses that have already paid their fee did reach out regarding a refund. It is not just the unpaid businesses seeking refunds or waivers.

President Vandenberg stated some of the businesses impacted most by COVID are the restaurants and bars, adding the most recent shutdown of machines was the second shutdown. He went on to say the sum of money being discussed to help small businesses is not large, stressing the importance of the public/private partnership.

Trustee Brady feels that the Village should help as the Video Gaming is permitted to assist in the success of the business, adding when many of the businesses approached the Village for a gaming license it was to help them maintain their presence in Tinley Park.

Trustee Brennan stated he is leaning towards pro-ration of fees adding the Village has measures in place so that gaming is not the primary revenue for a business. Trustee Mueller concurs.

Motion was made by Trustee Glotz, seconded by Trustee Galante, to recommend extending the due date of Video Gaming License Fees to March 1, 2021. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Brady, Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Berg. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #6 – DISCUSS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE VILLAGE OF TINLEY PARK TO UTILIZE THE TINLEY PARK CONVENTION CENTER TO PERFORM EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – Pat Carr, Assistant Village Manager, presented a Memorandum of Agreement between the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) and the Village of Tinley Park. CCDPH would like to utilize the Village-owned Tinley Park Convention Center to perform emergency public health activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This will be the first mega pod in the State. Administration of the vaccine started January 26, 2021, and will continue until further notice.

Trustee Brady asked that the number of vaccines administered be relayed to the Board.

All Trustees are glad the Village can help in this effort. Trustee Brennan added Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle was looking for a facility with a parking lot that could accommodate a large number of

people. The Convention Center has that capability thanks to former Village President Zaborocki and his team.

Motion was made by Trustee Berg, seconded by Trustee Brennan, to recommend the Memorandum of Agreement between the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) and the Village of Tinley Park, be forwarded to the Village Board for approval. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Berg, Brady, Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: None. Absent: None. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #7 – DISCUSS RENEWING A CONTRACT WITH MERIDIAN IT, INC. FOR DATA CENTER INTERFACE

– Mr. Carr presented the quote from Meridian IT for an interface to centrally manage both Village data centers. This is part of the Villages Disaster Recovery Plan. The cost for this service is \$22,549.63 and is included in the current year's budget.

Motion was made by Trustee Mueller, seconded by Trustee Brennan, to recommend renewing a contract with Meridian IT, Inc. for data center interface, be forwarded to the Village Board for approval. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Berg, Brady, Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: None. Absent: None. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #8 – DISCUSS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR FIRING RANGE WITH THE ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

– Matt Walsh, Police Chief, presented the MOU. The Police Department wishes to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Illinois State Police (ISP) District #5 for the use of their range. This is a covered, outdoor range with several different targeting systems (pistol, shotgun, and rifle) and training room. Use of this range is necessary for our officers to continue to develop their firearms competence. The ISP Commander will determine the termination date. There is no fee for use of the range.

Motion was made by Trustee Brennan, seconded by Trustee Brady, to recommend the Memorandum of Understanding for firing range with the Illinois State Police, be forwarded to the Village Board for approval. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Berg, Brady, Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: None. Absent: None. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the motion carried.

Item #9 - RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

A resident commented on the Video Gaming licensing fee.

Laura Godette, Deputy Village Clerk, stated there was no written comment or request to speak telephonically.

Motion was made by Trustee Berg, seconded by Trustee Brady, to adjourn the Committee of the Whole. Vote by roll call. Ayes: Berg, Brady, Brennan, Galante, Glotz, Mueller. Nays: None. Absent: None. President Pro Tem Glotz declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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