

APPROVED
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Ciesla called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Present were Trustees Heller, Ciesla, and Israel. Also present were Village Manager Richard Nahrstadt; Deputy Village Manager and Chief Financial Officer Jeff Rowitz; Director of Development and Planning Services Thomas Poupard and Attorney Stewart Weiss of the law firm of Holland and Knight. Members of the public attending included Linda Carroll, Mike Carroll, Peg Nolan, Steve Kaiser, Helene Gidaspow, and Ann Berwald.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

DISCUSSION: Review of Wildlife Ground Feeding Municipal Code Regulations

Trustee Ciesla invited comments from the audience.

Helen Gidaspow read the proposed amendment to the municipal code to the Committee, noting she did not find it acceptable. She asked the Committee to leave birds out of it. She explained she does not have hanging bird feeders now. She does have birds, like ducks, that are ground feeders. Ms. Gidaspow expressed her opinion that the proposed ordinance is a big intrusion on her property especially if it does not affect her neighbors. Ms. Gidaspow pointed out there are other factors that attract birds like fruit trees.

Ms. Ann Berwald read Trustee Ciesla's quote from the July 11th newspaper article. She asked Trustee Ciesla to confirm squirrel houses will not be banned. She stated she is not trying to domesticate animals in Northbrook.

Ms. Peg Nolan stated she has been in Northbrook for 40 years. She questioned if an ordinance amendment is needed to address this issue when there have been only three complaints. She questioned why this issue can't be taken care of between homeowners?

Linda Carroll stated this problem has been going on for years. She explained her primary concern is health and she does not like cleaning up after the birds. Ms. Carroll noted what others are doing in the yard is affecting their neighbors.

Steve Kaiser explained he lives by the tollway near the forest preserve. During the winter the wild life is a problem. He explained the animals get hungry and they then eat the plants. Mr. Kaiser explained how he has tried to stop the animals from the eating the plants, but the only way to stop them was by putting

out food for them. He asked that the Committee not include areas located around forest preserves in the amendment.

Trustee Israel asked whether he has had any complaints from his neighbors and in response Mr. Kaiser stated no.

Trustee Ciesla ended the comments.

Trustee Israel questioned the prohibition of pole bird feeders. He stated he felt they were appropriate for bird feeders.

Trustee Ciesla questioned if he would like the word "hanging" removed from the proposed ordinance and Trustee Israel stated he was ok with that. Trustee Israel then noted his concern with seed outside. He questioned if this means to attract animals, and noted you put seed in the yard to grow food. He stated he was not sure how to reconcile the difference.

Trustee Ciesla noted the issue of hanging feeders is already addressed and will be removed from the proposed amendment. Trustee Israel moved, seconded by Trustee Ciesla to recommend to the Board the proposed municipal code change with the amendment. On voice vote all were in favor.

ADJOURN

Trustee Israel, seconded by Trustee Ciesla, moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The motion passed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Debbie Ford
Village Clerk