



October 26, 2023

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, JUDICIARY & ETHICS
COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Date: October 26, 2023
Present: Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Messina,
Alderman Jakab, Alderman Susmarski, Alderman Ames,
Alderman Artie Woods, Alderman Catalano
Absent: None
Also Present: Mayor Pulice, City Manager Mermuys, Chief Zito, Director
Springer, Director Wilson, Accounting Manager McAleer,
Director Lange, City Clerk Curiale, Treasurer Porch
Meeting Convened at: 07:41pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ald. Curiale made a motion, seconded by Ald. Ames, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting as presented. A voice vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

REPORT & RECOMMENDATION

MUNICIPAL REGULATION OF ADULT USE CANNABIS DISPENSARIES

DISCUSSION:

Alderman Curiale began by stating that the City in December of 2019 prohibited the sale of cannabis in the city, although the state legalized it in the beginning of January 2020.

In the spring of 2021, several council members went down to Springfield and had conversations with other council members and learned that they have very good successes with the sale of marijuana in their municipalities averaging revenues of \$300,000 per dispensary. So, the question has come back to us should we reconsider our position on the sale of cannabis. Alderman Susmarski had a question for the council. Don't we have an ordinance right now that says that on Irving Park and Wood Dale Roads that we don't allow strip clubs, tattoo parlors, adult bookstores, pawn shops, and you would have to ask if this would be included on this list? If so, should all of the listed business types be taken off of the ordinance?

The Chief began stating that during strategic planning it was discussed what paths forward should be taken, and if the council wanted to move this direction. So, we laid out some options and some background on it if this did become legal in Illinois back in January 2020. With the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act there is several different taxes that the city would benefit

from including the sales tax the cannabis purchaser excise tax and the municipal cannabis retailer occupation tax. We have suggestions and recommended structures on how you could move forward if you wanted to. There are a lot of options to consider such as putting it to a vote per referendum. If so, there would be certain deadlines that would need to be met before the next election. That is, if that is the direction that the council would want to go. The second option would be to bypass a referendum and handle this at the committee and council level at future meetings. And the third option is just to maintain the status quo and leave it as is.

Alderman Artie Woods made a motion to approve one cannabis dispensary within the City of Wood Dale, and it was seconded by Alderman Art Woods. Mayor Pulice inquired that we are making a motion to instead of a referendum we are making a motion for one dispensary, which would be a question for our Attorney Mr. Bond. So, are we allowing this on Wood Dale Rd and Irving Park Rd? Or is this just an industrial park location? Mr. Bond would this be just like liquor licenses they send a letter and they either get a yes or no. Mr. Bond explained that you would first have to determine where they can be located and put them in to a zoning classification that is not going to be on your major thoroughfare, where it will be determined what kind of restrictions such as not near churches or schools. If you decide to not go with a referendum, the next step is to determine where the zoning classification where it's going to be, and the number of licenses you want to limit it to. Also, the size of the dispensary, and if there will be certain sign restrictions.

The mayor stated that he heard the motion, but there's a lot of moving pieces and maybe we should ask for more direction from the City Attorney and Staff? City Manager Mermuys stated that Alderman Artie Woods is recommending that the council go with option 2. Option 2 is to bypass the referendum and institute cannabis sale regulations at a future meeting. Alderman Jakob stated that based on the information that he read, Chief Zito has talked to the Chiefs in the surrounding area, and that they found that having a dispensary does not lead to more crime. Chief Zito stated that the reports in the surrounding areas found that to be true. Alderman Jakob stated that last month that the 23 surrounding communities that allow these sales last month alone they collected \$139,529,000 dollars in revenue that could be coming to our city. So, if you are going to have it, in his opinion, you need to have it on a main thoroughfare where you can make the most of the revenue, and not hidden in the industrial park. Alderman Susmarski stated that you do have to have further discussion in executive session to hash out who else will be allowed on Irving Park Rd. The mayor inquired how many of these communities have them in their industrial parks, and how many are on their main thoroughfares? Alderman Art Woods mentioned that in Schaumburg they have one right next to the mall off of Golf Rd, and Villa Park is putting one on North Avenue. We don't want to hide it, but we also don't want it at Irving Park and Wood Dale Rd. So again, we need to go back to the attorney and staff to hash out the logistics so we can have something acceptable

to everyone. Alderman Ames stated that tonight we are only talking about dispensaries and not strip clubs, so looking at other communities and how successful they have been with the dispensaries will help. We may not want to hide it in the industrial park, and it doesn't even guarantee that we will get anyone to invest since it is already in so many other communities. Also, all the businesses would still have to go through the approval process with the CDC and the council to approve the location. So, it's not a given that it would go to Wood Dale and Irving Park, and it's not guaranteed that we're going to get anyone. We are just saying we're welcome to hear about opportunities. Alderman Messina stated once we approve it, we can restrict where it goes how it looks, and more importantly it is a time thing, and we may not all agree and it is a race between communities for the revenue. Alderman Artie Woods agreed with Alderman Jakabs that at the beginning they hid everything away in the industrial parks and now you have towns such as Villa Park having one on North Avenue, so it is now more visible, and they can bring in more revenue.

