

**MINUTES
CITY OF DARIEN
MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
November 25, 2013**

PRESENT: Joseph Marchese - Chairperson, Alderman Tina Beilke (6:37 p.m.), Alderman Joerg Seifert, Dan Gombac – Director, Michael Coren - City Treasurer, Michael Griffith - Senior Planner, Elizabeth Lahey - Secretary

ABSENT: None

ESTABLISH QUORUM

Chairperson Marchese called the meeting of the Municipal Services Committee to order at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall – City Council Chambers, Darien, Illinois and declared a quorum present,

NEW BUSINESS

A. Darien VFW Post 2838, 7515 Cass Avenue – Requests a special use to permit a drinking establishment within the B-2 Community Shopping Center District.

Mr. Michael Griffith, Senior Planner reported that the Darien VFW proposes to establish a drinking establishment for their members at the Heritage Plaza Shopping Center. He reported that the PZC held a public hearing and recommended approval. He stated that the petitioner Matt Goodwin was present.

Alderman Seifert questioned if food will be served.

Commander Matt Goodwin, petitioner reported that they are not permitted to serve food but that food can be brought in. He reported that he is working with some of the local food establishments to bring in food if needed.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Alderman Seifert made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Marchese that based upon the submitted petition and the information presented, the request associated with PZC 2013-09 is in conformance with the standards of the Darien City Code and move that the Municipal Services Committee recommend approval of the petition as presented.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

B. Darien VFW Post 2838 – Requests to waive their Class M liquor license fee, \$1,000 annual fee.

Mr. Michael Griffith, Senior Planner reported that recently the City Council created a class M liquor license to address the specific needs of the Darien VFW's proposed canteen and a fee of \$1,000.

He reported that because of the time frame for redevelopment of the area, that the VFW has requested a waiver of the liquor license fee since they are not sure if they can recoup the costs of the liquor license within the redevelopment time frame.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that the annual cost is \$1,000 but that the VFW was prorated to \$550 but that next year it would be \$1,000.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Alderman Seifert made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Beilke to approve the request to waive the Class M liquor license fee of \$1,000 for the Darien VFW Post 2838.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

C. Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance: Generators – Consideration of a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to permit generators within interior and corner side yards.

Mr. Michael Griffith, Senior Planner reported that the PZC held a public hearing and recommended approval of the Text Amendment. He reported that they did make a change to the language permitting generators within an interior side or rear yard as long as they are located within 5 feet of the exterior wall of the principal structure to allow more flexibility.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that every situation will be unique and that some homes are limited by windows, landscaping, etc. He stated that the majority of the homes will be able to meet the Code. Mr. Gombac reported that the City Engineer concurred that the generator volume is the same or softer than a lawn mower or air conditioner.

Chairperson Marchese questioned if landscaping would keep the homeowner from servicing the unit.

Mr. Griffith stated that landscaping or a fence is necessary and will serve as a buffer. The owner will be able to install the landscaping or fencing as per the generators specification for accessibility and service.

Alderman Beilke questioned if those areas that have sufficient space between neighbors need to follow the requirements.

Mr. Gombac replied that the majority of the properties would be able to meet the code requirements.

Mr. Mike Minardi stated that it was his request to the City which prompted consideration of a Code change. He thanked the City for turning this request around so quickly.

There was no one else wishing to present public comment.

Alderman Beilke made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Seifert to recommend approval of the Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance as presented.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

D. Text Amendment – Amending Section 3-3-23 of the City Code.

Mr. Michael Griffith, Senior Planner reported that this is a section in the liquor license that is required to be amended related to adding a liquor license category.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Alderman Beilke made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Seifert to approve a Text Amendment amending Section 3-3-23 of the City Code.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

E. Video Gaming Signage – Consideration of an amendment to Section 3-3-25 of the City Code to prohibit signage related to video gaming.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that at a recent City Council goal setting session that there was discussion on whether or not to prohibit signage advertising video gaming operations. He reported that the City Council directed staff to propose an ordinance prohibiting said signage, including banners, signs in windows, wall signs and freestanding signs.

Mr. Gombac reported that the language was listed in the staff Agenda Memo.

Alderman Seifert stated that he spoke with Mr. Gombac briefly about this item after goal setting meeting. He stated that he did not like the way staff phrased the wording in the Agenda Memo. Alderman Seifert stated that at the goal setting meeting that he was confident that Alderman McIvor didn't want to see six foot tall signs for video gambling and that the City should take a look at the Sign Ordinance and what to do with video gaming. He stated that he was not sure how this went from A-Z in a flash. He further stated that he would like to see what other municipalities are doing before a decision is made.

Alderman Beilke stated that she too would like to discuss this more and see what others are doing. She suggested looking at not only gaming but also food, liquor, etc.

Chairperson Marchese stated that the City needs to be careful what we do for one business compared to another. He suggested looking at what others do before voting and bringing the information to the December meeting.

There was no one in audience wishing to present public comment.

F. Text Amendment – Discussion regarding a Text Amendment to the Sign Code and to amend the regulations concerning electronic message board signs.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that this was also discussed in a recent City Council goal setting session. He reported that businesses have expressed concern that they cannot advertise without the newer signs.

