

MINUTES
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
21460 Lincoln Highway
Lynwood, Illinois 60411
Sept. 10th, 2019
6:00 P.M.

BOARD MEETING

Pledge of Allegiance

Call To Order

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Present on the roll call were Trustees: Curry, Stephens, Dillingham, Sims, Lebeter

Absent: Trustee Dunlap

Address the Board

No one was scheduled to address the board, however Ms. Pamela Gutter spoke and inquired about the 3% tax that is going to be imposed per the Ordinance that was up for vote. Ms. Gutter explained that she did some research on the laws regarding this and asked for clarity what taxes besides the 3% would a retailer charge the consumer.

Attorney Marovich addressed the question. Attorney Marovich explained that retailers are subject to state tax for the sale of goods. Lynwood has a food tax for the sale of food, if liquor, the state imposes a liquor tax, some villages have retail taxes, and some don't. Attorney Marovich explained that Lynwood taxes the food and beverage sales. This is a new tax that the state of Illinois put into the new cannabis act that allows that if there is going to be retail sales, the village can impose up to a 3% tax. Attorney Marovich stated that Cook County has the ability to impose their own tax. Attorney Marovich indicated that he is certain that they will. He indicated he did not know what percentage will be imposed by the state.

Attorney Marovich indicated the reason why this is on the agenda tonight is because of the new law which takes effect Jan. 1st. He indicated you have to pass this first in the month of Sept. and get it to the Illinois Dept. of Revenue by the end of the month. That's the reason for it being on the Agenda at this time.

Minutes of Aug. 13th 2019

Trustee Lebeter moved, seconded by Trustee Sims to approve the Minutes for Aug. 13th2019 as presented.

Roll Call was taken;

Ayes: Trustees: Curry, Stephens, Dillingham, Sims, Lebeter

Nays: Absent: Dunlap Motion: carried.

Minutes of Aug. 27th 2019

Trustee Dillingham moved, seconded by Trustee Stephens to approve the Minutes for Aug. 27th 2019 as presented.

Roll Call was taken;

Ayes: Trustees: Curry, Stephens, Dillingham, Sims, Lebeter

Nays: Absent: Dunlap Motion: carried.

Public Works..... Stephens

Trustee Stephens had no report.

Economic Development..... Curry

Trustee Curry reported that Congresswoman Robin Kelly is hosting a hiring event on Friday 10/4/19 at Lan-Oak Park from 9am -12pm. The Congresswoman is also hosting a job readiness boot camp on Monday 9/30th at Calumet City Public Library from 6pm -7:30pm to assist individuals to prepare for the Job Fair. Trustee Curry encouraged residents to share this information with those seeking employment.

Community Affairs / Parks & Recreation.....Dunlap

Trustee Dunlap was absent, nothing was reported on her behalf

Planning & Zoning.....Stephens

Trustee Stephens had no report

Ordinances and Resolutions.....Sims

Trustee Sims moved, seconded by Trustee Lebeter to approve Ordinance # 19-26, an Ordinance amending the municipal code of the Village of Lynwood, IL. to add new Chapter 98, taxation, article XII, Cannabis retailers, occupation tax.

Trustee Sims, Attorney Mike Marovich and Mayor Williams stated that Ordinance was the one we just spoke about. Mayor Williams mentioned that if this were to happen, the village could charge 3%.

Ayes: Trustees: Stephens, Dillingham, Sims, Lebeter

Present: Curry Nays: Absent: Dunlap Abstain: Motion: carried

Finance..... Dillingham

Trustee Lebeter moved, seconded by Trustee Sims to approve **BPM #1375** for a total expenditure of \$248, 343.68 of which \$119,743.42 was payroll from Aug. 11th -24th, 2019.

Roll Call was taken;

Ayes: Trustees: Curry, Stephens, Dillingham, Sims, Lebeter

Nays: Absent: Dunlap Motion: carried.

Public Safety.....Lebeter

Trustee Lebeter had nothing to report.

Reports & Communications

Village Clerk

Village Clerk, Wingfield-Bond had no report at the time.

Village Attorney

Attorney Marovich requested everyone to take time tomorrow to remember those who lost their lives on 9/1/1.

