

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 12, 2020

Presidents Chamber

6:15 p.m.

### Present

Chair Tyrrell, Member Chen, Village President Gallagher, Village Manager Velkme, Directors Baer and Scott, Asst. Director Biernacki, Village Attorney Jurusik, LTACC Executive Director Mike O'Connor, Chef Paul Virant of Vie Restaurant, Dan Shomon

Chair Tyrrell called the General Government Committee meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

### Agenda Items

1. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chair Tyrrell moved, seconded by Committee Member Chen, to approve the minutes of February 10, 2020 as amended.

3. Issuance of Class H Outdoor Liquor Café License to Vie Restaurant

Director Scott gave an overview of a request from Chef Paul Virant of Vie Restaurant for a Class H Outdoor Liquor Café license. This concept was first discussed during the design phase of the Lawn Avenue reconstruction project. The design included a new parkway that would accommodate outdoor dining. The result is a parkway that is very well suited with ample space between curb and sidewalk as well as length along the front of the building, north to south. Director Scott said the Fire Department will be asked to review if the fire pits included in the design plan pose any issue. Chef Virant was in attendance and gave the committee an overview of his request. Mr. Virant is very much looking forward to having an outside space for guests to enjoy Vie food and drinks in a more casual, outdoor setting. The landscape of dining has changed a lot and family style eating, sharing and eating outside is very popular. There will be a pergola to protect the diners from the sun and elements. The design includes protective bollards. The space will be open with the hours now in place. Vie's kitchen closes on Fridays and Saturdays at 10:00 p.m. and their liquor license goes until 11:00 p.m. The committee reviewed the request and unanimously agreed to recommend the liquor license issuance and allow the temporary use permit. This matter will now move forward to the Liquor Commission for their review. If the Liquor Commission agrees, the committee will recommend approval and issuance of the Class H license in the April timeframe. The Board will be apprised of this request at the March 16, 2020 Board meeting.

4. Liquor Code Amendment to add Class O License
5. Issuance of Class O License to the Opry

Director Scott provided the committee with an update on this concept. Mr. Dan Schovain is seeking to open “The Opry” at 4354 Johnson Avenue (just east of Village hall). This establishment would focus on the sale and consumption of alcohol without the requirement that meals be served on site. Mr. Schovain has requested that the Opry be allowed to sell craft beer, spirits and wine (including cider, mead, and other similar beverages). Customers would be allowed to consume these beverages on site or purchase them to take home. The Opry site floor plan concept was shared with the committee. A draft ordinance creating the Class O Craft Beer, Wine and Spirits license was provided to the committee for review. The Liquor Commission met on two occasions and discussed both of these requests which came to the Commission without a consensus on whether or not to recommend approval. The Liquor Commission recommended approval of this request with the creation of a Class O license, to cover this new trend of craft establishments that are mostly focused on beer where no food is required. After a great deal of discussion about the new class of license, Class O, and the Opry concept, the General Government Committee was unable to reach a consensus on recommendation to approve. Chair Tyrrell said he has a problem with the Class O ordinance, which does not require food service, and does not think it is in the spirit of the liquor control. Chair Tyrrell will present this request at the March 16, 2020 Board meeting and explain the neutral position of this committee. The Board will be asked to review the requests and vote separately, by roll call vote, on the request to establish the new license Class O license as well as whether or not to issue the license to the Opry.

6. Resolution Relative to Updates to an Intergovernmental Agreement for an Intergovernmental Cooperative Venture Known as “Lyons Township Area Communications Center” For the Operation and Maintenance of a Combined Dispatch and Communication System with the Village of LaGrange and the Village of LaGrange Park

Attorney Jurusik presented a resolution and the suggested changes to the intergovernmental agreement which is in place at this time for the Lyons Township Area Communications Center (LTACC) with the Village of LaGrange and the Village of LaGrange Park. The draft agreement includes clean-up of items in the original agreement related to start-up. The revised agreement also includes a PSAP Representative per a recently enacted state law. This position would now be represented on the LTACC Executive Board. The position will be identified by the police and fire chiefs and Executive Board based on who has the right credentials to fill this appointment. There are also updates to the Executive Director position to reflect that start-up of LTACC is complete and the position now runs the Center. The committee concluded the amended intergovernmental agreement was in line and will recommend approval on March 16, 2020 by the Board of Trustees. The Villages of LaGrange and LaGrange Park Board of Trustees will also be approving the amended agreement. The City of Countryside has

expressed their intention to join LTACC for police calls. An addendum to this revised agreement will be needed to allow Countryside to participate. The addition of Countryside will reduce the costs of the Center to all the existing parties. The Lyons Township Area Communications Executive Board will need to approve that request.

Executive Director O'Connor started the updating of the agreement and passed it along to Attorney Jurusik who completed the revisions. Mr. O'Connor was in attendance at the committee meeting and also gave the committee an overview of the new emergency alert system, Rave Alert and Smart 911 which LTACC will begin using May 1, 2020. This will be in place of Code Red. These programs will greatly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the emergency alert system. Information is in Tower Topics and will be pushed through social media to encourage residents to create profiles and sign-up.

