

CITY OF WARRENVILLE
CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020
Virtually and at the Warrenville City Hall
28W701 Stafford Place

In accordance with social distancing requirements, Governor Pritzker’s Executive Orders 2020-43 and 2020-44, and Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act (see Public Act 101-0640), this meeting was held virtually.

I. OPENING CEREMONIES

A. Call to Order

Mayor Brummel called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. Roll Call

Present: Mayor David Brummel, Ald. Stu Aschauer, Clare Barry, Fred Bevier, Kathy Davolos, Leah Goodman, Jeff Krischel, Bill Weidner, and Robert Wilson

Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator John Coakley, Assistant City Administrator Cristina White, Finance Director Kevin Dahlstrand, Community and Economic Development Director Ron Mentzer, Deputy Public Works Director Phil Kuchler, Police Chief Ray Turano, Treasurer Larry Brenner, Attorney Brooke Lenneman, and City Clerk Emily Larson

Also Absent: None

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Presentation by NuMed - Adult Use Cannabis Dispensary

Jim Hughes and Laura Jaramillo, representatives for NuEra (formally NuMed), presented an overview of the proposed marijuana dispensary, located on the southwest corner of Route 59 and Ferry Road. The dispensary operations are highly regulated and secure, all product is traced via a state-regulated seed-to-sale software program, and no product can be seen, smelled, touched or consumed on site. The dispensary has an extensive security protocol, including a licensed security guard on site during business hours, and a state-of-the-art security system, including indoor and outdoor cameras, motion sensors, and alarms that can be accessed by state and local police. The only changes to the exterior of the facility will be the removal of the drive-thru lane at the rear of the building and the addition of five more parking spaces. Ms. Jaramillo added that the Reserve Online Pick-up Express (ROPE) program allows customers to make their selection online. Once a customer has made their purchase selection, they schedule a 30-minute pick up time. ROPE

customers can use a reserved parking spot, check in at the security desk, and pick up the merchandise. She noted this reduces the transaction times, allowing them to process more customers per hour, and reduces congestion. She said NuEra is able to set a limit to the number of orders per 30-minute pick-up time. Once the number has been reached, no additional customers will be able to select that time, allowing NuEra control of the number of customer seen per hour.

Ald. Barry asked if the ROPE program is for pickup only. Ms. Jaramillo said the program is regulated by the State of Illinois. She noted that they will temporarily be providing a curb-side pickup option during the pandemic.

Ald. Davolos stated some concerns with the traffic patterns. She asked if drivers exiting the facility to go north on Route 59 can make a U-turn at the intersection, and how would drivers exiting the facility on Ferry Road get back to Route 59, due to a high median on Ferry Road. Chief Turano said it is legal to make a U-turn in an intersection unless there is signage prohibiting that maneuver. He said drivers exiting the facility on Ferry Road can go west to Duke Parkway and drive north and east to get back to Route 59. Mayor Brummel noted that repeat customers will find the best ways to get in and out of the facility.

Ald. Goodman questioned if social equity was considered when choosing the Warrenville location. Ms. Jaramillo replied that they received 25 applications from social equity entrepreneurs and NuEra has a program that promotes social equity. She noted that they also recruit employees from economically impacted areas.

Ald. Goodman said she is concerned that there will not be enough parking spaces available, but then believes the ROPE program would help meet those requirements. Director Mentzer replied that the parking proposals are compliant with the zoning and a traffic engineer's evaluation found the amount of space to be sufficient. He noted the ROPE system will control the amount of traffic coming in and out of the facility.

Ald. Krischel asked if additional parking is available when the ROPE program estimates 30 customers per hour. Director Mentzer replied that there are ten staff on site and 29 parking spaces. The ROPE program allows for 16 customers to be processed per hour.

Ald. Weidner asked how employee overflow parking would be addressed. Ms. Jaramillo said employees would be given two options, either Uber credits or arrangements for nearby off-site parking.

Ald. Weidner asked if the security cameras are monitored in real time or reviewed at a later time. Ms. Jaramillo said there is a security guard on duty during business hours who would have access to review the cameras in real time.

Ald. Weidner asked if the facility has a recycling program. Ms. Jaramillo said there will be recycling containers at several locations throughout the building.

Ald. Weidner asked if NuEra supports other social groups. Ms. Jaramillo said they are very involved with Veterans groups and the American Cancer Society, and would be getting involved with groups in Warrenville.

Ald. Weidner noted there are only 29 parking spaces on the property, and asked if customers would be allowed to use the parking at 4-M Plaza. Ms. Jaramillo said the removal of the drive-thru lane would add four or five more parking spaces, and no parking would be allowed at the 4-M Plaza.

Ald. Weidner asked if there is a limit on the amount of product a customer can purchase at each time. Ms. Jaramillo said the state regulates the amount of each purchase.

Mayor Brummel stated that the Plan Commission conducted a very thorough evaluation of this business and it was a unanimous decision to recommend this to the Council.

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jim Halama, Knights of Columbus, announced that due to the pandemic, the Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual Tootsie Roll Drive virtually during the month of September. He said donations can be made at GoFundMe.com by searching for St. Irene.

Bob Siebert, Albright Court, said property in TIF #3 and 4 should not have a tax increase when it has no relationship to the economic development in those districts.

III. OFFICIALS AND STAFF COMMENTS

A. Mayor

Census 2020

Mayor Brummel announced September 30th is the last day to self-respond to the 2020 Census. Enumerators have been knocking on doors since early August to reach out to those families that have not yet self-responded. The census can be completed at www.my2020census.gov or by calling 1-844-330-2020. Approximately 17 percent of Warrenville residents are still not counted. An undercount could cost a community millions of dollars in funding over the next ten years. Mayor Brummel encouraged everyone to complete the Census.

