



- Trustee Gika asked Mr. Bezik how much money is generated off of every dollar spent on video gaming. Mr. Bezik said that he could not qualify the dollars gambled; but that customers currently leave establishments where there is no video gaming, specifically to find others which do have video gaming. Trustee Girka asked if this video gaming proposal also includes sports wagering; and Mr. Bezik said that the structure for sports bets is not yet in place. He further explained that the State of Illinois video gaming license is tied to the liquor license, except for truck stops.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Kyle Wright of East Mary Drive, Campton Hills*, expressed a concern about video game signage becoming a problem if video gaming is approved.

*Ralph Pelagio of Blue Lake Circle, Campton Hills*, spoke in favor of video gaming as way to bring in revenue and to help small businesses. He said he did not believe it would draw undesirable clientele.

*Matt Feeney, of Deer Run Drive, Campton Hills*, stated he has lived in the area for 25 years, and spoke in support of video gaming.

*Kim Weiss, of Blue Lake Circle, Campton Hills, and owner of Old Town Pub*, spoke as a resident and business owner in support of video gaming. She explained that gambling already exists in the form of instant lottery ticket sales; and would be an aid in retaining customers.

- Trustee White Eagle asked how many people Old Town Pub employs; and Ms. Weiss said there are 33 employees employed.

*Ron D'Aversa, of Campton Square Property Owners Association*, distributed a letter to the Board in support of video gaming, and shared the results of his polling of 15 building owners in Campton Square, of which he said 14 were in support of allowing video gaming.

*Katie Dieckman, of Robert Frost Circle, Campton Hills*, identified herself as an employee of Old Town Pub, and expressed her support of video gaming.

*Lisa Pelagio, of Blue Lake Circle, Campton Hills*, expressed her support video gaming and suggested the need to educate the public, since the referendum was on the ballot six years ago.

Discussion followed:

- President Blecker referred to the Board Summary Memo, and explained that he envisions writing the video gaming ordinance in such a way which would exclude “video parlor” style establishments. He also noted that the maximum bet per machine would be \$2, with a maximum payout of \$500. He said that other matters such as the amount the Village could charge per machine, would need to be further reviewed by the Village Attorney. He estimated that the Elburn and neighboring municipalities profit at least \$30,000 annually from video gaming.
- Trustee White Eagle addressed the public and commended all those present for their participation in the dialogue, and for their support of the community.
- Trustee Millette added that the parlor-style establishments in South Elgin have not been successful, with one having closed and the other not likely to remain open.

- Trustee O'Dwyer addressed the public and acknowledged the great businesses which the residents like and support. But he recalled that when the matter of video gaming was brought up a year ago, the Board encouraged the business owners to take action by initiating a referendum to find out the residents' point of view. Trustee O'Dwyer asked what had been done to that end; and the general response from those business owners present was that petition signatures had been collected; but no further progress was made as it became too burdensome of time and expense.
- Trustee Tyrrell emphasized the importance of getting a sense of what the residents want. He said that the Board has to weigh the goals and desires of the business community versus that of the public. He commended those who participated in the Public Comments section, and expressed his appreciation for the presentation. He concurred with Trustee O'Dwyer's recollection and added that he understood that the Economic Development Committee ("EDC") was going to proceed with the initiative. He also noted that in 2012, video gaming went to referendum, and 70% of the voters did not want it. He reiterated that more research is needed.
- Dave Eshoo offered clarification that when the EDC was still in existence, it brought the matter to the Board, and other business owners had generated petitions signed by their respective patrons in support of video gaming. Since the EDC has since been dissolved, the opportunity to organize around the efforts had also diminished. He said that the EDC had nine volunteers who would have still been active had the EDC still been in existence. Trustee White Eagle shared her experience as a business owner, with regard to the challenges of marketing and running a business. She said that without the reinforcement and structure of the EDC, it would have been difficult to move forward with referendum.
- Trustee Girka recalled that the referendum was not an EDC project; but rather was left to the business owners to handle. He added that it was too burdensome of a task to expect business owners to take on the referendum. He emphasized his position that the Board should get out of the way of the businesses.
- Trustee Millette supported the idea of going to referendum in the past; but that it had lacked a "second" to the motion when the matter was last on the table for discussion. He suggested that Administrator Searl find out when the next potential referendum would be. Administrator Searl said that he would find out.

President Blecker called a brief recess at 8:12 p.m.; and reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

*b. Tentative Meeting Dates and Locations: Coffee with Council: Community Outreach Schedule*

- Trustee O'Dwyer asked Administrator Searl for his opinion about the best approach to the concept of community outreach with elected officials. Administrator Searl spoke briefly to describe that these events are typically a casual forum for a free flow of discussion and information.
- Trustee Tyrrell reiterated his earlier concerns about comments which could be construed as official statements. He expressed his support for the concept; but urged the Board toward establishing a framework to engage conversation, with clear guidelines and expectations.

- Trustee White Eagle expressed her support for the idea, and specifically mentioned the importance of getting community feedback and to help educate the public on an array of topics such as the census, strategic plan and recruitment of volunteers. Overall, she expressed the importance of developing relationships with the residents, and commended Administrator Searl for his ideas.
- Trustee Millette concurred with Trustees Tyrrell and White Eagle. He added that it is crucial for staff to be present at the events to help facilitate questions, and for someone to monitor follow-up items that may arise.
- Trustee O'Dwyer suggested rotating the location for the event among business in the community, in order to show support.

c. *Legislative Counsel Usage* - There was no discussion.

d. *Item for future consideration [NO ACTION NOR DISCUSSION]:*

- Strategic Plan Goals Review - There was no discussion.
- Establishment of a Census 2020 Complete Count Committee - There was no discussion.
- 401k Plan Administrator (Employer Defined Contribution Plan- Police) - Administrator Searl said that additional information will be forthcoming.

**7. ADDITIONAL ITEMS FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT, TRUSTEES, VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR, VILLAGE ATTORNEY OR STAFF**

- Trustee Tyrrell inquired about nomination for committee liaisons, specifically for the Community Relations Committee. President Blecker suggested that the newly elected Board handle it.
- Trustee Millette made several community interest announcements relating to recent events and achievements at St. Charles North High School.

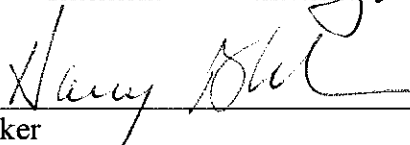
**8. CLOSED SESSION** - No Closed Session was held.

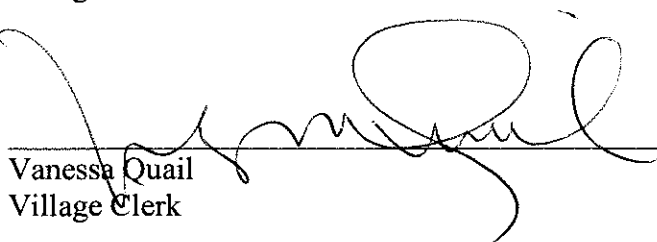
**9. ACTION PERTAINING TO CLOSED SESSION** - There was no action.

**10. ADJOURNMENT - MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING at 8:36pm**, made by Trustee Millette; and seconded by Trustee White Eagle.

Voice Vote: [AYES: 5] [NAYES: 0] [ABSENT: 1] Motion **CARRIED**

Approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019

  
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 Harry Blecker  
 Village President

  
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 Vanessa Quail  
 Village Clerk