Alderman Art Woods stated that we don't want to be too restrictive to make it more appealing, and we should start by opening it up with one license. And we will discuss a few other restrictions or caveats that we approve of such as the facades, size of signage, etc. Alderman Catalano asked what the percentage of revenue that the city would get out of it? Chief Zito stated that there are 3 different sales taxes. First, the sales tax is the state sales tax of which the city would receive 1% of that. Then there is a cannabis purchaser excise tax, and the city would receive a per capita allocation for crime prevention programs, training and for enforcement efforts. And lastly, there is the municipal cannabis retailer's occupation tax. This allows municipalities to apply for an additional tax up to 3% of cannabis sales. Alderman Jakob asked Director Wilson about what we could use the funds for. Director Wilson stated that it is his understanding that there is now specific statutory restriction on where the money can go, or what it is used for. The mayor asked if we could tax 3% and then add the 1% non-home rule sales tax? If so, won't we be pricing ourselves out of the market? Director Wilson stated that the state allows the municipalities to tax up to 3% of the sales.

VOTE:

Ald. Artie Woods made a motion, seconded by Ald Art Woods, to Approve a Motion to Approve one Cannabis Dispensary within the City of Wood Dale. A roll call vote was taken, with the following results:

Ayes: Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Messina, Alderman Jakob, Alderman Susmarski, Alderman Ames, Alderman Artie Woods
Nays: None



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Abstained: Alderman Catalano
Motion: Passed

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Police Department Remodel – January 11

ADJOURNMENT:

Ald. Catalano made a motion, seconded by Ald. Messina, to adjourn the meeting at 08:14 p.m. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by Julie Szabo

PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Date: October 26, 2023
Present: Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Messina, Alderman Jakab, Alderman Susmarski, Alderman Ames, Alderman Artie Woods, Alderman Catalano
Absent: None
Also Present: Mayor Pulice, City Manager Mermuys, Chief Zito, Director Springer, Director Wilson, Accounting Manager McAleer, Director Lange, City Clerk Curiale, Treasurer Porch
Meeting Convened at: 08:14pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ald. Jakab made a motion, seconded by Ald. Ames, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting as presented. A voice vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

REPORT & RECOMMENDATION

APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOOD DALE AND HR GREEN FOR PHASE II ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE ELIZABETH DRIVE MULTI-USE PATH PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$117,953.00

DISCUSSION:

Alderman Art Woods asked that on future meeting items to be considered is Elizabeth Drive Bridge Phase II is that a result of this agreement? Director Lange stated that they are actually two different projects. Tonight's recommendation is for the bike path extension, the next one is for the Elizabeth Drive project.

VOTE:

Ald. Jakab made a motion, seconded by Ald Ames, to Approve a Professional Services Agreement Between the City of Wood Dale and HR Green for Phase II Engineering Services for the Elizabeth Drive Multi-Use Path Project in an Amount not to Exceed \$117,953.00. A roll call vote was taken, with the following results:

Ayes: Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Messina, Alderman Jakab, Alderman Susmarski, Alderman Ames, Alderman Artie Woods, Alderman Catalano

Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion: Passed

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Elizabeth Drive Bridge Phase II Engineering – December/January

Alderman Ames stated that she would like to bring up in the future the medallions at the Veterans Park there is one empty spot, and the lighting. Director Lange stated we did install lights and we actually just had to replace two that were malfunctioning. As for the medallions we have run into some issues with the Department of Defense with getting permissions, and we are hoping to get an update soon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ald. Jakab made a motion, seconded by Ald. Susmarski, to adjourn the meeting at 08:16p.m. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by Julie Szabo

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Committee Date: November 9, 2023
Present: Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Ames,
Alderman Artie Woods, Alderman Catalano
Absent: Alderman Jakab, Alderman Messina, Alderman Susmarski
Also Present: Mayor Pulice, City Manager Mermuys, Director Wilson, IT
Coordinator Michael Stenson, Chief Zito, City Clerk Curiale,
Treasurer Porch
Meeting Convened at: 07:31PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ald. Ames made a motion, seconded by Ald. Art Woods, to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2023 meeting as presented. Alderman Artie Woods requested a clarification in the minutes to which Alderman Woods is being referred to. The changes were added to the minutes, and were sent to the Assistant City Clerk, who then posted the changes. A voice vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

