

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 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, September 14, 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  
Drew Irvin, Village Administrator  
Andrew Fiske, Village Attorney  
David Belmonte, Chief of Police  
Jake Terlap, Public Works Superintendent  
Jeff Hansen, Village Engineer  
Michael Croak, Building Codes Supervisor  
Brandon Stanick, Assistant to the Village Administrator

**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 24, 2015 Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting**

Trustee Josephitis moved to approve the August 24, 2015 COW Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Christensen seconded the motion. The motion passed on an unanimous voice vote.

**Continued Discussion Regarding Outdoor Construction and Property Maintenance Regulations**

President O’Hara introduced the agenda item and stated the purpose of tonight’s discussion is to revisit and reach a decision regarding any desire to change or establish hours of operation for lawn maintenance activities.

Village Administrator Drew Irvin reported the matter is being considered by the Board as a result of a handful of calls from residents received by the Village each year. Police Chief David Belmonte confirmed there were 10 citations issued in 2014 regarding noise violations. He stated it would benefit the Police Department in its enforcement of noise violations if the Code had specific provisions concerning the use of landscape maintenance equipment in addition to leaf blowers. Village Administrator Irvin stated officers currently use construction hours as a baseline for enforcement. A discussion ensued.

Trustee Meyer expressed support to create permissible lawn maintenance hours that are consistent with the Village's construction hours.

Trustee Josephitis noted leaf blowers are currently not consistent with construction hours. Police Chief Belmonte expressed his preference for all lawn maintenance and construction hours to be consistent for enforcement reasons.

Trustee Meyer stated he favors Lake Forest's approach as its consistent across outdoor maintenance activities. A discussion ensued regarding hours for leaf blowers, construction hours and lawn mowers.

Village Attorney Andrew Fiske stated in prosecuting violations in Highland Park educating companies can be the most difficult component and expressed his understanding that making the hours for construction, leaf blowers and lawn maintenance equipment all similar would be efficient for enforcement.

Trustee Ankenman stated if the goal is to have more peace and quiet then the Village shouldn't allow leaf blowers to operate earlier in the day.

Trustee Dewart expressed his interest in having all "power equipment" used for landscape maintenance activities be the same.

Trustee Grenier expressed his preference to keep noise to a minimum and recommended power equipment only be operated between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, and on weekends, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Christensen stated he is sensitive to Police Chief Belmonte's request, but does not believe a change is needed in response to the small number of complaints received by the Village.

Following additional discussion regarding the matter, President O'Hara polled the group and summarized the consensus to review a draft ordinance to:

- Not change existing construction hours of Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sundays/holidays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
- Create powered (gas and electric) landscape equipment regulations from May 15 to September 30, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on weekends/holidays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
- Extend permissible hours for leaf blowers to end at 6:00 p.m.; and
- Exempt snow blowers from regulations.

Village Administrator Irvin stated Staff will prepare draft regulations to be shared with local landscapers and present a draft to the COW at a future meeting.

### **Adjournment**

As no further business came before the COW, Trustee Christensen moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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R. Drew Irvin  
Village Administrator