

**Minutes of Committee**  
**Monday, August 24, 2009**  
**8:00 p.m.**

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

- 1) Knights of Columbus Request for Temporary use: Oktoberfest
- 2) IC Parish Block Party: Request for Temporary Use
- 3) Status Update: Traffic Issues- College View
- 4) Metro Paramedics Contract Discussion
- 5) City of Elmhurst Local Adjudication
- 6) ComEd Vallette Street Substation Grass and Weed Removal Ordinance Update
- 7) Howard Ave Parking Restrictions
- 8) Discussion: Video Gaming in Elmhurst
- 9) Other Business

Committee Members Present: Wagner, Nybo, Pezza

Elected Official Present: Spencer, DiCianni (part)

City Staff Present: Neubauer, Kopp, Bacidore, Storino, Keating, Coulter  
(Engineering Consultant), Panico

Guests: Thomas Huinan, Peter Alfini, M. Wilbert, Mary Pierotti, Gail Macko, John Pastuovic, Jeff Hartman, Scotty Clohan, Bud Jason, Tom Zickus, William Shanklin, Jay Washburn, Ted Vatch

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS:

- Item #1 Peter Alfini and Thomas Guinan were present to address and respond to questions from the Committee. Chief Neubauer requested to amend the report to read that alcohol sales will stop at 10:30 PM and the event will close at 11:00 PM. The times would be consistent with other events having the sale of alcoholic beverages. Chief Neubauer also clarified that off duty Elmhurst Police officers are prohibited to work events in town that involve alcohol. Subsequent to a brief discussion the Committee directed Staff to amend the report as requested and phone in signatures.
- Item #2 G. Macko, M. Pierotti, and M. Wilbert were present to address and respond to questions from the Committee. Subsequent to a brief discussion the Committee signed the report.
- Item #8 The Chairman changed the agenda order to accommodate members of the American Legion and John Pastuovic, (Chicago Crime Commission) who were present.

Alderman Pezza opened the discussion by expressing her concern regarding the negative impact video gambling would bring to the Elmhurst community. She supports creating an ordinance prohibiting video gaming in Elmhurst, similar to what the DuPage County Board of Commissioners has recently enacted prohibiting video gambling in unincorporated DuPage County.

Pastuovic, of the Chicago Crime Commission, then addressed and responded to the Committee's questions. He encouraged the City of Elmhurst to follow the DuPage County Board in creating an ordinance prohibiting video gaming in Elmhurst. He believes the increase in crime and social costs far outweigh any revenues that may be received. He also believes the projected revenues from video gambling are not accurate and over inflated.

William Shanklin of the American Legion then addressed the Committee along with several other members of the American Legion who were present. Shanklin advised the Committee that video gaming may help the American Legion attract new membership and business, thereby increasing revenues for the post. These revenues are given back to the community in many ways such as scholarships, sponsoring athletic teams, etc. Shanklin further advised that the American Legion has experience with gaming and intends to manage the video gaming properly.

Nybo requested a point of clarification as to whether this agenda item was for discussion only or required Committee action. Nybo further stated he was in favor of an ordinance banning video gaming in Elmhurst. Subsequent to discussion it was decided this item was not before the Committee merely for discussion.

Item #8 (continued)

Mayor DiCianni directed the discussion to possible alternatives for charitable organizations like the American Legion, to raise revenues. The discussion then focused on revenue options such as creating an exception to allow video gaming for such purposes or the possible creation of some type of ordinance for charitable organizations. The Committee and Mayor expressed their support for the service work done by the American Legion. Subsequent to further discussion with City Attorney Storino, the Committee stated they would not be in favor of allowing any exceptions to prohibiting video gaming. The Committee directed staff to prepare a report accepting Alderman Pezza's request to create an ordinance prohibiting video gaming in Elmhurst.

Item #3 B. Coulter (Traffic Engineering consultant) addressed the Committee providing an overview of his report and recommendations and Staff's memo regarding his report. Coulter and City Engineer Keating responded to Committee and Staff questions. J. Hartman, Vice Principal of York High School, was also present and addressed the Committee regarding Coulter's recommendations for the high school. He advised they are currently working on implementing some of the recommendations and reviewing others. Subsequent to further discussion the Committee directed Staff to prepare a memo identifying those recommendations that would require council action and those that would not. Also, costs associated with said recommendations and report back to the Committee.

Item #4 Chief Kopp and Jay Washburn (Metro Paramedic Service) addressed and responded to the Committees' questions regarding the amended paramedic contract. The discussion then focused on the option of extending the current contract and the pricing model offered that could provide further savings to the City. Subsequent to further discussion the Committee signed the report.

Item #5 Chief Neubauer provided the Committee with an overview of the report detailing the benefits of the Adjudication process. He advised there would be some initial start up costs for computer software, attorneys fees, and minimum staff costs associated to the Adjudication process once it is implemented. Subsequent to further discussion the Committee signed the report.

Item #6 Chief Kopp addressed the Committee advising that subsequent to discussion with the City Attorney, the current ordinance allows for the city to cut the grass on the ComEd Vallette Street substation if ComEd fails to do so and subsequently bill ComEd for the cutting. Regarding snow removal the City Attorney has some concerns regarding the zoning. Subsequent to further discussion the Committee tabled the issue of snow removal.

Item #7 The Committee discussed amending the proposed ordinance which had been tabled at the last council meeting. Subsequent to further discussion with the City Attorney, a motion will be made to amend the proposed ordinance at the next council meeting.

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- Item #9 Chief Neubauer advised the Committee that the Elmhurst Police Department along with York High School has scheduled a Town Hall type meeting for September 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM @ York high school. This meeting is in response to the Police Departments' noted increase of Heroin use among young people in Elmhurst and DuPage County. Also invited are parents and students of I.C. and Timothy Christian high schools. Various speakers will provide information regarding the use of this highly addictive narcotic and its devastating effect on the individual, family and community.

The Committee was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.  
Submitted by Dominic Panico, Deputy Chief