Village Engineer

Was not in attendance, nothing was reported on his behalf.

Mayor

Mayor Williams indicated that he had a meeting yesterday in IN. concerning the Joe Orr road extension project. Mayor Williams stated he was glad to see it's coming back to life. He stated the meeting was in Portage IN. with their version of our CMAP, which is the planning organization for that region. The Mayor mentioned once the road goes through, it crosses under some RR tracks, and they are trying to determine how this can be done that does not cause a negative effect on Munster and gets the positive results that is wanted. Cook County had planned on going through that area with 4 lanes. Munster does not want 4 lanes, and the Mayor indicated he understands why and agrees. The Mayor indicated this issue is not going to stop the project. The Mayor indicated what is being looked at now is an effort to get with the railroad so the underpass they have to build is wide enough to support future development, but we are only concerned about going through with the 2 lanes right now. The Mayor indicated he was able to get a real understanding as to why the objection. The Mayor stated they came to the conclusion that everybody can get what they want.

Ms. Ora Adams spoke from the floor... Ms. Adams stated she was glad to hear Mayor Williams giving a report on the Joe Orr Rd. report, because she has seen signs in the yards of the residents of Dyer and Munster saying "No Joe Orr Road Extension". Ms. Adams indicated it's good to hear and she is hoping there will be some P.R.(Robinson Engineering) to encourage these residents of the benefits for them. Ms. Adams asked if there was a commission that Mayor Williams attends.

Mayor Williams indicated he was asked to attend this meeting by Cook County Highway Dept. He indicated they work on these efforts all year and for years. The Mayor indicated he is not privy to attend all of their meetings; however, he was asked to be at this one. He stated there was positive discussion, so he understood both sides and he feels there is a solution for both sides. He indicated they do not want the intersection of Columbia Ave. and Main street to turn into something as big as Cicero Ave. and route 30. The Mayor indicated he wanted to see the underpass structure. He stated construction will be going under the tracks not over the tracks, in 2022. He wanted to see the underpass structure be more than just 2 lanes. The Mayor indicated this has been going on since Bud Fleming was Mayor which would make this almost 30 years of trying to get this project going.

The mayor asked for a motion to adjourn, Trustee Stephens moved, seconded by Trustee Lebeter to adjourn. There was a question from the floor, Mayor Williams stated he would take the question first.

Resident Burt Shaffer spoke indicating he is a longtime resident of Lynwood. Mr. Shaffer indicated he received the letter with the water bill stating the board elected to no longer recycle in Lynwood.

The Mayor corrected Mr. Shaffer by stating the Board did not elect to no longer recycle, it was actually China and the disposal companies. Mayor Williams indicated he did not see the letter, but he thinks he saw it when they were kicking around what they thought it was going to be.

The Mayor stated recycling is going to end pretty much in the entire country, because we can not get anything for it. The Mayor indicated Homewood Disposal and all of the rest of the disposal companies are complaining they want to stop doing it. The Mayor indicated they are going to be dumping everything in the same – wherever they dump it right now. The Mayor indicated this is nothing that the board has pushed, but this is the reality of where we are going. The Mayor indicated they can't get a price for any of the recyclable waste. He indicated China won't take anything unless it is pristine clean now. The Mayor indicated he expects to hear more about it as well, but this is not anything that comes from the Board.

Resident Burt Shaffer suggested looking at the surrounding communities. He stated everyone he has spoken with is continuing to recycle. He stated if you go on Homewood Disposals' Website, they claim they separate and properly dispose of all of it. They do not make mention about exporting it anywhere or sending it to Indiana.

The Mayor mentioned the purpose of them separating it is to sell it and that they are not getting any prices for it right now. He stated that this idea did not come from us, it came from the disposal companies themselves. The Mayor indicated he met with them months ago, (last year) suggesting that it would be going this direction, and now it is moving that way. The Mayor stated this is not something he is pushing. He stated he understands the concept of clean earth ~ we've only got one~, but some of this is beyond this village.

Mr. Shaffer stated he does not know if anyone reads the Tribune, but just last Sunday it was 22 Million pounds of plastic floating around Lake Michigan. Mr. Shaffer mentioned he grew up on the East Coast and is beach person. Mayor Williams mentioned he does not have all the answers on this.

