

**Minutes of the
Public Safety Committee Meeting
Of
June 27, 2013**

Attendees:

Mayor Hucker	Jon Kindseth – Administrative Services Director
Trustee Sittig – Committee Chairperson	Sandi Pastell – Administrative Assistant
Trustee Miller – Committee Member	Ken Marabella - Consultant
Trustee Wells – Committee Member	Attorney Rudy Magna (arrived at 6:45pm)
Trustee Jensen	

Minutes from the May 23, 2013 meeting approved

Trustee Miller asked if Chet submitted the document regarding the alternative shelter site. Jon Kindseth stated that Chet is working on it and hopes to have by the next meeting. Trustee Wells asked about the solicitor's signage cost of \$50.00, and Jon Kindseth gave an explanation. Trustee Miller asked about individuals that want to drive ice cream trucks, and Jon Kindseth stated that has been addressed in the ordinance update approved at the June 13th board meeting. Trustee Wells then asked about the Sheriff's Corner in the newsletter. Jon Kindseth explained that it was too late for the last newsletter as that was already at print; however, Trustee Sittig stated she is looking into it and we should be able to include in the next one. Minutes approved by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Wells.

Trustee Sittig then asked for an update on the pawn shop. Trustee Sittig then stated that the death of the young man was tragic. Mayor Hucker explained that the individual that was killed was the one that the Sheriff's department arrested at the pawn shop; however, due to the tragic circumstances, the charges have been dropped as the owner was not part of that case. Jon Kindseth explained that the village did conduct a background check on the owner and it did come back clean. The pawnbrokers' license will be issued. More discussion was had on the circumstances that occurred with the arrest and the passing of the individual from the pawn shop.

Trustee Miller then asked about Mr. Bob Ochsner whose home had been burglarized. Mayor Hucker stated that he has received most of the stolen merchandise back and found that the individual that burglarized his home was someone from his parish. Trustee Miller stated she had heard that some of the merchandise was at the pawn shop, and was told no there was none there.

Trustee Sittig stated that a few months ago she saw undercover officer's behind the building of the pawn shop and wanted to know if anyone had heard anything about that. No one on the Committee remembers hearing anything, and that each time the village has a meeting with the Sheriff's department, the pawn shop is brought up and that they have been clean.

Trustee Sittig then turned the discussion to the American Inn Hotel. Jon Kindseth stated that the village performed an inspection of all units, including the basement banquet room, and the inspectors did not find any serious infractions, only minor ones, such as fire extinguishers in each room. Jon Kindseth stated that he did take a lot of pictures and got the square footage of each room.

Jon Kindseth then explained that he did receive a phone call from an employee who is also a tenant, who said that there was a bed bug issue, and that the hotel is still allowing hourly rates for guests. Jon Kindseth stated that he called in the Lake County Health Department, and they reported there were no bed bugs that they could find. Jon Kindseth stated that there were no serious issues found in either the electrical, fire inspections; however, the property is a chronic nuisance to the community, and that the village could put them on notice. Jon Kindseth did state that they have building, zoning and plumbing issues, and gave the Committee further explanation.

Jon Kindseth then went over the taxes of the hotel since 2005, and they have drastically declined as there are more permanent residents than actual hotel guests. Trustee Sittig stated that she was really upset when she drove by one morning and saw a school bus picking up kids for school at the hotel. Trustee Sittig also stated that she heard either the DEA or the ATF was there on a heroin/crack call. Jon Kindseth stated that we have heard of some serious issues, such as a robbery on June 3rd; however, most of the calls have been minor incidents. Jon Kindseth stated that the village can go after them as a chronic nuisance property. Trustee Miller asked about the fire in one of the rooms, and Jon Kindseth stated that it was a cooking fire and that the hotel has made all of the repairs.

