

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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OCTOBER 5, 2021**

Call to Order

President Patel called the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 6:01 P.M. Tuesday, October 5, 2021, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex at 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue, Village of Lincolnwood, County of Cook, and State of Illinois.

Upon roll call by Village Clerk Beryl Herman the following were:

Present: President Patel, Trustees Herrera, Klatzco, Sargon, Saleem, Martel and Halevi.

Absent: None

A quorum was present.

Also present: Village Manager, Anne Marie Gaura; Chuck Meyer, Assistant Village Manager; Jake Litz, Management Analyst; Jon Bogue, Assistant to the Village Manager; Nadim Badran, Public Works Director; Scott Mangum, Community Development Director; Doug Hammel, Development Manager.

Public Comment

Resident Dale Wickum spoke in favor of a bike lane on Pratt Avenue and spoke favorably of options that eliminate parking on the street.

Resident Annette Vranas spoke in opposition to allowing videogame gambling in Lincolnwood. She shared anecdotes of her experiences visiting videogame gambling establishments in neighboring communities. She expressed concern regarding who would be attracted to these facilities.

Resident Erin Oleniczak spoke in opposition to allowing videogame gambling in Lincolnwood. She shared her reactions to statements made at the September 9 meeting. She also shared a positive experience of engaging in public feedback processes for Flowers Park, and questioned why this process didn't extend to other decisions made within the Village. She stated that we do not want to mar our image as a family friendly community

Non- resident Marty McAlpin spoke in favor of videogame gambling in Lincolnwood. He shared that he's there on behalf of Prairie State Gaming, a videogame terminal operator. He shared his experiences working with surrounding communities and said they experienced

increased revenue with little to no social repercussions. He further shared a revenue analysis that positively impacts the Village's ability to fund the Police Pension.

Resident Angelo Apostolou spoke in favor of videogame gambling in Lincolnwood. He shared that he believes there are positive social benefits for older residents and spoke favorably of the prospect of keeping tax bills down.

Resident John Vranas spoke in opposition to videogame gambling in Lincolnwood. He encouraged the board to follow the Plan Commission's recommendation. He shared that he believes this proposal takes advantage of vulnerable populations and that there are better paths to pursue additional tax revenue and economic growth.

Resident Mary Butler spoke in favor of a bike lane on Pratt Avenue. She expressed her belief that any option that results in a bike lane is desirable and hopes the Village can work with residents who live on Pratt Avenue to ensure a bike lane becomes a reality.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meetings were presented for approval.

Trustee Sargon moved to approve the minutes of September 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meetings, seconded by Trustee Saleem.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

Ayes: Trustees Herrera, Klatzco, Sargon, Saleem, Martel and Halevi.

Nays: None

Minutes Approved

Regular Business

1. Discussion Concerning Pratt Avenue Bike Lane

This item was presented by Public Works Director, Nadim Badran using Power Point. Mr. Badran gave a presentation in which he provided background on the Village's exploration of a bike lane on Pratt Avenue. The presentation went into existing conditions, results from Phase I studies and three different options to be considered by the board. A discussion ensued regarding the need to widen Pratt Avenue east of Cicero and to improve striping west of Cicero to protect cyclists from vehicles making right hand turns. This is required by IDOT and adds to the initial cost estimates of the project. Discussion ensued about the elimination of parking on Pratt Avenue, to which the board expressed openness. Mayor Patel and the board dismissed the options that saved parking and asked Mr. Badran to present a cost analysis on difference of creating streets with bike lanes that include removable bollards and do not include removable bollards.

Direction Requested Recommendation

Staff recommends Option 1 as parking counts have identified that parking is not heavily utilized along Pratt Avenue and this option offers the lowest cost. If the Village Board seeks to maintain parking, then Option 2 would be recommended.

Staff is seeking direction on which option the Board would like to move forward with so that the Phase 1 design can be completed

- *Completion of the Phase 1 design will be necessary to pursue additional funding
- *Project is eligible for ITEP, Invest in Cook and CMAQ funding which range from 70% to 80% of total cost
- *Resident input meeting will be held following IDOT preliminary review (December/January)
- *Project can be placed in an out year of the CIP until funding is secure
- *Future coordination may cause anticipated costs to change based on external requirements

2. Discussion Concerning Village Campus Service Coordination

This item was presented by Village Manager, Anne Marie Gaura using Power Point.

Ms. Gaura gave a presentation on reorienting the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community Development Department. It focused on relocating the Community Development Department to where the Parks and Recreation Department is currently located. This would align with the operational changes currently ongoing in the Community Development Department and aims to create more administrative area space for their staff. This would also open up the training room, currently partially occupied by Community Development, to be fully utilized by both the Fire and Police departments. Ms. Gaura then presented on short term relocation options of the Parks and Recreation department while staff develops a long-term plan. The Board was supportive of creating a long-term master plan for the future of the Parks and Recreation Department and favorable of relocating them to the Community Center for the short-term.

