



Observer Report

Observer(s): _____ Lisa Reed _____

Date: 9/17/19

Government Body: Village of Downer's Grove Council Meeting	
<i>Members Present</i>	<i>Members Absent</i>
Mayor Bob Barnett	
Commissioner Greg Hose	
Commissioner Marge Earl	
Commissioner Nicole Walus	
Commissioner Leslie Sadowski-Fugitt	
Commissioner Rick Kulovany	
Commissioner Cavanaugh Gray	

- Remember:**
- *Always be polite and respectful*
 - *Record the meeting if possible*
 - *Your attendance is about observation not participation. You are there to learn not judge*
 - *Strive for clarity while avoiding bias and partisanship*

General Observations	Yes	No	Comments
Did meeting start on time?	X		
Were the facilities large enough? Could the audience readily hear the proceedings? Handicapped Access?	X		
Was there media coverage?			Not Known

Illinois Open Meeting Act requirements			
Was the agenda posted 48 hours before the meeting? If so, where?	X		
Did the agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed	X		
Was background information available to the public?	X		Streamed live on YouTube
Were issues adequately discussed?	X		
Was public comment encouraged?	X		
Was the public treated respectfully?	X		

Agenda and supporting agenda items can be found at: www.downers.us/govt



Meetings are streamed and archived at: www.downers.us/govt

Public participation: (estimate of attendance excluding staff and elected officials)

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Please see Village website for details on all Active & Consent Agenda items.

First Readings included:

1. An Ordinance to authorize a permit for an animal boarding facility.
2. A report was provided by Mr. Fieldman regarding the Human Service Ad Hoc Committee Report. The Committee met from January to June identifying two options: 1) accept the report as presented or 2) have them continue to develop & prioritize options. The Council members unanimously indicated they were in favor of Option 2 at this time.
3. An Ordinance to prohibit adult use of cannabis business establishments was presented focusing on two options:
 - a. Prohibit cannabis businesses
 - b. Consider establishing zoning regulations & tax rates.

There was discussion among the council members regarding the pros and cons, as well as public comment. Some Council members did not feel public opinion was giving enough credence in the process and that responses from constituents, including phone calls, emails and public comments at meetings needed to be considered.

Public Participation Remarks:

Informational Items presented by elected officials, staff and/or administrators:

Were any issues on the agenda relevant to any LWV state or local positions or programs?

Yes.

The League may be interested in the continued discussion related to the proposed ordinance prohibiting adult use cannabis business establishments. There was much debate during the meeting on this topic, including debate on the timing of how the Council reached the determination of prohibition.

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues? If "yes" what action do you recommend?

Yes.

Continued observations of meetings related to this subject.



Additional Comments/Concerns –

Observation Report filed by _____ Lisa Reed _____ Date __10/7/19
Observation Report Reviewed by _____ Date _____
Observation Report posted by _____ Date _____