7. Strategia Consulting LLC Contract Approval

Village Manager Velkme informed the committee that she had enlisted Lissa Druss of Strategia Consulting LLC to provide lobbying and communication strategy services to the Village. Village Manager Velkme reported that she had signed off on a letter of agreement in February with Ms. Druss. Ms. Druss was very helpful to staff on communications and strategies and particularly during the planning of the Town Hall meeting held on February 13, 2020 regarding 5G / small cell and the Planning and Zoning Committee meeting. Ms. Druss worked with the Village of Willowbrook on the Sterigenics issue. She is also working with the Villages of Clarendon Hills and Hinsdale. The expenditure will be a professional services line item. Village Manager said she believes it is money well-spent.

8. Dan Shomon Incorporated Contract Approval

Village Manager Velkme introduced Dan Shomon of Dan Shomon Incorporated, who is a lobbyist, to the committee. Village Manager Velkme presented a request for the committee to recommend Board approval of a contract with Dan Shomon of Dan Shomon Incorporated. Mr. Shomon would provide lobbying services to the Village of Western Springs addressing legislation in Springfield to protect and increase Village controls during the 5G small cell deployment, to secure capital funding from the State of Illinois, to obtain IDOT approval of some important local projects, and to fight back against legislation that reduces municipal revenue and hurts taxpayers.

Village Attorney Jurusik said Mr. Shomon is going to help push the amendment, which Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd. created on behalf of the Village, in Springfield. Mr. Shomon explained his services and how they will benefit the Village. The consulting fee is \$4,500 per month from March 16, 2020 until May 30, 2020. On June 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020, the consulting team will charge \$2,500 per month. When legislators are not in session the cost would be \$2,500 per month. The total outlay would be approximately \$28,000 based on this schedule. No other expenditures will be charged unless pre-approved by the Village Manager. This expenditure will be a professional

services line item. Village Manager Velkme said a budget amendment will be necessary. Village Manager Velkme said 5G/ small cell has taken up all of our time and we are very concerned that at least the legislators hear our voice. Chair Tyrrell also noted that the Village took a lot of criticism for not having a lobbyist in place to fight 5G / small cell. Discussion followed.

President Gallagher also expressed her support for putting in place this agreement as hiring a lobbyist is included in the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Committee and the liaisons from the Stop 5G Western Springs group. Mr. Shomon provided an overview of services he has provided to other municipalities and discussion followed. The committee was unable to reach a consensus on whether to recommend moving forward with this contract. Chair Tyrrell will present staff's request to approve this contract to the Board of Trustees on March 16, 2020. A roll call vote on the approval will be on the docket that evening.

9. Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamster's Local 700

Director Ellen Baer said that she and Asst. Director Biernacki were pleased to bring this matter to the General Government Committee. The committee discussed the details of this agreement in closed meeting as did the Board in February. Ms. Baer reported that the Village and Teamsters Union Local 700 have reached a tentative agreement and the agreement has been ratified by the Union. This is a first contract for the Public Works employees and the Teamsters represent the Maintenance Journeyman 1 and 2 positions. There are eight (8) employees of the Village. Both economic and non-economic issues were agreed upon in this collective bargaining agreement. The agreement will expire on March 30, 2023 and includes a new step plan, 2.5% increases with retroactive pay for 2018 and 2019, and 2.5% increases on June 1, 2020, 2021 and 2022. There will be operational changes as a result of this agreement which Director Baer said will be good for the Village including a new call-out procedure. Chair Tyrrell congratulated Director Baer and Assistant Director of Municipal Services for their hard work on this agreement. Director Baer noted that Municipal Services Analyst Daisy Chavez was also very involved in this process. The committee will recommend approval by the Board of Trustees on March 16, 2020.

10. Ordinance Amending the Western Springs Municipal Code of 1997, Title 1: Administration: Chapter 6: Village President Establishing the Position of Deputy Village President and Line of Succession in Emergency Situations

Village Attorney Jurusik informed the committee that measures are in place in Village code to provision a line of succession in emergency situations. A little clean-up of titles is needed and will be done at a future point in time. Additionally, given that COVID-19 is upon the United States, staff believes it is appropriate to put in place an ordinance which would authorize the Village President to declare a state of emergency should the need arise and authorizing purchase contracts as necessary to resolve a state of

emergency without public advertisement within the Village of Western Springs. Discussion followed. The committee concurred with this measure and will recommend approval by the Board on March 16, 2020.

11. Other

President Gallagher asked if we should be getting started on referendum language. Attorney Jurusik said we should begin discussion in May and June. President Gallagher located a very succinct question which Attorney Jurusik will utilize for the recreational cannabis question. The Village can have up to three (3) referendum questions although we may not need all three (3). The question(s) need to be finalized by July. The term, community survey, might be utilized. Discussion about possible questions followed.

12. Schedule Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 9, 2020, at 6:15 p.m.

13. **RECESS TO CLOSED MEETING for the purpose of discussion of:**

**The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act (5 ILS 120/2(c)(1); or**

**B) Pending litigation (5 ILCS 120/2c(11)).**

14. Adjourn

Chair Tyrrell moved, seconded by Member Chen, to recess to Closed Session For the Purpose of Discussing The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act (5 ILS 120/2(c)(1) at 7:55 p.m.

The motion passed on a roll call vote with Chair Tymick and Member Tyrrell voting aye.

**RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION**

The open session of the General Government Committee was reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

14. Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, Chair Tyrrell moved, seconded by Member Chen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Deputy Clerk Elaine Haeske