Staffing Restructuring

Steps Taken to Improve Community Development service delivery

- *Restructuring of department
 - +Building Official added
 - +In the process of filling position near the start of District 1860 construction
 - +Instead of three key functional areas reporting to one position
 - +Four functional areas are split between two positions
- *Staffing adjustments made to reporting of four key functional areas:
 - +Development Manager will oversee Planning and Economic Development
 - +Building Official will oversee Building Review and Inspection and Code Enforcement
- *Both positions report to the Community Development Director

Office Relocations

Community Development moves into Parks and Recreation offices in the Village Hall

- *This is the office location designed for Community Development over 30 years ago.
- *Establishes a one stop shop in Village Hall
- *Eliminates issues of customers daily coming to the Village Hall only to be redirected to the Fire Station
- Fire Administration
 - *Fire would assume the entirety of the office space designed for them over 30 years ago
- Parks and Recreation moves to another location short term and a long term capital strategy would be developed

Parks and Recreation Short Term Location

Option 1: Community Center

- *Renovation of small multi-purpose room
- *Use of office space/conference room for staff members
- *Lease of storage space to be relocated from the seconded floor

Option 2: Temporary Office Trailer

- *Purchase of a trailer of approximately 1,400 square feet located on the southeast side of Proesel Park

Option 3: Commercial Space Lease

- *In proximity to Proesel Park, accessible and visible

Reallocation of \$50,000 in FY22 Budget to fund chosen option

Parks and Recreation Long Term Strategy

Master Plan for program priorities and how to structure facilities

- *Budgeted in FY23
- *Would include extensive community input
- *Parks and Recreation Board would be involved in the process

Facilities and Audit Plan

- *Evaluate issues and deficiencies with three buildings over 30 years old (Village Hall, Police/Fire Station and Public Works) and one 69 years old (Community Center)
- *To include a Space Needs Assessment
- *Would culminate in a comprehensive, long term Facilities Plan
- *Budgeted in FY23

Alternate Options were analyzed but ruled out for a variety of reasons

Next Steps

- *Village Board to identify other options or any other information needed
- *Tours of Fire Station, Community Center and Village Hall by interested Village Board members
- *Strategic Plan sessions on October 12 and 14 allow for opportunities for further discussion on long term capital plans for Parks and Recreation

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- *Detailed costs on the three options to be provided
- *Village Board direction will be sought

3. Discussion Concerning Potential Video Gaming Revenue

This item was presented by Community Development Director, Scott Mangum with Power Point

Mr. Mangum gave a brief presentation on potential videogame gambling revenue through various local fees and taxes

Regulatory Context

Video Gaming Act (July 2009)

*Up to six Video Gaming Terminals (VGTs) in licensed Retail Establishments, Truck stops and Veteran and Fraternal Establishments

*September 9, 2021 Village Board Discussion of Text Amendments centered around potential revenue

+2019 data from four suburban municipalities showed municipality share of revenue ranged from \$7,234 to \$55,275 per year with an average of \$35,732

+For the first half of 2021. The average municipal share of the NTI Tax for the establishments was \$21,215, with a range between \$9,305 and \$37,069

+Other municipalities have imposed annual fees of \$1,000 per VGT and \$3,000 per liquor license

+Two municipalities face legal challenges over penny-per-play “push tax” and legislation has been introduced that would prohibit a “push tax”.

Requested Action

Staff requests direction from the Village Board regarding the topics and policy questions presented in this report, including:

*Whether to the Village should continue to entertain code amendments related to Video Gaming; and if so:

+ Whether the established per terminal and liquor license fees described within other municipalities should be included in a future Ordinance; or

+Whether staff and the Village Attorney should pursue other local fees such as a “push tax” that are untested and could be subject to legal challenge

Trustee discussion with Mayor Patel offering clarification on numbers:

Trustee Halevi stated that we need to remember that the whole point of this is to fund the Police Pension. We have received no alternative suggestions from the public.

Trustee Sargon said thanks to staff for looking into options. She wishes to look and see how much revenue will be gained through cannabis sales. She is against this option.

Trustee Herrera agrees that we would like feedback from the public, but is against this option.

Trustee Klatzco pointed out that we have to fulfill our police pension obligation. We need another source. The money amounts are too low. We are already “front loading” our pension obligations.

Trustee Saleem pointed out that we have spoken of revenue previously. He suggests that we look into other ways to find revenue.

Trustee Martel stated that this has been discussed for multiple years. He is not against the gambling, sees no harm, but would not like to see “parlors”.

Due to insufficient revenues and a lack of positive community feedback a consensus of the board determined that this issue can be put to rest for now.

Adjournment

At 7:33 P.M. Trustee Sargon moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole, seconded by Trustee Herrera.

Upon Roll Call the results were:

AYES: Trustees Herrera, Klatzco, Sargon, Saleem, Martel and Halevi

NAYS: None

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,



Beryl Herman
Village Clerk