

Village of Weston, Wisconsin
COMMUNITY LIFE & PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

held on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room, at the Municipal Center
Trustee White Presiding.

A. OPENING OF SESSION AT 6:30 P.M.

1. Community Life & Public Safety Meeting called to order by Village Trustee White.

2. Clerk will take attendance and roll call.

Roll call indicated 4 CLPS members present.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>
Fiene, Brian	YES
Hansen, Tamera	YES
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	NO
White, Loren	YES

Village Staff in attendance: Renee Hodell, Chief Wally Sparks, and Valerie Parker

3. Requests for Silencing of cellphones and other electronic devices.

4. Acknowledgment of visitors if any.

B. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the Public.

C. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations

D. BUSINESS ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION

5. Approve previous meeting minutes from January 25, 2016

Motion by Martin, second by Fiene, to approve the Community Life & Public Safety, January 25, 2015 meeting minutes.

Yes Vote: 4 No Votes: 0 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Fiene, Brian,	YES
Hansen, Tamera	YES
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	----
White, Loren	YES

6. Recommendation to the Board of Trustees the denial of revising the Animal Ordinance to allow for more pets than what the current ordinance estates through a special permit.

Motion by Hansen, second by Fiene, to recommend to the Board of Trustees to modify the Animal Fancier Permit to allow for animal companionship. White voted no as it would change the definition of what an Animal Fancier permit it.

Yes Vote: 3 No Votes: 1 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Fiene, Brian,	YES
Hansen, Tamera	YES
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	----
White, Loren	NO

Liz Chiapzio from 3505 Mount View Ave, Weston, WI 54476, talked about how she would like to have four (4) dogs which is more than the allowable amount per the Village code of ordinances. She stated that instead of having children she wants to have more animals. In her research of other communities, she explained the way residents can have more than the allowable amount of pets per the ordinance is through an Animal Fancier Permit or Hobby license, and she would like the Village to allow her to apply for one. She stated she could get letters of reference from neighbors and her vet stating her current pets are well cared for and are not a nuisance. Hodell explained that per staff recommendation the Committee should deny this request as it doesn't meet the Animal Fancier definition, and in order to make any adjustments to the ordinance it would also require adjustments in the zoning code. Hodell also explained a year ago, a couple came to the CLPS Committee wanting to get an Animal Fancier permit as they were looking at buying a house in Weston and she had two (2) dogs and he had two (2) dogs and if they bought a house together they would have four (4) dogs.

[Clerk's Note: At the time of writing these meeting minutes, it was found that some of the discussion that took place, pertaining to the 2015 Animal Fancier License Request, by Amber DeLasky and Adam Siewert, was inaccurate. DeLasky and Siewert submitted an Animal Fancier License request before the 02/23/15 CLPS Committee meeting, where by a 2 to 1 favorable vote, this committee recommended this request go before Plan Commission for approval. Prior to the 03/09/15 Plan Commission Meeting, a public informational notice was mailed out to the properties adjacent to the one DeLasky and Siewert were planning to purchase. Following this notice staff received letters of opposition from the neighbors. Once DeLasky and Siewert were made aware of these letters of opposition, they chose to withdraw their request before Plan Commission and search for a home outside of the Village of Weston, where they would be allowed 4 dogs].

White stated that over the years the ordinance has changed to allow for more pets and doesn't feel there is a need to increase the amount. Hansen stated that she has seen "companionship" in other animal fancier permits and also questioned if you signed your dog up for one dog show does that qualify for a "show dog" or are dog owner's really using their dogs to "hunt"? Hansen also questioned could you get around some of the parameters that have been laid out in the ordinance. White stated that zoning would also have to be modified/changed and a conditional use would have to be applied for. Martin questioned why staff is asking to deny. Hodell explained when the ordinance was changed a few years back staff worked with the police department and Humane Society, and put a lot of research in what would be a good number to allow. Hansen feels a resident should be able to have more than the allowable amount of animals so long as they can take care of them and the Humane Officer does a home inspection. Fiene stated that if there are no complaints and residents are taking care of their dogs they can have as many as they want. White doesn't agree with adding companionship as a criteria, as there was research done to allow for only 3 dogs, and in his years of law enforcement dealing with dogs was one of the worst things he had to deal with. He also stated if we allow for people to have more animals than we are losing control. Martin asked who follows up on residents who say they need an animal fancier permit due to having "hunting dogs", "foster dogs", "show dogs" etc. And who would authorize the permit. Hodell stated the Humane Officer does the followup and would grant the permit. White then explained there would need to be a conditional use permit granted and the neighbors would be notified. Fiene stated if animals are not being a nuisance he sees no problem in having more pets. Hansen stated it would bring in more revenue.

