

CALL TO ORDER:

President Bartels calls to order the Village of East Dundee Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:02 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Trustees Ruffulo, Cichowski, Miller, Lynam, VanOstenbridge and President Bartels.
Trustee Gorman was absent.

Also in attendance are Village Manager Frank Koehler, Director of Public Works T.J. Moore, Village Attorney Russ Hartigan, Village Clerk Jennifer Rehberg and Economic Development Consultant Robert Skurla.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Business Licensing/Registration

Trustee Ruffulo requested we go to a Business License Program rather than a Business Registration Program to operate a business in town. He does not think a voluntary program is enforceable, and this was not his intention when he sponsored the legislation years ago. Village Administrator Koehler noted that the Village charges a \$25 fee for Business Licenses. The Business Retention Program is to verify the information we have on our current local businesses. Koehler asked Building Official Bob Urbanowitz to help put together an Administrative Hearing Program for code infractions. We are trying to encourage voluntarily and not make it difficult to obtain a license. We would like a cooperative relationship with businesses. The program will implement the Administrative Hearing ticket that would go up in front of a judge in Carpentersville if citations are issued. The Village needs to figure out a way to enforce the ordinance. Ruffulo will check on the verbiage of Carpentersville's ordinance. Public Works Director T.J. Moore note there was a Voluntary Registration a few years ago. Ruffulo will get copies of Carpentersville's and West Dundee's legislation, as well.

B. Video Gaming

Village Administrator Koehler mentioned that Trustee Miller requested this be put on the agenda. The State has authorized upward of 5 video gaming machines per establishment with a liquor license that serve alcohol. The revenue is what the State is intending to fund the \$31 billion dollar capital with. Municipalities have options. They can adopt legislation that would preclude the machines from coming into the villages. The Board can decide to have an advisory (not binding) referendum for residents to provide an opinion. If they adopt legislation to prohibit machines, future Boards can reverse the legislation. A positive referendum cannot be reversed by future boards. Kane County is looking into adopting legislation. The revenue from the machines for an establishment with 5 machines is estimated at \$10,000-\$11,000 per year to the municipality. State gaming board is empowered to come up with regulations of the enforcement of the machines and licensing. Bar owners must be approved by the State and have background checks. If you own the bar, you cannot own the machines, and vice versa. The State takes 30% of revenue off the top; 5/6 is retained by the State, and 1/6 goes back to the municipality. The 70% is split between the establishment and the owner of the machines. A non-Home Rule community is limited to a \$25 licensing fee for the machines. The Bill passed on 4/3/2009 (Illinois Code hb4239). Koehler has not spoken to any of the bar owners in town at this time. Trustee VanOstenbridge wants to know why other villages are opposed to the machines. Trustee Miller's concern is that since IL has a huge deficit they are allowing more gambling in communities. Trustee Ruffulo is for the machines as long as they do not corrupt the village. Trustee Lynam clearly sees the argument against the machines. He stated that just because the State is allowing it doesn't mean we need to jump on board. Trustee Cichowski feels that there needs to be more research. Village Administrator Koehler noted the State Gaming Board has not come out with any regulations yet. Miller said there may be a way to create a new

type of liquor license that would comply with the gaming machines, which the Liquor Commission would regulate. President Bartels is not happy about the way the revenue comes in. He feels that a referendum is the way to proceed. Koehler mentioned that Metro West will help with the referendum process.

C. Village Board Computer Allowance

President Bartels stated the Village Board put in place a plan to help offset the cost of computer equipment for all elected officials in October of 2007. He mentioned very few officials take advantage of this program. Bartels would like to see the Board discontinue the program because of the economy. He would like an audit of the monies that has been paid out to look for any errors. Trustee Cichowski feels that the world is very technological and the form of communication is through computers and internet. He does not have a home computer so he needs to take advantage of the program. Bartels feels that since the Board only needs internet access to retrieve e-mails and meeting packets online, most Board members have access on their own computers or phones. The Village purchased computers for the trustees to take home if they do not have their own. Trustee Lynam feels the program should be left in place for future Board members and feels it is a legitimate expense. Trustee VanOstenbridge feels the monies can be used elsewhere in the budget. He feels \$600 per trustee is a lot of money for the Village. Trustee Ruffulo feels it is a legitimate expense since two Board members use the computers on a regular basis. Trustee Miller thinks the village owning the equipment as a fixed asset makes sense.

