Village of Sauk Village
Committee of the Whole
Village Board of Trustees
21801 Torrence Avenue, Sauk Village, IL 60411
Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

- Roll Call
  Mayor Burgess called the Committee Meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. On Roll Call: Trustees Bell, Brewer, Grant, Jasinski, Todd, Williams
  Others in attendance: Village Clerk Marva Campbell-Pruitt

THERE WAS NO EXECUTIVE SESSION

DISCUSSIONS

- In attendance was Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller of the 6th District. She provided a brief overview of the County and the thirty-six municipalities for which she is responsible. The priorities of her commission are to:
  - Support Economic Development for the Southland
  - Support other programs that support the Southland
  - Support efforts of Invest in Cook Grant and provided that the $150,000.00 for Sauk Village was for a targeted project for a two-way shared cap on 223rd trail between Plum Creek
  - Support town’s efforts for the 2020 Census.

She invited residents to visit her at planned meetings and to visit her office when issues are impacting our area. The District Office is in Oak Forest.

- Social Media Policy – Village Clerk Marva Campbell-Pruitt spoke of the need and importance of developing a Social Media Policy. It was decided that an ad hoc committee would be formed to address the issue.

- Ordinance Amendment – Trustee Linda Todd spoke on the proposed elimination of the Economic Director position. It is no longer a budgeted position and must now remove the position from ordinance.
  - Trustee Williams stated that she read the current ordinance, and it does not state that the position was to go beyond six months without reassessment. The Village Administrator was hired to do Economic Development. She offered to assist in the role.
To Establish a Hiring Freeze and a Spending Freeze – Trustee Todd led the discussion. She stated that the hiring freeze for the Parks and Recs Director and Finance Director are the exceptions to the proposed ordinance as they are already in the budget. This ordinance speaks to not hiring new or p/t staff.

- Trustee Grant stated that it should read that new positions should not be created.
- Trustee Williams stated to add, “unless it is already in your current budget.”

Todd asked everyone to send her an email with needed changes. Then come back to discuss it at another meeting. She asked for the Board’s input to the Spending Freeze. She expressed that no one should keep spending. It would exclude on obligations, but if an item is over $500.00, it would require advanced approval from the Board. She asked the Board to establish parameters and language.

- Mayor Burgess asked, if the expense within their appropriation, would they have to come before the Board.
- Trustee Grant stated that items must come before the Board.
- Trustee Williams mentioned a policy from 2015.
- Trustee Brewer mentioned the Budget and Finance document that the committee had not approved and the status of the document? Trustee Grant suggested that Dir. Finch and Administrator Williams should continue to review the document and share with Trustee Todd.
- Trustee Burgess asked who would make the determination of nonessential spending.
- Trustee Williams asked to review the document from 2015 and the Finance Policy and Procedures, and then they decide. This was Tabled.

Liquor Sales Ordinance – Mayor Burgess reported that businesses are asking for an ordinance to sell liquor at 8:00 a.m. so that they could be competitive with neighboring towns. Trustee Williams asked to bring for discussion to the residents to gauge their opinions. It was asked that it be on the agenda for consideration.

Resolution to Adopt the 2019 Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Ms. Maggie Jarr discussed a proposed resolution to a countywide plan. By adopting, the Village would be eligible from FEMA and other safety programs. She stated that the Directors of EMA and PW were instrumental in adding input. Asked that it be on the agenda for consideration.
Public Comment

- B. Hopkins stated that she did not understand the mitigation plan discussed; asked if the Budget hearing was finalized? She did not think the Alcohol sales was a good idea.
- S. Shymkus stated that early alcohol sales would mean more drunks at church; he asked the Mayor if once the budget is vetoed if he would explain the roles.
- H. Parker spoke on social media and asked if the policy would include the SVI Page?
- Z Ayres expressed a misunderstanding of the Mayor’s role as opposed to the Trustees; she insisted that the trustees are not following another Trustee; question one trustee who supports the Mayor; and appealed to him to serve the people who put them in office.
- J. Cast spoke on the Clerk’s comments on Social Meeting and the SVI page; stated that she wishes to disassociate the Village from that page; stated that it was past practices that positions were hired without the Board Approval; and advised that the handicapped accessible door was not working.
- I. Sapp commented that racism and hatred blinds the effort to work together; appreciated the show some puts on.
- F. Harvey mentioned a problem with those who are intent to have things their way and cannot see other’s positions and that they should not mistreat others.
- C. Gooch thanked two ladies for donations to the boys in the gym.

Mayor Burgess’ Comments

- Offered a copy of the Multi-Jurisdictional plan to B Hopkins.
- The Board would vote on the extension of sell of alcohol.
- Social Media – he has been dogged since he came into office; he cannot censor; there are 1st amendment rights.
- Mayors have the right to veto. It can be overridden.

Comments of the Trustees and Mayor

- Trustee Williams commented on the 10/26 Costume Walk to Trunk or Treat; announced several other events.
- Trustee Bell announced his cancelled meeting.
- Trustee Grant mentioned his disappoint with the Budget process; Dept. Heads did not have input, and the Interim Finance Director was not present; and that he wants the budget done correctly.
- Trustee Jasinski announced the rescheduled meeting of 10/23.
- Trustee Brewer had no comment.
- Trustee Todd announced her meeting for 11/4 at 6:00 pm in the rotunda.
- Mayor Burgess- announced the next Townhall meeting.

Trustee Bell moved, and Trustee Brewer seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. The meeting concluded by common consent.