

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP
JANUARY 4, 2011 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
A Resolution Providing for Electronic Attendance	✓ Resolution Ordinance Motion Discussion Only	Enza Petrarca Village Attorney

SYNOPSIS

A resolution has been prepared to authorize Mayor Sandack's attendance by electronic means at the following Village Council meetings: January 11; February 1, 8 and 15; March 1, 8 and 15; April 5, 12 and 19; and May 3 and 10. Ability to attend electronically is contingent upon a quorum of the council being physically present in the Council Chambers at each meeting where such electronic attendance is requested and availability of equipment to allow such participation.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The Five Year Plan and Goals include *Exceptional Services and Communication*.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of implementing the electronic attendance system for all 12 meetings is estimated to be as much as \$500 plus staff time.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval on the January 11, 2011 active agenda.

BACKGROUND

The Open Meetings Act, and Council Rule 2, both allow for electronic attendance when a member of a public body must be absent from a meeting for "employment purposes". Mayor Sandack has requested approval of his electronic attendance for specific meetings due to potential conflicts with the schedule of the General Assembly, when he will be in Springfield serving as a State Senator. The resolution contains specific conditions precedent for the Mayor's electronic participation, which are mandated by State law. Mayor Sandack will not be able to participate if a quorum is not physically present or if there is not adequate equipment available to allow electronic participation. The purpose of the resolution is to allow the more efficient operation of Village government as electronic participation would not have to appear on every agenda 48 hours in advance and a single vote will allow the Mayor to participate at these meetings electronically if other conditions are met. In addition, this prior approval will allow Commissioner Schnell to prepare in advance for the meetings for which she would serve as chair.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove Council Rules provide for attendance by members of the Village Council by electronic means provided such attendance is in accordance with those rules as well as applicable law; and

WHEREAS, electronic attendance is permissible when a quorum is physically present at the meeting, when the absence of the member is due to employment purposes or the business of the Village, and when a majority of the Village Council approves such electronic attendance; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Sandack is currently serving as a State Senator which would be considered employment under the terms of Council Rule 2, as he is receiving a salary and benefits from the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Sandack, due to conflicts with his Senate schedule, has requested that he be allowed to participate electronically when he is unable to travel from Springfield to Downers Grove for the purposes of a Council Meeting; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of efficiency and in accordance with State law, approval of Mayor Sandack's electronic attendance at specific meetings is being sought in advance; and

WHEREAS, approval of electronic attendance is contingent upon a physical quorum being present at each council meeting; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove as follows:

Section 1. Mayor Sandack is hereby authorized to attend the following Council Meeting via electronic means: January 11th; February 1st, 8th and 15th; March 1st, 8th and 15th; April 5th, 12th and 19th; and May 3rd and 10th

Section 2. This approval is contingent upon a quorum of the council being physically present in the council chambers at each meeting where such electronic attendance is requested and availability of equipment to allow such participation.

Section 3. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in a manner provided by law.

Mayor

Passed:

Published:

Attest: _____

Village Clerk