

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CORPORATE AUTHORITIES OF THE
VILLAGE OF CAMPTON HILLS**

January 11, 2019

9:00 A.M.

VILLAGE OF CAMPTON HILLS

VILLAGE HALL

40W270 LAFOX ROAD, Suite B

Campton Hills, IL

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - President Blecker called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. **ROLL CALL** - Clerk Quail called the Roll:

Present

Trustee George

Trustee Girka

Trustee Millette

Trustee O'Dwyer

Trustee Tyrrell

Trustee White Eagle

President Blecker

Absent

None

Also Present

Administrator Searl

Clerk Quail

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - President Blecker led all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Kim Weiss, of Blue Lake Circle, identified herself as owner of Old Towne Pub, and explained that gambling is already present in the form of popular lottery ticket sales. She emphasized that she has been dedicated to the Village over the past 12 years in business; but asked for the Board's support of video gaming, and for their reconsideration of residents dictating what is good for business.

Sue Windland, of Kingston Court, identified herself as a former member of the Village's Community Relations Committee, and stated her opposition to video gaming, and her support for the referendum. Although in agreement with many of the points raised by Ms. Weiss, Ms. Windland spoke about the importance of fully informing the public, particularly concerning regulations and appropriations of funds.

Mary Fredrick, of Phar Lap Drive, thanked the Board for the Board for the opportunity to speak, and expressed her support of the advisory referendum.

Mark Bezik, of Maritime Lane, Woodstock, IL, identified himself as a business owner and said that he had recently communed with other business owners who are in agreement that those who do not have video gaming are losing out to other towns. He stated that the Board was elected to do what is best for the people; but that they should not have to ask the public about

every matter on which they decide. He expressed his support for a trial period sunset clause for video gaming.

Jim McKelvie, of Fox Creek Drive, spoke in favor of the referendum, stating that an informed decision is the best decision.

Jerome Johnson, of Beith Road, stated his support for the referendum, and said that the history of the Village is rooted in public engagement. He also identified transparency and education as important components in the process; and expressed concern over the possibility of the community having to endure controversy. He urged all to remember that the issue is not personal policy; that it is the Board's responsibility to listen to the public; and to increase the visibility of issues overall.

Joe Miller, of Barnside Ct., identified himself as both a resident and a Campton Township Trustee. He stated that the Village of Campton Hills incorporated because the residents did not want others making decisions on their behalf. He emphasized the importance of achieving a balance between the residents and the businesses; but that the people do have a right to express their opinions. He added that the Township voted in favor of a referendum. He stated that he, personally, does not favor or oppose video gaming because he does not have adequate information.

Darlene Bakk, of Reindeer Court, stated that she is not in favor of gambling. Citing an example of a recent visit to a restaurant in a neighboring municipality with video gaming, she said that the experience was loud and unpleasant.

Ann Brack-Johnson, of Beith Road, identified herself as a 27-year resident who believes in the importance of the community's voice. She stated that the Board owes it to the community to put the issue to referendum.

Richard Johansen, of Balkan Drive, identified himself as the Campton Township Clerk, and stated his personal support for the referendum; and explained that the Township passed a resolution in opposition to video gaming.

Dave Eshoo, identified himself as the owner of Helping Hand IT, and resident of 28 years. He stated his support for video gaming, explaining that the businesses can help promote each other. He stated that he believed most of the business owners are in support of video gaming. He said that he is open to the referendum; but that he also believes the residents should not be able to dictate what business owners put in their businesses.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AND REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM TO THE ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF CAMPTON HILLS, KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AT THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 2, 2019, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO ALLOW GAMBLING IN THE FORM OF VIDEO GAMING, AS**

PROVIDED UNDER THE VIDEO GAMING ACT, 230 ILCS 40/1, IN THE VILLAGE OF CAMPTON HILLS, made by Trustee O'Dwyer; and seconded by Trustee Tyrrell.

Trustee Millette asked if the Village Attorney, Ancel Glink had reviewed the draft Resolution; and Trustee Tyrrell explained that it had been reviewed by the Board's legislative attorney, Montana & Welch. Administrator Searl clarified that the Village Attorney received a copy; but that they were not asked to review it.

Trustee White Eagle asked about the logistics and timing of getting the referendum on the ballot; and Administrator Searl explained that it needs to be translated to Spanish; but that the entirety is due to the County by January 24th. Trustee George added that the Village has gone through the process several times in its history.

President Blecker summarized that people spoke about openness and a desire to participate in the process; but he asserted that the Board silenced the public by failing to "second" the motion when video gaming was on the agenda last year. He stated that the present demand for educating the public was odd in its timing and should have taken place when the issue was raised previously.

