

**Village of Weston, Wisconsin
COMMUNITY LIFE & PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING**

held on Monday, August 22, 2016, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., in the Board Room, at the Municipal Center
Trustee Schuster Presiding.

A. OPENING OF SESSION AT 6:00 P.M.

1. **Community Life & Public Safety Meeting called to order by Village Trustee Schuster.**
2. **Clerk will take attendance and roll call.**

Roll call indicated 4 CLPS members present (Robert Kienbaum was excused).

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>
Fiene, Brian	YES
Kienbaum, Robert	NO
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	YES
Zeigler, Jon	YES

Village Staff in attendance: Loren White, Renee Hodell, Chief Wally Sparks, Jared Wehner, and Bob Wesinek from the Town of Weston

3. **Requests for Silencing of cellphones and other electronic devices.**
4. **Acknowledgment of visitors if any.**

There was three visitors.

B. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the Public

C. PRESENTATIONS

5. Joanie and Sabrina Radtke on having backyard chickens

Motion by Ziegler, second by Fiene, to move forward in the process of allowing chickens by sending this to the Plan Commission to implement the policy and determine the regulations if they so choose.

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Fiene, Brian,	YES
Kienbaum, Robert	-----
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES

Schuster did mention that just because this Committee passed it doesn't mean Plan Commission or the Board will approve it. Wehner also stated that this could take a while depending on meeting schedules.

Joanie and her daughter Sabrina (14 yrs old) (9957 Sandhill Dr., Weston) gave a presentation regarding backyard chickens and wanting to obtain a Conditional Use for chickens not only for 4H but for their garden and food waste. Sabrina also explained that the hen chickens need a rooster to produce eggs and are much quieter. She also explained how when she grows up she would like to become a farmer. Having chickens would force her to get up early to tend to the chickens and take responsibility on chores.

Joanie Radtke also spoke, stating their family have been residents for almost 20 years and is here to support her daughter. She stated she presented her case a couple of years ago but didn't follow through due to an illness in her family. She also researched other ordinances across the U.S. Joan made comment that female poultry hens that do not crow, are quieter than song birds and that they will cut down on insects and mice in the yard. Will cut down on lawn clippings, kitchen scraps, and garden waste. Joanie also stated that communities that do have them have ordinances that reference coops, where in the yard they can go, no slaughtering etc. Their coop would be small and not visible from the street. Joanie referenced diseases but they are healthier than their commercial counterparts do to the better living

conditions and diet. All of their other pets are well taken care of and trained including certified therapy dogs. Fiene asked if they had talked to the neighbors and they had and one of them actually would like to have chickens also. Martin asked who would be verify that the conditions are meeting code. Guild stated that chickens are becoming a big movement but from and Administration perspective for everyone one person that is responsible there are multiple ones that aren't, and in the past because of minimal staffing and resources the Village has chosen to not allow chickens because of the flagrant abuses. Guild then stated that in order to allow chickens there would need to be an ordinance change which would be done through the Plan Commission. Guild then stated that Hodell and Wehner Could talk more about the nuisance and zoning issues that would come up from having chickens.

Wehner talked about the zoning and how chickens are currently not allowed in residential areas (the Radtke's are currently zones Single Family Small Lot which is the most dense), and in order to get a "conditional use permit" the Zoning Code would have to change, a fee would need to be charged, and there would need be a public hearing. Wehner did state that Kronenwetter does allow chickens and there is a yearly fee but their lots are also a lot bigger as their standard is ½ acre where the Village is 10,000 sq. ft. Wehner wasn't able to talk with anyone at the Kronenwetter Municipal Center to see what if any complaints they have received. Schuster asked if Wehner knew how long Kronenwetter has allowed chickens (Wehner stated about 3 years) and how many permits they have given out (Wehner did not know at this time). Hodell talked about the complaints she has received and they have been about multiple chickens roaming, the conditions of the yard, the slaughtering of chickens in the yard.

