

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2016**

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, January 25, 2016. Village President O’Hara called the meeting to order at 6:15 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
Peter Friedman, Village Attorney
Drew Irvin, Village Administrator
David Belmonte, Chief of Police
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 December 14, 2015 Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting

Trustee Dewart moved to approve the December 14, 2015 COW Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Josephitis seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 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 reach a decision regarding any desire to amend existing hours of operation for lawn maintenance activities and/or establish licensing procedures for landscaping companies.

Village Administrator Drew Irvin reviewed the previous COW discussions and noted a draft ordinance reflecting the proposed changes in policy was distributed in the packets.

Trustee Meyer stated he supported allowing the use of more than one piece of powered equipment at a time in order to have the maintenance activities be completed as quickly as possible.

Trustee Josephitis commented on perhaps why Lake Forest established their licensing regulations for landscaping firms.

Trustee Dewart noted the Village of Glencoe appears to have been in the same situation as the Village is now and discussed the various methods used to educate landscapers regarding regulations.

In response to an inquiry from President O’Hara, Village Administrator Irvin stated Staff could provide the Board a plan and draft materials to educate landscapers to help ensure compliance with the proposed regulations.

A discussion ensued concerning landscape contractors being required to be licensed by the Village.

Trustee Ankenman expressed her preference to educate residents regarding the property insurance requirements for landscape contracts rather than to require the licensing of landscaping firms.

Mr. David Barkhausen stated he have noticed landscapers arriving on-site before permissible hours and the constant vehicle idling creates a lot of noise and suggested this type of noise be regulated. Mr. Barkhausen commented on the timely removal and placement of waste containers on the curbs, as well as his concern for large waste items being place outside of the containers. He asked the Village to consider how waste containment regulations could be enforced.

Trustee Josephitis expressed his concern regarding how long yard waste remains on the curb from time to time.

Following its discussion the COW directed Staff and Legal Counsel to modify the draft ordinance amending the Village’s nuisance regulations concerning leaf blowers and powered law equipment (Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the Municipal Code) to include:

- Modifying the hours of operation permitted for any powered lawn maintenance equipment (leaf blowers, lawn mowers, trimmers, etc.) throughout the year to Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., and Saturdays/Sundays/Holidays from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (permitted hours of operation);
- Exempting snow removal equipment, such as snow blowers, plows, power shovels, etc., from the permitted hours of operation; and
- Allowing property owners performing landscape maintenance activities on their own property to operate between 6:00 p.m. and dusk.

Additionally, the COW discussed the possibility of establishing registration requirements for landscape companies; however, the COW directed Staff to educate residents on best practices for hiring landscaper contractors, such as an adequate level of insurance, rather than creating a new licensing program.

Adjournment

As no further business came before the COW, Trustee Christensen moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Grenier seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Drew Irvin
Village Administrator