

**MINUTES  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS  
JANUARY 22, 2008**

IN ATTENDANCE: President Pro-tem Koch called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The following Trustees were present: Hebda, Koch, Marquardt, Schwartz and Williams. President Byrne and Trustee Schultz were absent.

Also present were Village Manager Allison, Assistant Village Manager Kalmar, Finance Director Nakrin, Chief of Police Fleischhauer, Village Engineer Brown, Public Works Director Laudenslager, Building Commissioner Atkinson, Attorney Citron and Village Clerk Pelletier.

**1. APPROVAL OF 1/08/2008 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES.**

Motion by Trustee Marquardt, second by Trustee Schwartz approval of the 1/08/2008 Committee of the Whole Minutes. Roll call vote:

AYES: 5-Hebda, Koch, Marquardt, Schwartz, Williams

NAYS: 0-None

ABSENT: 1-Schultz

Motion declared carried.

**2. LAKE VERNON CONDO PROJECT - CONCEPT PRESENTATION BY DEMARI DEVELOPMENT, INC. FOR NW CORNER OF LAKEVIEW PARKWAY AND HAWTHORN PARKWAY (SITE OF EXISTING PORTOFINO AND OPA RESTAURANTS)**

Pulled-discussion postponed to the 2/04/08 meeting.

**3. REQUEST FROM HOTEL INDIGO (FORMERLY AMERISUITES) FOR APPROVAL OF A SOLARIUM ADDITION, ACCENT LIGHTING AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS AT 450 N. MILWAUKEE AVENUE.**

Building Commissioner Atkinson stated representatives of Hotel Indigo were present to request approval of a solarium addition, landscape improvements due to the addition and accent lighting to the former Amerisuites facility. The solarium addition would be located near the main entrance. Existing light fixtures at the entrance would be replaced with 3 foot vertical blue lamp wall sconces and blue lamps would replace the existing building up-lights. New wall and ground mounted signage complied with the Sign Code, with the rear façade sign being relocated to the east side of the building. Trustee Hebda stated she was not in favor of the blue up-lighting. Trustee Marquardt inquired if the lamps could be installed on a temporary basis for the Board to assess the lighting. Motion by Trustee Schwartz, second by Trustee Marquardt to direct staff to prepare an ordinance approving the solarium plan prepared by TWP Architecture and dated 8/10/2007; and the site and landscape plans prepared by Martin Associate and dated 12/12/2007. Roll call vote:

AYES: 5-Koch, Marquardt, Schwartz, Williams, Hebda

NAYS: 0-None

ABSENT: 1-Schultz

Motion declared carried.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO CONTINUE OPERATION OF THE ELEVATOR SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM.**

Building Commissioner Atkinson stated the Village had been operating its own Elevator Safety Inspection Program, which required elevators to be inspected on a semi-annual basis by the Village's

consultant, Thompson Elevator Inspection Services, with costs covered by the license fee. State legislation past last year identified the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to be the governing authority to operate the Elevator Safety Inspection program and could allow municipalities to enter into agreement with the OSFM, which would grant the Village to continue with the current program. Motion by Trustee Williams, second by Trustee Hebda approval to direct staff to prepare the necessary ordinance approving the execution of an agreement between the Village of Vernon Hills and the Office of the State Fire Marshal regarding the Elevator Safety Inspection program. Roll call vote:

AYES: 5-Marquardt, Schwartz, Williams, Hebda, Koch

NAYS: 0-None

ABSENT: 1-Schultz

Motion declared carried.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE LIQUOR LICENSE ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CLASSIFICATION FOR CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.**

Building Commissioner Atkinson stated Mark Sternberg of Pear Tree Catering was consolidating his catering facilities and would be located his business to 950 Woodlands Parkway. The facility would be used for preparation and storage of food to be delivered to off-site customers. Mr. Sternberg requested a liquor license for his business, but the current Village Liquor License Ordinance does not identify a classification for the off-premise sale of liquor in connection with a catering establishment. Staff recommended creating a class "J" license, authorizing the sale of alcoholic liquors when served and consumed off the premises as an incidental part of catering food service that caters prepared meals, which excludes the serving of snacks as the primary meal and having a caterer retail license issued by the Illinois Liquor Control Commission; with no more than three (3) class "J" licenses being issued at any one time in the Village. Staff recommended a \$300 fee for a new liquor license application and \$2,000 fee for the Class "J" liquor license. Motion by Trustee Marquardt, second by Trustee Hebda to direct staff to prepare the necessary ordinance, subject to the creation of the new class and fee structure as presented. Roll call vote:

AYES: 5- Schwartz, Williams, Hebda, Koch, Marquardt

NAYS: 0-None

ABSENT: 1-Schultz

Motion declared carried.

**6. ROUTE 45 AND CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILROAD CROSSING.**

Village Manager Allison stated the Village had received inquiries regarding the extended length of the time the crossing gates at Route 45 and the Canadian National were in the down position due to the northbound Metra train stop at the station or during inclement weather. The railroad was to investigate the timing of the gates.

**7. CANADIAN NATIONAL ACQUISITION OF EJ&E RAILROAD.**

Village Manager Allison stated with the Canadian National acquisition of the EJ&E railroad, the number of trains could be reduced through Vernon Hills. Freight train traffic was estimated to increase over the next 20 years and the overall rails would like to route traffic around the city of Chicago. The surrounding communities would probably object to the increase in train traffic.

**8. 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS.**

Village Manager Allison stated the following dates had been selected for the 2008 events to be held at the Metra Station parking lot as follows: Springfest-Saturday, 5/17/08; Oktoberfest-Saturday, 10/04/08. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary would be held on Wednesday, 7/16/08 at Century Park, with

entertainment by Creedence Clearwater Revisited and Gin Blossoms if contract negotiations were reached.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Motion by Trustee Williams, second by Trustee Marquardt approval to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. Roll call vote:

AYES: 5-Schwartz, Williams, Hebda, Koch, Marquardt

NAYS: 0-None

ABSENT: 1-Schultz

Motion declared carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Linda Pelletier, Village Clerk

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Roger L. Byrne, Village President