A resident that was accompanying Mr. Burt Shaffer (she did not state her name for the record) asked if the Mayor was telling the residents Homewood Disposal is saying they can't get money for this and they would not be doing this anymore... why are all of the recycling companies still in business and still operating in all the towns around us. She indicated you would be hard pressed to find one community around us that does not recycle. The resident indicated when she read the letter she was befuddled about where the 35% number came from stated that was all of the residents of the Village recycle.

The Mayor indicated the number came from Homewood Disposal.

The resident indicated she does not put out her recyclables every week, she puts it out when it is full. She asked if we researched any other ideas. The Mayor stated that we can ask them some more questions. The Mayor indicated that it is nothing that we as a board are pushing.

The resident stated she feels it is shameful of residents of Village of Lynwood, the State of Illinois, the country of the United States and plant earth. The resident stated she has grandchildren and that is what she is worried about. The resident states she understands what the Mayor mentioned about Homewood Disposal, but they haven't stopped recycling with other communities. The resident mentioned Griffith, IN. has recycled bins the same size as our garbage cans that are not collected every week. It's collected every other week. She asked if there was an option where they come around once or twice a month.

The Mayor mentioned that he is not arguing this at all.

She asked how this service can just stop without researching it, and no one said anything until this letter came on the back of a flyer that she almost missed.

The Mayor mentioned we can just continue doing what we are doing now until we get our questions answered from them (Homewood Disposal). The Mayor indicated he needed the letter to come from Homewood Disposal, and not from Lynwood. The Mayor indicated he saw the draft of the letter, but he did not know that it had finished and had gone out yet.

The resident indicated that the mayor had signed it.

The Mayor stated he can reach out to Homewood Disposal because that is where our direction came from. The resident mentioned that she would appreciate it. She indicated she went on various websites, including Park Forest, Glenwood, Lansing, Homewood, Flossmoor, Griffith, Munster. All of which have recycling programs.

The Mayor indicated we also have a recycling program unless it changes.

The resident stated the letter stated that as of Oct. 1st our recycle program is going to cease to exist.

The Mayor stated that this resident has piqued his interest and he wants to ask them (Homewood Disposal) if they are doing this in any other towns also. The Mayor indicated that he could do that.

Mr. David Lilly asked if the Mayor would include community residents who would talk to them with him, just so they can address the community on that. The Mayor said sure. Mr. Lilly asked if this is something that can be reversed.

Ms. Ora Adams asked how Mayor Williams will be getting back to the residents. She asked if it was going to be through a letter with the next water bill.

The Mayor indicated he did not know.

Ms. Adams mentioned she is a recycler and when she received the letter this was of interest to her as well.

The Mayor mentioned he will have to make some phone calls.

The question from the floor (resident unknown) stated once the service stops can it be restarted if research takes a little longer.

The Mayor indicated he did not know. The Mayor mentioned he will try to have answers by the next board meeting.

David Lilly stated from the floor the Mayor should have a representative (Homewood Disposal) come out and tell Lynwood residents to their faces what direction they are heading. A community outreach would be welcomed.

A comment from the floor (resident unknown) asked the Mayor can we consider researching other recycling companies since Homewood Disposal is obviously not the only recycling organization in the area.

The Mayor mentioned that request was fair, and we can ask Homewood Disposal some more questions. Mayor Williams mentioned there was no rush on his part.

Another question from the floor (no name was mentioned for documentation purposes) asked the Mayor who/which Trustee handles public works/waste pick-up. The Mayor mentioned it was mostly him right now, since the Public Works Director was never replaced. Mayor Williams mentioned he doubled up on those jobs. Mayor mentioned he added chasing down what's broken, and complaints of residents. He indicated he added these duties to what he does. He stated he drives around in circles trying to figure out what and how to get it done.

The resident (no name mentioned for documentation purposes) mentioned that maybe someone else can handle it if it's overwhelming for the Mayor.

The Mayor mentioned he is ok, and he can handle it.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

Since there was no unfinished or new business, Mayor Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Trustee Stephens moved, seconded by Trustee Sims to adjourn the meeting.

All Trustees present stated: "Aye"

Nays: None

Motion: Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wingfield-Bond~ Village Clerk

