

**League of Women Voters
Observers Report**

Board meeting attended: Downers Grove Village Council

Date and Location of meeting: October 3, 2017 Council Chambers, 801 Burlington Ave.

Meeting started: 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 9:47 p.m.

League Observer(s): Mary Blanchard

Board Members/Trustees present (P) not present (NP) tardy (T):

Mayor Martin Tully	P
Bob Barnett	P
Margaret Earl	P
Greg Hose	P
Nicole Walus	P
William Waldack	P
Bill White	P

Estimated Number Attending (excluding Board and Staff):

20

Meetings are Streamed and Archived at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrzHmo8saCs>

Agenda can be found at:

http://www.downers.us/public/docs/agendas/2017/10-03-17/AGENDA_DOCUMENT.pdf

Mayor Tully requested a moment of silence for Las Vegas.

Minutes of Council Meetings:

September 12, 2017 Executive Session minutes approved.

September 19, 2017 Council minutes approved.

Proclamations: Three Mayoral proclamations – 1. National Community Planning Month during October – thanks to all in public services. 2. American Pharmacists Month in October. Midwestern University graduates 200 pharmacists annually. A group of students joined the Mayor for a photo. 3. Friends of the Edwards House received the Richard H. Driehaus Advocacy Award for their grass roots efforts in preserving historic homes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Shannon Tully and Cindy Zeski commented on the landmark house tour with a thank you to those that attended.
2. Jenny Garst commented on storm water on Farrar Court. There are new homes being built on higher ground and wants the Council to pay attention to this issue.
3. Ed Palik commented on the recent commotion around boards and trustees. He requested that as part of the process during the council meeting the week prior to a vote the role and candidates being considered be shared with the public for increased transparency. The Mayor commented on the process now and that as part of the long range plan Council will tweak the process.
4. George Swimmer commented on railroad safety in light of recent Metra incident in Clarendon Hills. He said Metra is contracted and doesn't need to follow the FRA recommendations. There is a second train warning system and commuter channel system that could be put in place. He wants Council to discuss this with Metra – although he understands the separation of Council and Metra.
5. Amy Gassen shared an update on the American four squares home effort in DG. Amy and her husband have connected with 40% of the 130 four square home owners in DG. They shared the significance of the American four square home style and are offering education events, doing a second canvas to bring in more home owners and DG Historical Society is hosting a link to their website.

MAYOR REPORT

Resolution to appoint Board and Commission positions that are open for the following – the Mayor stated those nominated for these positions: architect, police, fire, community events, environmental concerns, library board, liquor, storm water/floodplain, technology, zoning boards.

Bob Barnett stated that he was going to vote against the resolution as the process for nominations remains a problem. He has suggested for the last two years that the process is flawed. The library appointee nominations did not follow either the written process, or the process Mayor outlined in previous meetings. The process is not transparent or inclusive. For the first appointee they got notice of the person two weeks ago. For the second the process was skipped. Bob was advised about the appointee Thursday and had no time to speak to the appointee.

Mayor Tully assumed a defensive posture. Barnett indicated he won't support future appointees if there isn't a more collaborative process.

Hose stated he is looking forward to process change and it needs improvement and increased diversity.

Waldack questioned how many people actually attend library meetings and supports what Mayor has done under the circumstances.

Earl pivoted the discussion to make it sound like Barnett was singling out certain appointees causing them public embarrassment. Mayor also framed Barnett's concerns in this manner.

Walus stated there are passionate people that want to help and they can streamline and improve the process.

White supports the nominees and mentioned that many people applied. He looks forward to working on the process.

Mayor stated there is nothing sneaky about the process and there is no formulaic way to do this.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda was approved.

ACTIVE AGENDA

ORD 2017-7492 Amend Provisions for Landmark Designation Filing was approved
RES 2017-7491 Resolution Grant Historic Landmark Designation for 4714 Oakwood Avenue was approved

FIRST READING AGENDA

INF 2017 – 7532 Information: Review of Mobile Food Truck Ordinance

This comes up for periodic review – Commissioners Hose and Barnett asked to do this review. Issues with the food truck ordinance are the required back ground checks and the cost of the license for the truck.

Alter Brewing offered a report of their experience in the last year.

Tully stated they should reduce restrictions to get more traction and be more competitive.

Hose said we should make some changes, the license cost is prohibitive and modify back ground check. Safety of children is important if at a park or near a school.

Tully stated food trucks are stationary and not driving in neighborhoods.

Waldack supports fees that match tax payer cost to process the license stating \$250 is the processing cost. Commented on rolling annual license and that back ground checks protect kids. He won't support a designer ordinance for just one business.

Barnett said loosen this way up and be proactive not reactive. They need to create opportunities, risks are low, other communities don't run back ground checks. Our park district brings them in and doesn't do them. Mayor agrees with Barnett.

White doesn't want food trucks near brick and mortar restaurants stating that is not fair and only wants to allow trucks in industrial park areas.

Founder of Alter brewing company, Peter Kosanovich, indicated he does not want just one business to benefit. They chose their business to be in Downers Grove after interviewing several towns. They want to be part of our community and have been very supportive. The food truck industry has grown in the last ten years, most towns have one.

More discussion on background checks, whether the people on the truck get them, the owners of the truck get them.

A resident asked if ice cream truck drivers get back ground checks and Mayor indicated that no they do not.

Staff will research the food truck industry, back ground checks, etc. and put this on an upcoming agenda for further discussion and decision.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Hose: Night at the fire house October 11 6:30 to 8:30 PM Station 5.

Waldack: Many things happening in downtown – go to downtowndg.org to see the activities and events.

Walus: October 8-14 fire prevention week and October 13 at 7:15 PM Silent Parade.

Barnett: no report

Earl: no report

White: no report

Tully: flood plain mapping update

Recess at 9:30 to resume in Committee Room

MANAGER’S REPORT – Committee Room

ORD 2017-7523 Adopt the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget in Lieu of Passage of an Appropriation Ordinance

Emily Teising reviewing video of meeting to provide these notes for a separate report on the first three budge discussions.

Comments/Concerns:

General Features

	Yes	No	Comments
Did the meeting start on time?	x		
Were members attentive and prepared?	x		
Were members courteous to each other?	x		

Were members attentive to the publics' comments?	x		
Was the facility adequate?	x		
Could the audience see and hear?	x		
Were visual aids easily visible to the audience	x		
Were the meeting facilities handicapped accessible	x		

FOIA (Complete once, unless information changes.

Illinois Open Meetings Act requirements

	Yes	No	Comments
Was the agenda posted 48 hours before the meeting? If yes, note where	x		
Did the agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed?	x		
Were background materials made available to the public?	x		
Was there adequate discussion of the issues?	x		
Was there a closed session before, during or after the meeting?	x		
If there was a closed meeting, was any action taken after the closed session? If so, what action?	x		

Date Submitted: October 17, 2017

By: Mary Blanchard