7. Discuss and propose changes to Ord. 54.102 Firearms and weapons restricted where prohibited.

White stated he asked Chief Sparks to bring this ordinance forward as he felt staff who already have a concealed weapon permit should be able to bring it on Village Premises. He does feel they should go through specific training designed by Chief Sparks so everyone involved knows what to do in case of an active shooter. Sparks agrees that training is critical. Sparks also stated a new law was passed regarding knives and switch blades which are now legal and anyone can carry an exposed knife. Martin questioned the revisions stating in 54.102 b) it includes Village employees being able to carry a weapon besides law enforcement but in c) it just says law enforcement. Sparks explained it must have been an oversight and c) should also include Village employees. Hansen questioned if Sparks had people that could train staff which he stated yes. Hansen also questioned if it was lawful to keep a database of who will have the exception to carry a concealed weapon. Sparks stated they don't keep a CCW (concealed carry weapon) database as this is an ordinance not a state law.

Motion by Martin, second by Fiene, to recommend to the Board of Trustees the changes to Ord. 54.102 to allow for Village employees to carry a concealed weapon and updating c) including the verbiage "Village Employees".

Yes Vote: 3 No Votes: 1 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Fiene, Brian,	YES
Hansen, Tamera	NO
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	-----
White, Loren	YES

E. REPORTS FROM STAFF

8. Everest Metro Police Department

Sparks stated they are starting the accreditation process for their department which should be completed within the next two years. Martin questioned whether or not the Stillwater Landing (formerly Green Acres) report needed to be done seeing the police calls have dropped off. Sparks stated the new owners like the report. Fiene stated he would like to continue to see the report until everything is brought into compliance.

9. South Area Fire & Emergency Response District

There was no report from SAFER

10. Plan Commission

Parker shared a letter she sent out regarding refuse and recycling to some owner's who had 4-Unit apartments and how they were supposed to be using carts but were instead using a dumpster service. In doing so they were paying extra money and the Village was not getting credit for their recycling. This brought a lot of things to light in how people were using garbage services and recycling and the Village is going to be working with property owner's more closely in getting these issues and questions resolved.

11. Taxpayer Relations Coordinator

Hodell talked about the recent snowfalls and dealing with properties that haven't been clearing their sidewalks on a timely basis or at all and how the Village has had to clear them and assess the necessary charges along with a fine. Hodell also talked about Kevin King's property going to the Sheriff's Sale on February 9th and from her understating Pete Zastrow has purchased it. Hodell also stated John Lorge still has concerns that there is drainage issues with Kevin King's property due to railroad ties and rock being brought in. However, per staff's investigation there is not an issue in 1 ½ years. Jennifer Higgins recently sent a letter to Mr. Lorge explaining there is no violation or issues with this property.

Hodell stated she has been working on the 20th Anniversary celebration and getting the Save-The-Date invites out and working with Dale's Weston Lanes in planning the dinner and program. Fiene asked if there was more information to follow and Hodell stated Guild was working on a program agenda.

F. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR

There was no report from the Administrator.

G. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMEBERS.

H. Set next regular meeting date for Monday, March 28, 2016, at 6:30 P.M.

I. ADJOURN.

White adjourned Community Life and Public Safety Meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Loren White, Trustee

Renee Hodell, Recording Secretary