

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2015
APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Village of Lake Bluff Board of Trustees met as a Committee-of-the-Whole (COW) in the Village Hall Board Room (40 East Center Avenue) on Monday, August 24, 2015. Village President O’Hara called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and Village Clerk Aaron Towle called the roll and announced the following were present:

Village President: Kathleen O’Hara

Trustees: Barbara Ankenman
Steve Christensen
Mark Dewart
Eric Grenier
John Josephitis
William Meyer

Also Present: Aaron Towle, Village Clerk
David Belmonte, Chief of Police
Drew Irvin, Village Administrator
Peter Friedman, Village Attorney
Susan Griffin, Finance Director
Jake Terlap, Public Works Superintendent
Jeff Hansen, Village Engineer
Michael Croak, Building Codes Supervisor
Brandon Stanick, Assistant to the Village Administrator
Franco Bottalico, Administrative Intern

Non-Agenda Items and Visitors

President O’Hara stated the COW allocates 15 minutes for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the COW on any matter not listed on the agenda.

There were no requests to address the COW.

Consideration of the Minutes from the August 10, 2015 Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting

Trustee Dewart moved to approve the August 10, 2015 COW Meeting Minutes reflecting the modifications by Trustee Christensen. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following voice vote:

Ayes: (6) Ankenman, Christensen, Dewart, Grenier, Josephitis and Meyer
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)

Discussion Regarding Outdoor Construction and Property Maintenance Regulations

Village Administrator Drew Irvin reported that from time to time the Village receives complaints regarding outdoor work and the time of day certain landscapers begin their work. Several years ago the Village implemented leaf blower regulations; however, regulations for lawn mowers and snow blowers

were not included. Although the Village only receives a few complaints annually on the matter, the purpose of this discussion is to see if the Village Board would consider clarifications regarding the rules for such noise-generating activities. Presently, police officers have to rely on disturbance of the peace regulations in order to enforce lawn mower noise complaints. Staff has prepared a survey of the regulations used by surrounding municipalities to assist the COW in its discussion. He noted most communities surveyed do not regulate snow blowers. Staff is seeking direction from the Village Board if there is desire for additional regulations and/or clarification.

Trustee Meyer inquired of the reason municipalities require landscapers to register. Village Administrator Irvin stated registration is a way to ensure they are properly insured to protect homeowners.

Trustee Meyer stated when compared to a contractor's license this is not that complex of work and inquired if the Village would be comfortable with this type of activity.

Trustee Ankenman expressed her belief it is the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure landscapers are properly insured, however, she further noted her understanding of the value of registering landscapers would provide.

A discussion ensued regarding times of work.

Trustee Ankenman expressed her support for making lawn mower regulations comparable to existing leaf blower regulations.

President O'Hara inquired how the Village makes landscapers aware of the regulations that exist. Village Administrator Irvin stated landscapers typically call for information, and at times, Staff has distributed hangtags that communicate the regulations in both English and Spanish.

Trustee Grenier inquired of the cost to the Village associated with registration. Village Administrator Irvin noted the cost would be minimal.

Trustees Christensen and Grenier expressed support for not changing the existing regulations.

Trustee Meyer expressed his support for making Lake Bluff's regulations similar to that of Lake Forest.

Police Chief Belmonte stated specific hours of operation would be helpful to officers. Registration requirements would allow the Police Department to better communicate the Village's regulations. Officers are usually successful in having landscapers comply by asking them to wait until the appropriate hour.

Trustee Ankenman noted the Police Department stated it would like to have something in place to help minimize neighbor disputes. She stated a \$25.00 licensing fee would be acceptable.

President O'Hara polled the COW and there was not a clear consensus on establishing landscaper regulations.

Due to the hour, President O'Hara tabled further discussion until a future COW meeting.

Adjournment

As no further business came before the COW, Trustee Dewart moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Drew Irvin
Village Administrator