Jon Kindseth explained that 13 of the units are permanent and 20 are for regular guests. Jon Kindseth stated that we can pursue the building code to enforce that those 20 units do not become permanent, and that the manager cannot live on the property. Mayor Hucker stated staff also has to review the ordinance in regards to the charging of hourly rates. Ken Marabella explained what was discussed a year ago, that this would be a process to bring them into compliance with everything. Jon Kindseth again pointed out that the inspectors said it was an improvement from last year. Trustee Miller asked about the taxes and the Mayor stated that the building and zoning inspections will give more information to make our case about having so much permanent residency. Ken Marabella stated that John Clark used to do a yearly audit on them.

Trustee Wells asked if the banquet room was built legally. Jon Kindseth asked if there was ever a tavern or a restaurant there, and the Mayor stated yes, there was a tavern and an office that were separated. Jon Kindseth stated that at the present time, they are using it for storage. Trustee Wells said that staff should check with building to find out the code for storage as he's concerned about parking, possible banquet issues, egress, etc. Jon Kindseth stated he will be looking into it. Trustee Sittig asked if it was handicapped accessible, and Jon Kindseth stated no, not at the front entrance; however, not sure about the rear. Trustee Miller asked if there is anything the village can do about that, and Mayor Hucker stated not unless a guest, resident, or employee complains about it. Trustee Sittig stated that she is appalled at the loitering that goes on there, and Jon Kindseth stated he has noticed it as well. Trustee Sittig said that there has to be a way to clean it up and Mayor Hucker stated that staff is working on it; however, it's a time consuming process.

Trustee Sittig then turned the discussion to video gaming. Trustee Sittig stated this is a good time to discuss it as the village is surrounded by it. Trustee Sittig stated she has looked at some establishments that have it and said that Jester's in Waukegan, in the past year, residents have spent 1 million dollars. Mayor Hucker stated it's a matter of the number of times the button is pushed as well so that number could be smaller. Jon Kindseth stated that in the packet he supplied to the Committee, he included financial reports for the state, owners and municipalities. Trustee Wells stated that the village is going to see more and more as dealers are diligent in getting them into the towns, cities, villages, etc.

Jon Kindseth stated that he has found nothing but support for video gaming and that the only concerns that he has found is on the moral issue. Discussion was had in regards to the different dealers and that the bar owners can choose from a list on the State's website. Mayor Hucker stated that he has received a couple of letters from businesses wanting to have video gaming. Jon Kindseth stated that as far as revenue is concerned, the village could see between \$500.00 and \$1,000.00 each location, in a month. That would be 5 machines at each location, so approximately \$18,000.00 to \$30,000.00 a year; however, it will eventually decrease as more locations are licensed.

Trustee Sittig asked if the Sheriff's department has had any issues, and the Mayor stated we have not seen any increase in crime that have been associated with video gaming. Mayor Hucker stated that the law has been in place for one year, and Trustee Wells stated that seeing that the law has only been in place one year, the village should not allow video gaming as that's the downfall, and the village should wait. Mayor Hucker asked if the village can have control of the vendor and Rudy Magna stated no, it is the site's decision and then gave his legal perspective on the law.

Jon Kindseth discussed more about the financial aspects between the different cities and municipalities. Trustee Sittig asked how the Committee feels about more discussion on the issue as the village is getting a lot of pressure from the paper. Mayor Hucker stated that the village already has an ordinance stating video gaming is prohibited, and if the board wants to make an amendment to that ordinance, it should be discussed. Jon Kindseth asked Rudy Magna if the village can impose an amusement license and Rudy stated yes; however, by state law, you can only charge \$25.00. Trustee Wells asked (inaudible) something about fees from the machine, and Jon Kindseth stated that the machines are hooked up to the State of Illinois so they cannot be unplugged, played on, and then plugged back in. All income into the machines is tallied.

Mayor Hucker stated that he does not intend to take action on this, and that it will be a board decision. Discussion was had about tying the video gaming license to the liquor license as it may make it somewhat easier to revoke them if there becomes a huge problem.

Trustee Sittig stated, due to the time, as a board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., does the Committee want to discuss this issue further, or leave the ordinance as is and keep video gaming prohibited. Trustee Miller stated that if she knew it was the vendor that pressured the bar owners into wanting these she would have never been considering it. Trustee Sittig would like the issued carried over to the next meeting.

Adjourn 7:00 p.m.