REPORT & RECOMMENDATION

- i. IT DEVICE ALLOWANCE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS
- ii. CITY OF WOOD DALE AND SANITIZE THIS, LLC NON-EXCLUSIVE PARKING LICENSE AGREEMENT
- iii. A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO PCS SITE AGREEMENT WITH T-MOBILE CENTRAL, LLC FOR TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AT 269 WEST IRVING PARK ROAD
- iv. A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT EXTENDING THE LAND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CHICAGO SMSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON WIRELESS FOR TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AT 320 RICHERT ROAD

DISCUSSION:

In reference to the first item IT Device Allowance for Elected Officials, Alderman Art Woods requested that the motion be tabled for the next meeting, and it was seconded by Alderman Catalano. A voice vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

DISCUSSION:

Alderman Ames then introduced the motion of the City of Wood Dale and Sanitize This, LLC Non-Exclusive Parking License Agreement. Director Wilson began that after discussing this

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motion with Attorney Bond, he recommended the license agreement that was presented to you. Some of the highlights are that there are 12 parking spaces at the eastern portion of the Metra lot. Staff and Woody's Management came to an agreement of a fee of \$150.00 a month, which normally would cost them \$270.00 a month. The agreement would be for a 6-month period, at which time both sides would be able to see how the program is working. If it isn't working out, then we could end the agreement with no penalty, and there was a 14-day notice added. Also, the users of the passes would be expected to go down to the pedestrian crossing that is located near Christy's. Alderman Art Woods stated that the licensing agreement is problematic for the fact that you had to tell us how they were to walk to the cross walk. And can't we just do like we did with the water, and have a bulk user rate? He asked if there is a reason that the attorney preferred this method? Director Wilson stated that a couple of the concerns that the Attorney had was that if the Metra lot would get greater utilization again, we wouldn't want several of the parking passes tied up at the lower rate. The mayor also had some concerns over why a license agreement, but it sounds like the Attorney favors a legal option. The mayor then added that he went to look at the area, and if they don't use the crossing, and jump the fence, there is a steep drop and that would be a hazard. We didn't want Attorney Bond to have to appear at the meeting, because this was the only item, and I figured the recommendation would suffice. So, we will probably place the item on next week's agenda so we can discuss it further with the Attorney. Alderman Ames said she is not against helping of the businesses, but her first thought was that of the safety of the employee's crossing the tracks late at night when they close. Mr. Mermuys stated that we will just list it on the agenda as a licensing agreement, and then amend it at that time. Alderman Catalano inquired if it will just be the employee's that would there and not the patrons? Director Wilsons understanding when speaking with the owner it will only be employees.

At 07:43 Alderman Messina and Alderman Jakab arrived at the meeting.

VOTE:

Ald. Ames made a motion, seconded by Ald. Artie Woods, to Approve an Agreement between the City of Wood Dale and Sanitize This, LLC Non-Exclusive Parking License Agreement. A roll call vote was taken, with the following results:

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| Ayes | Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Messina, Alderman Jakab, Alderman Ames, Alderman Artie Woods, Alderman Catalano |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstained: | None |
| Motion: | Passed |

DISCUSSION:

Alderman Ames stated we are voting to Approve an Amendment to PCS Site Agreement with T-Mobile, LLC for Telecommunication Equipment at 269 West Irving Park Rd. There were no questions.

VOTE:

Ald. Artie Woods made a motion, seconded by Ald. Art Woods, to Approve an Amendment to PCS Site Agreement with T-Mobile, LLC for Telecommunication Equipment at 269 West Irving Park Rd. A roll call vote was taken, with the following results:

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| Ayes | Alderman Art Woods, Alderman Curiale, Alderman Messina, Alderman Jakab, Alderman Ames, Alderman Artie Woods, Alderman Catalano |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstained: | None |
| Motion: | Passed |

DISCUSSION:

Alderman Ames made a motion, seconded by Ald. Artie Woods, on a Resolution Approving an Amendment Extending the Land Lease Agreement with Chicago SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for Telecommunication Equipment at 320 Richert Rd. A voice vote was taken, with all members voting aye.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE MEETINGS:

- CIP – January 25

ADJOURNMENT:

Ald. Ames made a motion, seconded by Ald. Artie Woods, to adjourn the meeting at 07:46 p.m. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by Julie Szabo