



VILLAGE OF WAUCONDA VILLAGE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

5:30 pm

Village Hall – Conference Room
101 N. Main Street

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members: Chairman Ken Arnswald, Deputy Chair Barbini, Trustee Black
Staff: Administrator Maxeiner and Police Chief Wermes

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Arnswald called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM. Committee members in attendance were Deputy Chair Barbini and Trustee Black. Also in attendance were Trustees Knight, Starkey, and Howe in addition to Village Administrator Maxeiner and Police Chief Wermes.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - a. No minutes were presented for approval
3. **Old Business** – There was no old business to discuss
4. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion on Regulating the Operation of Drones in the Village of Wauconda.** Administrator Maxeiner opened by stating that Trustee Starkey had brought to his attention the use of a drone over the lake. The concern was about the danger to boaters, boaters distracted by the drone, and the potential invasion of privacy. Drones are going to be a new challenge and municipalities are just starting to attempt to regulate them.

Village Attorney suggested starting with a general discussion on the form of the regulations and then he could start to draft an ordinance for consideration. Examples of ordinances from the Village of Manhattan, Illinois and Paradise Valley, Arizona were provided as background material on the matter in addition to material provided on the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on regulating drones.

Administrator Maxeiner attempted to frame the questions as to regulation of drones on public versus private property, whether it should be Village owned only or other local governments as well, the operation ceiling, what type of permission is required, the size of drones, and the difference between private and commercial operators.

Chairman Arnswald recognized resident Dirk Leahy who is a drone enthusiast. He provided an example of a drone and described how it is operated.

Considerable discussion ensued about how to enforce drone regulations.

After significant discussion about drones and what can be regulated, the Committee suggested that Administrator Maxeiner prepare a rough draft of drone regulations with Attorney Magna after consulting with the other governmental entities in the Village. There was also discussion on submitting the draft drone regulations to the FAA for comment prior to bringing the matter back to Committee for further deliberations.

- b. **Request to Consider Waivers for Building Permit Fees for Civic Organizations.** Mayor Bart asked for the Village Services Committee to consider reducing or waiving building permit and inspection fees for civic organizations. A local civic organization recently experienced some water damage in their facility and was required to obtain a building permit to repair the damage. Someone from the organization had asked the Mayor to reduce or eliminate the fees associated with the permit since the organization is operating on limited resources. The Mayor has suggested that service organizations are an extension of the Village in that they provide services to the public.

Administrator Maxeiner stated that there is currently no provision for code relief for civic organizations. He also stated that he is not aware of any historical practice of providing reduced or eliminated fees. With no legislative authority to address this request, staff felt it best to have the Committee discuss the matter and provide direction.

Chairman Arnswald reminded everyone that the Development Committee just went through a discussion on building permit fees and the current level is a break-even point for the department. Discussion ensued about potential circumstances in which a reduced or eliminated fee might be applicable.

The consensus of the Committee is that they are hesitant to reduce or eliminate fees and pass the cost on to the taxpayer. Those parties requiring the building permit are the one paying for it. Civic clubs and organizations are no different and this cost should be built into the cost of maintaining a facility. If there is further data or reasons to show why a reduction is warranted, they would certainly be willing to discuss it further. However, at this time, there was not consensus to reduce or eliminate building permits for service clubs or organizations

5. **Public Comment.** There were no additional public comments shared with the Committee.
6. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Submitted by:

Village Administrator