MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WILMETTE, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017 AT 1:45 P.M. IN THE TRAINING ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, WILMETTE VILLAGE HALL, 1200 WILMETTE AVENUE, WILMETTE, IL 60091

Members Present: Trustee Stephen Leonard
                   Trustee Julie Wolf

Absent: Trustee Senta Plunkett

Staff Present: Jeffrey Stein, Corporation Counsel

I.   Call to Order.

Corporation Counsel Jeffrey Stein called the meeting to order at 1:58 p.m. Committee members Leonard and Wolf were present.

Mr. Stein noted that Chair Senta Plunkett was absent and asked for nominations for a President pro tem.

Trustee Leonard nominated Trustee Wolf. There were no objections and President pro tem Wolf proceeded to preside over the meeting.

II.   Approval of Minutes: Judiciary Committee Meeting of September 27, 2016.

Trustee Wolf directed the Committee's attention to the draft minutes of the Judiciary Committee meeting of February 14, 2017.

Trustee Leonard moved that the Committee approve the minutes, seconded by Trustee Wolf.

No further discussion occurred on the motion. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

      Ayes   Trustees Leonard and Wolf.
      Nays: None.
      The motion carried.

III. Discussion and recommendation to the Village Board of an amendment to the General Penalty provision of the Wilmette Village Code, 1993 as amended

Corporation Counsel Jeffrey Stein said as part of the Village's set of laws (Wilmette Village Code), there is a General Penalty that applies to all violations within the Village (unless there is a specific penalty provision for a specific violation). As the Village Code reads today that penalty: 1. Can be a fine not to exceed $750, 2. Can require restitution to the private party, 3. Impose community service and/or 4. Impose counseling/treatment. There are no recommended amendments to the text of those specific penalties; rather, upon review of the Wilmette Village Code, there is a common provision in other municipalities that is not present in the Village's General Penalty section.

That provision would restrict the issuance of licenses, permits certifications and any other authorization as required by the laws and ordinances of the Village if an applicant (or an interested party to the application) has any debt due and owing to the Village. Such debts can be, but are not limited to, delinquent water billing, business/liquor licensing fees, and adjudicated fines. All of these debts must be due and owing directly to the Village and not to another governmental or private entity.

It is Corporation Counsel's recommendation that the proposed ordinance be recommended by the Judiciary Committee for approval to the Village Board. Doing so will allow the Village to collect debts that were rightfully imposed and has a potential positive impact upon the Village's budget.

Trustee Wolf asked if Mr. Stein would be working with the Administrative Services Department regarding the data for billing and fees.

Mr. Stein said he will work with Peter Skiles, Director of Administrative Services to search for any debt owed to the Village by an applicant for a license or permit.

Trustee Leonard asked if there was any down side for the Village with the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Stein said he did not believe there was any downside for the Village.

Trustee Leonard moved to recommend that the Village Board approve an ordinance to amend the Village's General Penalty to restrict issuances of licenses, permits and certifications for those applicants that have an outstanding debt due and owing to the Village, seconded by Trustee Wolf. No further discussion occurred on the motion. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

    Ayes   Trustees Leonard and Wolf.
    Nays: None.
    The motion carried.

IV.   Public Comment

None.

V.   New Business

No Report

VI.   Adjournment

Trustee Leonard moved, seconded by Trustee Wolf to adjourn. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Wolf declared the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Stein,
Corporation Counsel