COVID-19 Update

Mayor Brummel reminded everyone to continue to follow the safety guidelines for the prevention and spread of COVID-19 by wearing a mask in public, washing hands, and practicing social distancing.

National Night Out – CANCELLED

Chief Turano announced that due to COVID-19 restrictions, National Night Out is cancelled.

B. Clerk

Warrenville in Bloom

Clerk Larson announced that the hanging baskets and bridge planters are going to come down next week – it's the end of summer.

C. Treasurer

No report

D. Aldermen

Traffic Stop

Ald. Aschauer thanked the Police Department for their handling of the DUI traffic stop at Route 56 and Winfield Road last week, and the subsequent arrest of the offender.

National Night Out

Ald. Goodman questioned why the City was cancelling National Night Out but allowing the Park District to hold the Art on the Prairie event. City Administrator Coakley said he spoke with Park District Executive Director Tim Reinbold, and was assured that the CDC guidelines would be strictly adhered to during the event. He noted the booths would be six feet apart and everyone would be required to wear a mask at all times.

COVID-19

Ald. Krischel wanted to encourage parents of school age children to persevere during the days to come.

E. Administrator

COVID-19 Update

City Administrator Coakley reminded residents to follow DuPage County's COVID-19 guidelines.

F. Attorney

No report

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion:

VI. A. Removed by Ald. Aschauer for discussion

ALD. WEIDNER MOVED, second by Ald. Wilson, to approve the items on the Agenda for the September 8, 2020, City Council regular meeting, as amended.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Krischel, Wilson, Bevier, Barry, Goodman, Davolos, Weidner, and Aschauer
Nay: None MOTION ADOPTED

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ALD. WEIDNER MOVED, second by Ald. Wilson, to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2020, City Council regular meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Aschauer, Goodman, Weidner, Bevier, Wilson, Barry, Davolos, and Krischel
Nay: None MOTION ADOPTED

VI. CONSENT AGENDA – OMNIBUS VOTE

- A. Removed by Ald. Aschauer for discussion
- B. Accept staff recommendation, waive second reading, and pass ordinance O2020-33, decreasing the number of Class A2 liquor licenses
- C. Accept Mayor Brummel’s recommendation and pass resolution R2020-53, extending the duration of the March 16, 2020, Declaration of Emergency until the adjournment of the next regular, special, or emergency meeting of the City Council
- D. Accept staff recommendation and pass resolution R2020-54, designating Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officers for the City of Warrenville
- E. Receive and file minutes of the Police Pension Board regular meeting held on April 28, 2020
- F. Receive and file minutes of the Bicyclist and Pedestrian Advisory Commission regular meeting held on June 9, 2020
- G. Receive and file minutes of the Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals regular meeting held on August 20, 2020
- H. Receive and file minutes of the Tourism and Arts Commission regular meeting held on July 16, 2020
- I. Receive and file report of invoices paid up to September 2, 2020, in the amount of \$160,639.06
- J. Authorize expenditures for invoices due on or before September 21, 2020, in the amount of \$104,542.02
- K. Accept Plan Commission recommendation, waive second reading, and pass ordinance O2020-32, approving a Special Use Permit for the NuMed adult use cannabis dispensary, 4S120 N. IL Route 59

ALD. WILSON MOVED, second by Ald. Davolos, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Barry, Goodman, Weidner, Krischel, Bevier, Davolos, Aschauer, and Wilson
Nay: None MOTION ADOPTED

A. NuMed Cannabis Dispensary

ALD. WILSON MOVED, second by Ald. Krischel, to accept Plan Commission recommendation, waive second reading, and pass ordinance O2020-32, approving a Special Use Permit for the NuMed adult use cannabis dispensary, 4S120 N. Route 59.

No discussion

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Davolos, Krischel, Weidner, Wilson, Barry, and Goodman
Nay: Ald. Aschauer and Bevier MOTION ADOPTED

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

Hotel Tax Grant Policy Amendment

ALD. WEIDNER MOVED, second by Ald. Davolos, to accept staff recommendation and approve revisions to the temporary amendment to the hotel tax grant policy, extending reimbursement of expenses through December 31, 2020, for events impacted by COVID-19.

Discussion: Assistant City Administrator White, said that due to the continued COVID-19 restrictions, some events have been cancelled between March 15 and December 31, 2020, and shall be reimbursed for any approved expenses incurred for their event. This policy will remain in effect through December 31, 2020, unless otherwise extended by the Council.

Ald. Aschauer asked how much has been refunded as of this date. Assistant City Administrator White estimated around \$60,000 has been returned to event planners.

Ald. Goodman asked why the May 31 date was chosen rather than the end of April. Assistant City Administrator Cristina White replied because it was unknown how long the pandemic would last and TAC did not want to have to ask for another extension.

Ald. Wilson asked if the Hotel Tax fund is still at a 75 percent decrease. City Administrator Coakley said Council would receive a full update at the next Council meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Barry, Weidner, Krischel, Wilson, Aschauer, Goodman, Bevier, and Davolos
Nay: None MOTION ADOPTED

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None

X. CLOSED SESSION

None

XI. ADJOURN

ALD. GOODMAN MOVED, second by Ald. Aschauer, to adjourn.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ald. Aschauer, Barry, Bevier, Davolos, Goodman, Krischel, Weidner, and Wilson

Nay: None

MOTION ADOPTED

The regular Council meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Approved: _____

Emily J. Larson, City Clerk