Ziegler asked how strict can the ordinance be. If residents were allowed to have chickens and they weren't following the rules could their permit be revoked and within how many days. Wehner started that if someone was not following the rules they could pull the permit at any time.

Hodell questioned if this issue needs to go to the Plan Commission, and Guild stated the recommendation to allow (or not allow chickens) would come from the Community Life and Public Safety Committee as more of the policy making decision and the structure of the ordinance would be reviewed by the Plan Commission on how to implement the policy (i.e. how many chickens, size of coop, where located on property, etc.) and the Board would review both committee's decisions.

Ziegler asked the Radkte how many chickens they were looking at having in which Joanie stated 4-6. Wehner than stated with the size of the lot it would probably end up being a 4 chicken limit particularly in Single family small lot properties.

D. BUSINESS ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION

6. Approve previous meeting minutes from June 27, 2016

Motion by Ziegler, second by Martin, to approve the Community Life & Public Safety, June 27, 2016 meeting minutes. Fiene did note that there were a few words that had transposed letters towards the end of the minutes.

Yes Vote: 4

No Votes: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 0

Result: PASS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Fiene, Brian,	YES
Kienbaum, Robert	-----
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES

E. REPORTS FROM STAFF

8. Everest Metro Police Department

Sparks didn't have anything new to add to what was already in his report.

9. Planning and Development

Wehner talked about the new addressing that Marathon County is working on and the plan is to have everyone's address will become a 6-digit number based on a Grid System. Guild stated they did this in Ashland County and it made for a safer environment and didn't adversely affect residents too much. He did also state the 75% of the streets in Weston have the same name as others in the County.

Guild stated there is a draft of the new mobile home ordinance that will be coming out from Attorney Yde. The IMR BP request for a Class B license that the CLPS Committee approved for Crafties and denied by the Board is being appealed to the Village Board. He also stated staff is working with Basil on the 4th Annual Irish Fest and will be sending out postcards to abutting neighbors inviting them and making them aware of Irish Fest being held September 10th to hopefully cut down on the complaints.

Fiene asked about Stillwater landing and where they are at in putting up the fence along E. Jelinek Ave. Wehner stated they are supposed to be doing it but have yet to pull a fence permit. Staff will be sending a letter to all the Mobile Home parked within the next week and doing on sites visits within the month to follow up on previous violations and to see if there are any new violations. Staff will document each lot within the parks and what the current conditions are to have a baseline. There will be an individual lot report and a park as a whole report. Fiene asked about the status on Alpine and Guild stated staff recommend to the Board that their license not be renewed and there was a lengthy Public Hearing. Through the advice from Counsel and from what was presented by the opposing Counsel the Village Board decided to renew Alpine's license through June 30, 2017. However, there are things being worked upon in between times that if they are in violation that can get cited and/or have their license revoked.

10. Taxpayer Relations Coordinator

Hodell stated them continues to be complaints regarding tall grass and weeds throughout the community, along with junk and parking on the lawn and she would be working with Chief Sparks and the Everest Metro Police in bringing these properties into compliance. She also talked about the Farmer's Market and how each week more and more vendors are attending, and that entertainment will be beginning this coming Saturday (August 27).

F. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR

Guild stated there is going to be an article in the upcoming newsletter regarding addressing. Staff will also be starting and audit of our code enforcement policy and procedure to make things more efficient audit if the enforcement code. Guild also made reference regarding Halloween where residents are divided on when it should be celebrated (on the day or on weekend). However, there is a policy in place on that where it is celebrate on October 31st. Guild mentioned how the Village is working with the County on the Camp Phillips Corridor Plan and the safety of this road.

G. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

There were no comments by the Committee

H. Set next regular meeting date for Monday, September 26, 2016, at 6:00 P.M.

I. ADJOURN.

Motion by Ziegler, second by Martin, to adjourn the Community Life and Public Safety meeting at 6:54 p.m.

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Fiene, Brian,	YES
Kienbaum, Robert	-----
Martin, Zach	YES
Schuster, Fred	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES

Fred Schuster, Trustee
Renee Hodell, Recording Secretary