

Village of Woodridge, April 24, 2014, Regular Board Meeting

Present: All board members. Members of the public including two college students and four members of the Jaycees were present.

The Mayor convened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. After the invocation and recitation of the pledge of allegiance, Mayor Cunningham asked several trustees to read a series of proclamations into the record.

During the public comment period on items related to the agenda, Rev. James Galbreath of Woodridge United Methodist Church expressed his concerns about the repeal of the video gaming ban. As a pastor, he has encountered individuals whose lives have been negatively impacted due to their gambling addiction. Lee Robertson, a member of the Rotary Club of Woodridge and an employee of the Village Greens, spoke in favor of allowing video gaming.

The Board approved all items on the consent agenda without comment. In her report Mayor Cunningham complimented School District 68 on their new strategic plan which was presented to the Board at a specially called meeting held prior to the regular board meeting. She congratulated Art Van Furniture store on its successful grand opening. The Mayor also thanked Chief Grady for joining her in a presentation on good citizenship that they made to the second grade students of St. Scholastica School.

The Administrator's Report included two items for approval: the revised video gaming ordinance which limited the licenses to 10 to be issued on a first come basis; and the ordinance authorizing the acquisition of the portion of the American Water Company supply line that enters the Village.

The trustees had no questions about the video gaming ordinance. Mayor Cunningham, however, issued a statement in which she thanked the businesses and others who presented information about video gaming at the workshop meetings, residents who offered comments to the trustees, Attorney Good and the staff for their research, and the trustees for their diligence and care when deliberating the issue. Mayor Cunningham stated her support for local businesses, but noted that she also listens attentively to residents' concerns. Regarding the businesses' concern that the ban on video gaming makes them less competitive with surrounding communities, she observed that Lisle, Naperville, Downers Grove, and Bolingbrook prohibit video gaming. She asked the trustees to consider if lifting the ban on video gaming was in the best interest of the community. The motion to approve the video gaming ordinance failed with Mayor Cunningham and three trustees voting against the motion.

The motion to approve acquisition of the portion of the American Water Company's system that enters Woodridge passed. Trustee Abbott opposed the motion, citing that the acquisition will cost the Village \$250,000 and the pipeline benefits only a small number of businesses and residents. He asked for comments from the trustees as to why they support the motion. At the Mayor's request, Attorney Good explained that the cost to procure the pipeline will be paid through a revenue bond, not through a tax levy on residents. He also explained that the Intergovernmental Agreement stipulates that the Village will be reimbursed for the upfront costs of acquiring the system.

Mayor Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m. to be followed by an executive session to discuss personnel.

For more information, see Village of Woodridge's Meeting Portal
<http://woodridgevillageil.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx>