

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
OCTOBER 3, 2017**

**Call to Order**

President Bass called the Committee of the Whole meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 6 P.M., Tuesday, October 3, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Village of Lincolnwood, County of Cook and State of Illinois.

**Roll Call**

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

PRESENT: President Bass, Trustees Patel, Ikezoe-Halevi, Hlepas Nickell, Spino, Sugarman (6:25), Cope (6:45)

ABSENT: None

A quorum was present. Also present: Timothy Wiberg, Village Manager, Ashley Engelmann, Assistant Village Manager; Steven Elrod, Village Attorney; Heather McFarland, Management Analyst; Charles Meyer, Assistant to the Village Manager; Robert Merkel, Finance Director; Andrew Letson, Public Works Director; Nadim Badran, Assistant to the Public Works Director; Robert LaMantia, Police Chief

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the September 5, 2017 and the September 19, 2017 Committee of the Whole meetings were distributed in advance of the meeting and were examined. Trustee Sugarman moved to approve the minutes. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a Voice Vote

**Regular Business**

**1. Discussion Concerning a Possible Crime Free Housing Ordinance**

The item was presented by Chief LaMantia using PowerPoint.

This item is being investigated at the suggestion of the Public Safety Committee.

### Crime Free Housing Ordinance

A crime free multi and single family housing program is generally a three phase certification program for rental properties.

Crime Free Rental Housing programs have been implemented in over 2,000 cities in 44 states and at least 10 other countries. Skokie, Niles, Schaumburg, Addison, Mt. Prospect and Carol Stream have Ordinances.

#### Lincolnwood Housing:

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Lincolnwood had approximately 578 (13.3%) of the Village's 4,341 housing units serving as rental housing. The majority are single family homes

### Crime Free Housing Ordinance – Common Elements

There are three common elements of a Crime Free Housing Program.

1. Completion of a seminar taught by the local Police Department. The goal of the training is to reduce criminal activity in rental properties.

#### Topics Include:

1. Understanding Crime Prevention, Crime Prevention through Environment Design, the Crime Free Housing Program, Application Process, The Village Code, Lease Addendum, Combatting Crime Problems, Non Compliance Consequences
2. The inspection of the property prior to sale. The Village would have the ability to prevent the sale of any rental property until an inspection is performed by staff.
3. A crime free lease addendum. Property owners are required to have the tenants sign a crime free addendum as part of the lease. The addendum makes it a violation of the lease for any tenant or invitee to engage in violent or drug related crimes, or to use the lease premises for such purposes.

### Crime Free Housing Ordinance – Cost

The Village could develop an Ordinance and lease addendum and prepare a lesson plan and course outline with existing staff.

The cost for staff to provide a four hour block of instruction (Crime Free Housing Training) to landlords on six occasions per year would be \$5,000.

Property inspections prior to sale would require the assistance of Community Development. The cost of each property inspection would involve approximately two hours. The Village's

contracted inspector charges \$75 per property inspection. If there were 50 rental property transfers per year, the total cost would be \$3,750.

The total cost of the program would be \$8,750 plus indirect costs of additional staff time to administer the program

#### Crime Free Housing Ordinance – Benefits

Proponents of a Crime Free Housing Program espouse the following potential benefits:

- \*A stable, more satisfied tenant base
- \*Increased demand for rental units, because, in theory the housing stock would be in better condition
- \*Lower maintenance and repair costs
- \*Increased property values
- \*Improved personal safety for tenants, owners and managers
- \*Peace of mind that comes when spending more time on routine management and less time on crisis control
- \*Fewer requests for police services

#### Crime Free Housing Ordinance – Concerns

Opponents of a Crime Free Housing Program espouse the following concerns:

- \*May adversely affect crime victims, not criminals (victims may stop calling the police, creating opportunities for further victimization)
- \*Frequently the entire household is affected by the actions of one family member
- \*Creates a burden for landlords and property owners
- \*There is little evidence to suggest a Crime Free Housing Ordinance leads to a reduction in criminal activity
- \*These types of Ordinances require tracking of rental units which will create additional work for Community Development

#### Crime Free Housing Ordinance – Skokie and Addison Programs

- \*Staff is supportive of the Program
- \*Skokie has 6,500 rental units, 77% multi- unit
- \*Addison has 5,000 rental units, 80% multi-unit
- \*Each agency has one police officer and one civilian employee assigned
- \*Each program is compliance based, tickets are seldom issued for any of the three program components
  - Mandatory Training
  - Identified Code Violations
  - Lease Addendum

If the Board is interested in a Crime Free Housing Ordinance, staff recommends the matter be reviewed in more depth as part of the Budget Workshop.

Lincolnwood has no correlation between crime and rentals.

Resident Raymon Grossman addressed the Board. Having reviewed this Ordinance, he found questionable language.

Consensus was to revisit this if there is a need at a later date.

## **2. Discussion Concerning a Possible Panhandling Ordinance**

This item was presented by Chief LaMantia using PowerPoint.

