

Staff Responses to Council Questions
July 19, 2016

7. First Reading

A. Ordinance: Amend the Sale and Promotion of Alcoholic Liquor

We can be more restrictive so is it correct to say that we do not have to accept the State-allowed changes?

Yes, as a home rule community the Village may opt to enact ordinances that are more restrictive than State law. If the Council does not adopt this proposed ordinance the current ordinance prohibiting happy hour will continue to be in force.

Council has not had Police Reports for some time showing increases or decreases in various violations. Can Council get such a report in the near future? For the purposes of the “Happy Hour” changes, can we get a report on alcohol-related violations (not just establishment violations but other violations that included alcohol service at local establishments).

Staff will provide the report in the upcoming weeks.

What are the rules in Naperville (which recently got bad publicity regarding problems due to alcohol service)?

Naperville has not adopted the State law regarding happy hour and continues to prohibit happy hour.

C. Motion: Authorize a Reduction in Required Cash-in-Lieu Donation to the Park District from \$483,491.40 to \$373,325.40 for 5100 Forest Avenue

What is the Park District’s position on granting the reduction?

A letter from the park district is on the last page of the agenda item. They do not support the request.

Is the developer in any way required to provide the amenities to their tenants on any applications or permits?

The Zoning Ordinance does not require developments to provide tenant amenities. However, the plans submitted by the developer and approved by the Village as a planned development include tenant amenities. Because they are included in the approved plans, the amenities must be constructed. Village Council approval would be required for the removal of these items from the plans.

Will the general public have access to any of these amenities?

No.

ATTACHMENTS

rEmarks are attached.



rRemarks Data for July 19, 2016 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section	Agenda Item	Comment	Commenter
Active Agenda	B. RES 2016-6877 A resolution amending an Official Village Policy regarding ethical standards - Exhibit 2	This is a bad idea and should not be passed. We should not go backwards nor should Downers Grove participate in the shady practices that have corrupted the rest of the state	Beverly Nykiel, 5244 Blodgett Ave Downers Grove
Active Agenda	B. RES 2016-6877 A resolution amending an Official Village Policy regarding ethical standards - Exhibit 2	I fully realize that many of you hate me. But, I hope you can simply respect my opposition to amending the Ethics Ordinance. If anything, the current ordinance is too weak. I know that many of you have received support from an organization that has collected donations from vendors that currently do business with the village. ALSO, I know that one commissioner failed to close his account after the deadline. We need to enhance the current ordinance, not weaken it. One way it can be done by placing SPENDING limits by candidates. Also, the village attorney should not be the ethics officer since she is in a position where she could receive negative retribution if she pursued a lead on a possible violation. An independent panel should be given authority to investigate possible violations and recommend courses of action.	Tom Cawthorne
Public Comment	COMMENTS OF A GENERAL NATURE	On behalf of several property owners in the 4800 block of Stanley Ave, I wanted to share a compliment about exemplary service from the Village Public Works Department. Approximately two years ago work was done to the parkway areas of multiple yards on our block, including relocating fire hydrants and water related infrastructure. Since then, several of us have noticed substantial sinking of the earth in the areas where work was done, resulting in substantially lowered ground in those areas in each of our yards. After calling the Village to request a leveling of this area whenever might be convenient, we were all pleasantly surprised when the very next day the Village team arrived with dirt and grass seed to repair this condition on 5 properties. Fast and efficient service that exceeded all of our expectations. Kudos, and thank you!!!	Scott Curran
Active Agenda	B. RES 2016-6877 A resolution amending an Official Village Policy regarding ethical standards - Exhibit 2	Mayor Tully and Commissioners: It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to relax Village ethical standards so that they are more in line with the State of Illinois and the United States. I thought at first it was a joke -- surely there is no way that Downers Grove would lower its ethical standards to the bottom feeder levels of Washington and Springfield. I promise to make this an election issue for anyone that votes in favor of such a ludicrous proposal -- it is the LAST thing that we need in this community. I am thinking that "Citizens for Ethical Downers Grove Government" has a nice ring to it. What a waste of staff time.	Don Jankowski, 1312 Blanchard Street Downers Grove