Trustee George added context of the history to which President Blecker referred, noting that three businesses had approached the Village about video gaming at the time; and in consideration of their request, the Board deemed it appropriate to give the businesses an opportunity to formalize petitions. She further explained that any resident or business has the legal right to do so and bring about a referendum.

Trustee Tyrrell concurred with Trustee George and emphasized that there is no "anti-business" sentiment. He said that the businesses had the opportunity to bring forth the issue. Reading an excerpt from 2015, Village Board meeting minutes, Trustee Tyrrell pointed out that President Blecker was not in favor of video gaming, and that the Village Board's consensus at the time, was a rejection of video gaming.

Trustee O'Dwyer objected to President Blecker's suggestion that the Board "silenced" the public; and pointed out that the Board's response was the opposite of silencing, insofar as there was ample time for the restaurant owners to take the matter to referendum. Trustee O'Dwyer further recalled asking the businesses owners at the last meeting why they never followed up; but they did not have a clear answer. He stated that the Board is not here to decide if video gaming is good or bad; but that the people have a chance to vote. He emphasized the importance of making the facts readily available to the public and encouraged the businesses to do their part to educate people on the matter.

Trustee White Eagle concurred with Trustee O'Dwyer's remarks that everyone should have an opportunity to be part of the conversation; and to that end, all parties can share information and the Village provide a venue for everyone to learn. She praised all those who attended the meeting and reiterated her strong sentiment for the community coming together to create dialogue. She emphasized that this discussion is not about adversity; but instead, opportunity.

Trustee Millette concurred with earlier discussion points that the sentiment at the time was to allow the concerned business owners and/or the Economic Development Committee (EDC) to initiate the referendum process; but that in hindsight it has proved too burdensome of time and

expense for business owners to bear. Having made the motion on the matter a year ago, he said that this referendum should have been initiated by the Board at that time. He emphasized the importance of learning from the past as well as moving forward and encouraged the public to participate in the process. He noted that the Board cannot take a position on the referendum. With regard to the review process of the referendum, he stated that he would be more comfortable if the Village Attorney review it.

Trustee Girka suggested an *ad hoc* committee be formed. He characterized the advisory referendum as a “procedural maneuver” to undermine a potential item on the agenda. He stated that the trustees were elected to watch out for the “little guy,” who is the business community in this case. He insisted that the Board should not shirk its responsibility and leave this matter to the people; and expressed his clear opposition to the referendum.

Trustee George stated that the Board is in full favor of helping businesses; but that is also has to take into account the concerns of the residents. She explained that the results of the advisory referendum come back to the Board for consideration, at which time, anyone can continue to participate in the discussions. She encouraged the businesses to help educate the residents.

President Blecker added that in the event the referendum reflects as much 80% in favor of video gaming, the Board can still oppose it, and vice-versa. He said that the results of the non-binding referendum would not preclude further discussion or action.

Trustee O’Dwyer reiterated the importance of reaching the masses with the information about video gaming, noting that the Board represents everyone in the Village, not just the businesses. He said that the process works when important matters are brought to referendum, to get a sense of what the people want.

Trustee Millette added that the Board will have to consider the threshold when evaluating the results of the referendum, since the turnout is generally around 50%. He raised the idea of the trial period with sunset clause and said that could be a potential compromise from which the businesses might also benefit.

President Blecker called for the vote.

Roll Call Vote:	[AYES: 5]	[NAYES: 1]	[ABSENT: 0]	Motion	CARRIED
	George	Girka			
	Millette				
	O’Dwyer				
	Tyrrell				
	White Eagle				

Trustee Girka left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

6. **CLOSED SESSION - MOTION FOR THE VILLAGE BOARD TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT TO DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS, INCLUDING LEGAL COUNSEL 2(c)(1) & (3), made by Trustee White Eagle; and seconded by Trustee Tyrrell.**

Roll Call Vote: [AYES: 4] [NAYES: 0] [ABSENT: 0] Motion **CARRIED**
George
O'Dwyer
Tyrrell
White Eagle

President Blecker left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.; and assigned the role of President Pro Tempore to Trustee Millette.

The Board went into closed session at 10:05 a.m.

President Pro Tempore Millette reconvened the regular meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Clerk Quail called the Roll:

<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Also Present</i>
Trustee George	President Blecker	Administrator Searl
Trustee O'Dwyer	Trustee Girka	Clerk Quail
Trustee Tyrrell		
Trustee White Eagle		
President Pro Tempore Millette		

7. **ADJOURNMENT - MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING at 10:25, made by Trustee Tyrrell; and seconded by Trustee O'Dwyer.**

Voice Vote: [AYES: 4] [NAYES: 0] [ABSENT: 1] Motion **CARRIED**

Approved this 5th day of February, 2019



Harry Blecker
Village President



Vanessa Quail
Village Clerk