Mr. Gombac reported that he canvassed other towns and that Woodridge has a wide variety of scrolling signs along the 75th Street and Lemont Road corridor.

Chairperson Marchese stated that he would prefer looking at each request on a case by case basis.

Mr. Gombac stated that he will do some additional research and present back to the Committee.

G. Resolution – Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an engineering agreement with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for pavement corings for the proposed 2014 Street Maintenance program in an amount not to exceed \$9,750.00.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that this resolution is for the pavement corings for the proposed 2014 Street Maintenance Program outlined in the Agenda Memo. He reported that the data will be updated to the road catalogue.

In the event that the City does not fund the road program proposed for 2014 the date will still be useful.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Alderman Beilke made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Seifert to authorize the Mayor to enter into an engineering agreement with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for pavement corings for the proposed 2014 Street Maintenance program in an amount not to exceed \$9,750.00.

Upon voice vote, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

H. Resolution – To enter into an agreement with Christopher B. Burke Engineering for the 2014 Street Maintenance program in an amount not to exceed \$25,730.00.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that this resolution is for the 2014 Street Maintenance program. He reported that the contract will not be released until the funds for the proposed program are approved by the City Council.

Mr. Gombac reported that if the program is reduced, the engineering cost as proposed for the some of the tasks will also be reduced.

Alderman Beilke made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Seifert to approve a resolution to enter into an agreement with Christopher B. Burke Engineering for the 2014 Street Maintenance program in an amount not to exceed \$25,730.00.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

I. Resolution – To permit limited accessory structure and limited recreational activities on certain City of Darien owned property, located immediately east of the Darien Towne Center – PIN No: 09-29-400-020, Lot 3 of the Darien Towne Center PUD, and referred to as an Undisturbed/Buffer Area.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that recently Mr. Imtiaz Uddin, 7536 Wilton Road requested permission to utilize a limited portion of the City property located west of his rear yard property and east of the Darien Towne Center to construct a shed.

Mr. Gombac reported that staff completed a site visit and confirmed that there are opportunities for residents to utilize the property for sheds, play sets, gazebos and certain other recreation uses as deemed appropriate by the City Administrator with no adverse impact. He reported that Mr. Uddin is the only resident requesting use at this time and that staff recommends extending this to all eight properties adjacent to Lot 3.

Alderman Beilke stated that the residents can construct with the understanding that they may have to move it and that this is their risk.

Mr. Gombac reported that there are no utilities in the buffer area and that it is in a natural state and no maintenance has been completed by the City. He stated that no additional residents are interested at this time in utilizing the property and staff will send a letter pending approval to the other residents regarding the use.

Mr. Uddin provided the Committee with photos of the area.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Alderman Seifert made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Beilke to approve a resolution to permit limited accessory structure and limited recreational activities on certain City of Darien owned property, located immediately east of the Darien Towne Center – PIN No.: 09-29-400-020, Lot 3 of the Darien Towne Center PUD, and referred to as an Undisturbed/Buffer Area.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

J. Discussion – Budget Comparison to Actual Expenditures

Chairperson Marchese suggested providing the City Council with the entire Budget Comparison to Actual Expenditures list.

Mr. Michael Coren, City Treasurer reported that he spoke with Mr. Gombac prior to the meeting regarding the Budget Comparison to Actual Expenditures. He stated that Mr. Gombac and his staff have done an excellent job of controlling things.

Chairperson Marchese reported that the cost savings this year was 5.1%.

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported that he will update the data and forward to the City Council prior to the Monday City Council meeting.

Chairperson Marchese stated that Mr. Gombac and his staff have brought a lot of positives to the City.

K. Minutes - Approval of the October 28, 2013 – Municipal Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes.

Alderman Beilke made a motion, and it was seconded by Alderman Seifert to approve the October 28, 2013 Municipal Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously 3-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Discussion – 2014 Ditch Catalog

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director reported on the 2014 Ditch Catalog that was recently updated. He stated that staff is proposing the first six line ditches listed in the Agenda Memo. He further stated that staff is proposing to do the ditch prior to the road work scheduled for next year.

b. Discussion – 2014-2016 Road program catalogs

Mr. Dan Gombac, Director provided an update regarding the updated 3 year Road Program Catalogues.

He reported that Iris Road engineering is delayed due to the weather.

Mr. Gombac reported that an RFP for Heritage Plaza is out for architectural services and site engineering. He reported that staff continues negotiating with Colonial Manor regarding the exchanging of property for parking and improvements. Mr. Gombac stated that he will provide an agenda memo on the above RFP's at the December meeting.

Chairperson Marchese stated that even though there is an RFP out there that the City would still entertain a purchase.

Mr. Gombac reported that the plans are portable and will provide the City Council with a clear image.

Mr. Gombac reported on Bailey and Plainfield Road and that DuPage County will play an active role on the project. He stated that he will provide more at the December 23rd meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairperson Marchese announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Committee, Alderman Seifert made a motion and it was seconded by Alderman Beilke to adjourn. Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

**Joseph Marchese
Chairman**

**Tina Beilke
Alderman**

**Joerg Seifert
Alderman**