

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER
18 May 2010**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM and present / responding to roll call were Trustees Boyle, Casey, Gattuso, Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. Also present were Village Manager Urban and Attorney Kate Reifsnnyder.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Liquor Code: President Pulia, Trustee Casey and Gattuso just finished 3 liquor hearings. Presently there is no golf course in the liquor code and it needs to be added. The liquor hearing was held and the issue of the license is subject to the adding of a golf course to the code. Everything appeared to be in order with the BP Amocos on Manheim and Cermak. The approval of the addition of the golf course to the liquor ordinance will be placed on the May 25th agenda. The golf course ordinance (class F) will include a 7 day license for selling liquor at the golf course or country club with an annual fee of \$3,000. There will be three time restrictions, no alcohol sold between 1:00 AM-5:00 AM all days, resale in original package will be allowed on usual business hours on Sundays, sale of alcohol on the premises the business hours are restricted from 10:00 AM-12:00 AM. The question to the board is what hours of operation you want the golf course to have. The board concurred that 5:00 AM-1:00 AM would be acceptable for everyday. Attorney asked if the board would like to ban package sales of 40 oz. cans and bottles but would have to go through the liquor commission. Chief Evans stated that there has not been a problem in town with the sale of this size liquor. Village Manager Urban stated that the largest liquor fee is \$3,500 which the new restaurant "Food for Thought" will be paying. Does the board want to raise the golf course fee? The board concurred that it should be left at \$3,000 subject to review and modification in the future. The creation of an F license will be placed on the next consent agenda.

B. Disposal of Personal Property: WCMC Auction and Village Sale: The WCMC Auction is June 19th at Triton College. Ms. Garrett stated that all information needs to be turned in by May 19th. The advantage of going through the auction is a lot more people will go to the auction versus looking on the website. Village Manager Urban said that the village has the right of refusal on bids if we don't get the dollar amount wanted and then can try and sell it on the website. President Pulia stated that these items are presently of no use to the village. This will be listed in the newsletter so that village residents are aware and will also be placed on the website. Trustee Steker asked what was wrong with the chipper and leaf machine. President Pulia said that it is a spare chipper and public works has no need for the leaf machine. Trustee Casey suggested in the future the public works dept. could ask other government agencies in the village if they have any use for any of the equipment. Village Manager Urban stated participation in the WCMC Auction will be placed on the May 25th consent agenda.

C. Community Surveillance Program: Chief Evans explained Project EyeCam which is a joint community video witnessing and security initiative to improve day to day security for our schools, parks, and private sector and as a crime reduction initiative to help create a safer environment. In addition, Project EyeCam aims to increase officer safety, and reduce costs by increasing the overall efficiency of investigation and prosecution. Project EyeCam will create a wireless mesh video infrastructure covering targeted areas throughout the community. This wireless mesh infrastructure will allow for other entities within our village limits to add video surveillance that can be used as 24/7 security monitoring system by the entity and shared with both police and fire departments when an emergency response is requested. This will allow a real-time video feed. The concept was presented to the School District, Park District, and Westbrook Corporate Center. The School District has shown interest in installing exterior and interior video systems in all three schools. Westbrook Corporate Center has shown interest in upgrading their current system and the Park District has also shown interest in installing video systems in their park district which will reduce the costs. There will be no cost to the Village for the implementation of the system. Funds have been secured by a grant in the amount of \$69,505. Chief Evans recommends continuing with the project, obtain quotes from all three vendors, all entities who wish to continue will review quotes and collectively recommend a vendor. Other businesses could tie into this program if they want. The board concurred with moving forward with this program.

D. Police Department and Promotions: Chief Evans has approved the request for the appointment of two police officers from the current eligibility list, along with the promotion of the next eligible patrol officer to the rank of sergeant. This would allow the Police Department to operate more efficiently in a cost effective manner. The promotion of one patrol officer to sergeant would allow the police department patrol unit to receive equal supervision under each shift, and decrease the financial impact the currently scheduled overtime. The appointment of two patrol officers would cover the vacancy of current retirement ERI agreements in place minimizing the financial impact due to 24-week training program. The immediate fiscal year impact of a sergeant promotion would absorb approximately \$63,628 in scheduled overtime. The immediate salary difference from patrol officer to sergeant would cost approximately \$1,378. The initial cost for appointment of probationary officer's salary is \$52,241. Chief Evans would like to place this on the next consent agenda. Trustee Sloan questioned why when adding another body there would still be so much overtime and Trustee Novak agreed that overtime should drop. Chief Evans stated that there will always be overtime but he will relook at his numbers to make sure there is not somewhere he can cut overtime. The board concurred to promote at the next board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Downing Street Alley: The resident from Downing Ave. requested some action be taken to stop thru traffic along alley located between Kensington and Downing north of 31st. The resident claims vehicles regularly use this alley as a thru street. Village Manager Urban would like to order three barriers and improve signage for no thru traffic. Trustee Sloan wanted to try signage and flags first which will be more economical. President Pulia stated this alley should not be used as a thru street anyway. Trustee Casey feels that signs will not work. Trustee Sloan feels we may be setting a precedent if we go forward with this barrier. Mr. DiPasquale suggested putting a sawhorse barricade on a trial basis and see if this

has any impact. President Pulia would like to try the barricade Mr. DiPasquale suggested and see what happens.

B. Newsletter: The Village has published a 24 page newsletter for the months of April and May. The June issue will include the Annual Water Quality Report and Fest and Parade information and a 32 page issue is anticipated. Village Manager Urban stated he is not looking to make this a money maker but it has been very time consuming and ads are lower than neighboring community newsletters. Staff is recommending an increase in pricing. President Pulia does not want to overprice ads and loose advertisers. Trustee Novak thought it would be fewer hours if we had it published outside. The consensus of the board was to stay with the current prices but to talk with the publisher to see how it could be more efficient. This will be reviewed at the end of the year.

C. Business License-New Category-Golf Course: The Village does not have a separate category for a business license for a golf course and the ordinance would have to be amended if the board chooses to require a business license. The board would like to require a business license and felt \$250 for a business license is fair price.

INFORMATION ONLY:

President Pulia reported Trustee Nick Steker received an award from the Firefighters Association in Springfield for the rescue of five people from a 10 story building on fire. An apprehension was made from an armed robbery at JD's. There was a dryer fire at a home on Manchester and the fire department got there on time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Tim Hinsdale supports the liquor license for the golf course but doesn't think it should be an umbrella license but it should be for each part of the golf course. President Pulia stated the board will look into this as progress on the whole property develops. Mr. Hinsdale would like to see all businesses required to have a license for the same amount. President Pulia stated that because we are not home rule we cannot go against state law. Mr. Hinsdale loves the newsletter and has gotten a lot of business from his ads.

With no further business to discuss, Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Casey to adjourn and on the roll call vote the Board passed said motion (Aye 7) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Catherine M. Booth, Village Clerk