D. Honorary Street Sign Policy

Trustee Ruffulo asked the staff to look into this for Thom McNamee. There were a number of residents who asked if the Village could honor McNamee because of the impact he has made in downtown East Dundee. Ruffulo would like to see River Street have the honorary name of The Honorable Thom McNamee Way. He feels this should not be established by the Streets Committee. Village Administrator Koehler noted the final decision is made by the Village Board. The cost for the placement of the sign is \$500 (good for 10 years). The Board has the right to waive the fee. The fee must be paid before the fabrication of the sign. Public Works Director T.J. Moore presented a draft picture of the street sign for McNamee. Trustee Ruffulo feels a first name should be on the sign. Moore mentioned the honorary street signs will be on a separate pole than the official street sign because of the height of the poles.

E. Impact Fees Village Holds for Fire Department

President Bartels noted in 2005 the Village put in place impact fees for the Fire Department. The amount of \$30,000 has accrued for the Fire Department. Chief Rakow was requesting access to the funds. The concern is that according to the ordinance, the monies need to benefit East Dundee only and most fire equipment is also used to assist other towns and communities. One option would be to pay down the debt on the ambulance. Village Administrator Koehler thinks the Fire Department should come in and do a presentation on ways they would use the money. Koehler mentioned the limits of the fire protection district. When East Dundee became a home rule community it allowed them to receive additional impact fees. Trustee Ruffulo suggested a pro-rated amount be calculated for the Fire Department. The Board requests the Fire Department be at the next Board Meeting.

F. Emerald Ash Borer Discussion

Public Works Director T.J. Moore stated there has been an Emerald Ash Borer discovery down by South End Park in West Dundee. We know they are in East Dundee, we just haven't spotted them yet. There are 208 parkway Ash trees in East Dundee with 35 on Rock Road. They can be in the area for 2-3 years before we can see any damage or infestation. There are steps that need to be taken; on the Village side, if an Ash Borer is confirmed on a village tree (only Ash trees), the village will remove the tree and will inform neighbors in close proximity. The policy issue is a concern. Do we require that private property trees be removed if they are confirmed infested with the Ash Borer? Do we just inform the residents? Do we require them to remove it? Treating the trees is not totally effective. At this point we are not planning on treating the trees. Village Administrator Koehler asked what is the percentage of Ash trees in East

Dundee? Moore answered not that many. Other than The Reserves, less than 10%. He feels this is a policy question. Koehler noted we should notify the resident if a tree is confirmed infested and if the tree dies, then they would be required to remove the tree. President Bartels would like to have something on the website. The wood should not be used for firewood. Moore has contacted McGraw and they have not seen anything yet. Trustee Cichowski asked how residents spot Ash Borer infestation? Moore noted the die-back in the top canopy of the tree and "D" shaped burrows in the trees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session Executive Session, closed to the public and media under the provisions of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5ILCS, 120/2, (2) (21), Discussion of Minutes, (C) (6), Pending Litigation, 2 (C) (1), Personnel and 2 (C) (5) Acquisition of Property.

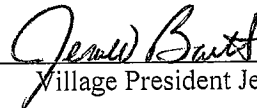
Motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting on September 14th, 2009 at 8:04 p.m. by Ruffulo/Lynam.

Roll: Ayes – 6 – Trustees Ruffulo, Lynam, Miller, VanOstenbridge, Cichowski and President Bartels.
Nays – 0. Absent – 1 – Trustee Gorman. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Rehberg

By:



Village President Jerald Bartels

Attest:


Village Clerk Jennifer Rehberg