

**MINUTES**  
**Finance and Economic Development Committee Meeting**  
**September 20, 2016 – 6:45 p.m.**  
**Kallsen Center at the**  
**Tinley Park Village Hall**  
**16250 S. Oak Park Ave.**  
**Tinley Park, IL 60477**

Members Present: B. Maher, Chair, Village Trustee  
M. Pannitto, Village Trustee  
K. Suggs, Village Trustee

Other Board Members Present: D. Seaman, Mayor  
T. J. Grady, Village Trustee

Staff Present: D. Niemeyer, Village Manager  
S. Tilton Assistant Village Manager  
S Neubauer, Police Chief  
D. Riordan, Interim Fire Chief  
D. Framke, Marketing Director  
R. Baird, Community Engagement Coordinator  
B. Bennett, Commission Secretary

**Item #1** - The meeting of the Finance and Economic Development Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

**Item #2 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2016** – Motion was made by Trustee Suggs, seconded by Trustee Pannitto to approve the minutes of the Finance and Economic Development Committee Meeting held on September 6, 2016. Vote by voice. Chairman Maher declared the motion carried.

**Item #3 – DISCUSS TELEPHONE TOWN HALL MEETING** – In efforts to increase resident engagement and transparency and to offer an alternative interactive vehicle of communication. The marketing department is proposing that the Village host a telephone town hall meeting. This meeting, which would be facilitated by a third party vendor, will provide a forum whereby the Mayor communicates with participating residents in a radio-show format via the telephone. The telephone town hall meeting offers residents an interactive opportunity to ask the Mayor questions and receive information.

The cost of the event is \$2,250 which includes the software, call screeners, a live polling option, data collection, conference recording and a moderator. Additional costs include an inbound 800 number for residents to call (\$100) and the purchase of the list of 13,239 landline owners at an additional cost of \$630. Funding of this event was placed in the FY16 budget.

Marketing Director, Donna Framke noted 3 vendors that do the Town Hall Meetings were contacted and it was found that this proposal is fashioned after the Town Hall Meetings that Orland Park does as it seemed to be the most comprehensive.

Trustee Pannitto stated that he was not in agreement and has concerns with this proposal and asked who directed and decided to write this proposal. Also who decided that the Mayor was the person doing this meeting and why was this date proposed. He noted that due to the upcoming elections this could be

**Minutes  
Meeting of the Finance and Economic Development Committee  
September 20, 2016**

considered a political forum.

Trustee Pannitto stated the date should be changed to after the election and other elected officials should be considered to speak and answer questions at the Town Hall meetings.

Village Manager Niemeyer stated this proposal was suggested at a previous budget meeting and this proposal was fashioned after the Orland Park Town Hall meetings.

Trustee Grady noted this was discussed at a previous Budget meeting and was suggested due to the fact that the residents wanted more transparency and answer resident's questions.

Mayor Seaman stated this was suggested because residents wanted questions answered and if the Board does not want this then it is okay. Other communities have taken a structured approach to this and this is only a vehicle to the conversations.

Trustee Maher noted that staff should contact other towns that do Town Hall Meetings to see if there were issues that they had to deal with like these mentioned. This could be reconsidered for a later date.

**Item #4 – RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –**

Comment #1 – I am looking for the August 16, 2016 Finance minutes and they are not on the web site. Was the Sportsplex discussed at that meeting and the RFQ for consultants discussed and will that be on the Web site?

Comment #2 – In order to save money the Mayor should start at 7:00 prior to the Board Meeting and answer questions from the residents rather than have a televised Town Hall Meeting. Specific weeks could have specific topics to cover.

Trustee Grady noted that the reason we started to videotape and livestream the meetings was to be able to reach out to the people who could not attend the meetings. Now we have to opportunity to have people be able to call in and speak to the Mayor directly from their homes and now are being told no and people have to come in to the Village to speak to the Mayor or whomever they choose to speak to.

Trustee Pannitto says he is 200% for accountability and transparency, but there can't be only one person speaking to the public prior to the election choosing the format and the questions. There is too much control of the message.

Comment #3 – I see both sides but I do like the idea of the Town Hall Meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Trustee Pannitto, seconded by Trustee Suggs to adjourn this meeting of the Finance and Economic Development Committee. Vote by voice call. Chairman Maher declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

bb

cc: *Village Board  
Village Manager  
Assistant Village Managers  
Village Treasurer  
Deputy Village Clerk*