### Common Panhandling Complaints

\*Type:

- Traffic and Panhandling Complaints

\*Locations:

- Devon and McCormick
- Devon and Lincoln
- Touhy and Cicero

### Social Services Review: Chicago, Evanston, Water Reclamation District and Lincolnwood

\*Common Community Concerns

- Shelter
- Meals
- Bathing
- Lodging
- Employment

\*Panhandler Concerns

- None, they just want to be left alone

### First Amendment Issues

\*Freedom of Speech

\*Public Assembly

\*Staff Concerns

- Any restrictions would have to apply to all people, businesses and charitable organizations
- Restrictions should center around time, place and manner

### City of Chicago Aggressive Panhandling Ordinance

\*Makes it Unlawful for Solicitors to:

- Touch solicited persons
- Block the path of the solicited person
- Block the entrance to any building or vehicle

- Use profanity or abusive language
- Work in groups
- Work in any public transportation facility
- Work within 10' of any ATM
- Address persons in line for a restaurant or commercial establishment

There are no records of these types of complaints in Lincolnwood

#### Lincolnwood's Panhandling Complaints

\*All complaints center around panhandler and traffic safety

\*There is no record of traffic safety incidents resulting from panhandling

#### Litigation

\*Constitutional challenges are:

- Expensive to defend
- Plaintiff's may request triple damages and plaintiff's attorney fees
- Village of Skokie litigation
- 160 other municipalities challenged

#### Possible Time, Place and Manner Restrictions and Prohibitions

\*Restrict Soliciting by Hour of the Day on Selected or All Arterial Intersections

- For Example: 7AM to 9AM and 4PM to 6PM

\*Prohibit Soliciting at Selected Arterial Intersections Based on Traffic Crash and Volume Data

\*The Village May Have Trouble Justifying Prohibiting All Soliciting in All Public Roadways All of the Time

- Overly Restrictive and Too Great an Impact on Free Speech

\*Manner: Restrict Solicitor Signage by Size, or Require Traffic Safety Vests

Mayor Bass stated that this had been discussed before, but he felt that it would be good to revisit. The Chief stated that if the panhandlers are in need of assistance, the Village would see to it that they received direction to the proper place.

Discussion ensued with Chief LaMantia, Mr. Wiberg and Attorney Elrod providing information. Mr. Elrod reminded that having an Ordinance and not enforcing it could be a problem.

Consensus was that there is no need for an Ordinance at this time.

### **3. Discussion Concerning the Warrant Review Process**

The item was presented by Mr. Wiberg.

The process for Warrant approval was explained. Departments must document an invoice and then turn it in to the Finance Director. Mr. Merkel prepares documents and a Trustee then reviews all bills and payments. Mr. Wiberg noted that this procedure is unusual, but he feels that

this gives the Village one more level of review. Historically there were one or two trustees reviewing. Currently Trustee Sugarman is reviewing. Mayor Bass would like to have more involvement, ideally two more Trustees.

Trustee Cope stated that every Trustee should have a chance to learn how this process works. Understanding the various categories would be valuable for Trustees. He stated that he would be willing to do this. Trustee Patel said he would make himself available. He has done this in the past. Trustee Nickel would like to learn more about this and would be available with notice.

#### **4. Demonstration of the Village's New Web-Based Story Maps**

The item was presented by Mr. Meyer and Ms. McFarland using PowerPoint.

##### Background

- \*Created in conjunction with Geographical Information Systems Consortium (GIS)
- \*Combine narrative text, images and other content to explain different aspects of the community
- \*Created Developments in Review and Under Construction and Parks.
- \*Staff is seeking feedback.'

A demonstration of access to these maps on the Village website was presented.  
A combination of texts and images provides a view of what is going on in the Village.

##### Parks

Each of Lincolnwood's parks was identified with the features and equipment in each.  
Also identified are the two bike paths.

##### Developments in Review and Under Construction

The map allows the user to see how developments are progressing.  
Currently there are five projects underway:  
Carrington, Stefani's, AT&T Store, Hyatt Place Hotel and Starbucks

#### **5. Discussion Concerning the Addition of Bus Shelters in Centennial Park**

The item was presented by Mr. Meyer using PowerPoint.

A drawing of the proposed shelter locations and current shelter locations was exhibited.  
The proposed shelters would be located on McCormick in Centennial Park:  
Pratt and McCormick  
Touhy and McCormick

A discussion of benefits of having these ensued.

There was a request to have sidewalks added on the west side of McCormick for the safety of pedestrians.

Consensus was to go ahead.

## **6. Discussion Concerning the Potential Televising of Additional Commission Meetings**

The item was presented by Mr. Meyer using PowerPoint.

### Current Broadcasts

- \*Village Board and Committee of the Whole
- \*Plan Commission
- \*Zoning Board of Appeals
- \*Viewership
  - 320 Live viewers per month
  - 240 On-demand viewers per month

### Additional Broadcasts

- \*Village Board Directed Staff to Query Boards and Commissions about Broadcasting
- \*Results were:

Economic Development Commission	Support – Yes	Vote 4 – 3
Human Relations	Support – No	Vote 0 -7
Park and Recreation Board	Support – Yes	Vote 4 -0
Traffic Commission	Support – Yes	Vote 4- 0

### Concerns with EDC

- \*Difficult to find operators on Wednesday mornings
  - \*Concerns raised at EDC regarding sensitive information shared by developers, such as financial information.
- A chart indicating televised meetings in comparable communities was presented.  
Discussion ensued with questions for Staff.  
Consensus was to Revisit at Budget Meeting.

**Adjournment**

At 7:32 PM Trustee Sugarman moved to adjourn Committee of the Whole, seconded by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi. The motion passed with a Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Beryl Herman*

Beryl Herman

Village Clerk