Village of Spring Grove – Village Board
Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. President’s Report
4. Clerk’s Report
5. Engineering Report
6. Building and Zoning Report
7. Police Department Report
8. Committee Reports
   A. Safety Committee
      1. Consideration of August 14, 2019 Safety Committee Special Meeting Minutes
9. Public Discussion (Public discussion shall be limited to three minutes per speaker)
10. Consent Agenda (items listed on the Consent Agenda will be approved by a single vote of the Board unless a member of the Board requests that a separate vote be taken on any item)
    A. Approval of the August 20, 2019 Village Board Regular Meeting Minutes
    B. Approval of the August 27, 2019 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
    C. Approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement for the use of the Spring Grove Municipal Centre by and between the Village and Burton Township
    D. Approval of the August 2019 Bills Payable
    E. Approval of the FYE 2019 General Fund Audit
    F. Approval of the FYE 2019 Police Pension Fund Audit
11. Unfinished Business
12. New Business
    A. Consideration of a variance to allow a masonry mailbox at 9115 Bentley Lane
    B. Consideration of an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Motor Vehicle Code, relative to the operation of golf carts on village streets
13. Other Business
14. Adjournment

Posted: August 30, 2019 at 3:00 pm
MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF SPRING GROVE SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Council Chambers, Spring Grove, Illinois, September 3, 2019; a Regular Meeting of the Village Board was held this date at 6:01 p.m., at the Municipal Centre, 7401 Meyer Road; President Mark Eisenberg presiding.

Roll Call. Roll call showed the following Board members present: President Mark Eisenberg; Trustees Mike Lee, Jeff Letzter, Pat Mazzanti, Bob McMahon, Kelly Popelka and Lloyd Simonson - 7. Absent: None. Also present for the Village were: Tom Sanders, Chief of Police/Executive Assistant; Bob Walczak, Building and Zoning Officer; Mike Gajewski, Planning and Zoning Chairperson; Scott Puma, Village Attorney; and Sandi Rusher, Village Clerk.

President’s Report. President Eisenberg presented Landon Simeck with a letter congratulating him for completing his Eagle Scout Project. His project was raising funds to cover the cost of the pavers for the 4 new “Welcome to Spring Grove” signs and finding volunteers to install the pavers.

Clerk’s Report. The village received a letter from Direct Source stating the Advanced Disposal acquisition of them is no longer a viable transaction since Waste Management is acquiring Advanced Disposal. The special use permit granted to Advanced Disposal in October 2018 will no longer be valid thus the special use permit issued to Direct Source in 2007 will revert back.


Building and Zoning Report. In response to an inquiry, discussions are ongoing with LifeSpring Community Church as they finalize their site plan. Village representatives made it clear that ingress and egress from Route 173 in phase one of the development is preferred and the right-of-way on Siedschlag Road must line up with the other rights-of-way on Siedschlag Road.

Police Department Report. No report.

Committee Reports - Safety. Trustee Simonson reported the committee met on August 14th to review the result of the community survey on the proposal for the operation of non-highway vehicles on designated streets and the draft ordinance. The survey showed the community was split on allowing or prohibiting non-highway vehicles with 44% for and 39% against. Safety was a primary consideration and that village roads are not engineered to handle both non-highway vehicles and vehicular traffic. The committee recommended UTVs be prohibited because they are meant for off-road and have the ability to exceed the posted speed limit and only allow golf carts. The committee could not reach a consensus on a recommendation of an ordinance but asked the board to consider the additional regulation such as limiting the hours of operation, time of year, maximum speed and prohibiting on streets with large truck travel. The committee discussed the costs involved to implement the program (required signage and registration stickers) but did not discuss staff costs. He noted The Preserve subdivision covenants prohibit the use of golf carts and UTVs in their subdivision.

Consideration of the August 14, 2019 Safety Committee Special Meeting Minutes. Trustee Simonson moved, seconded by Trustee Mazzanti to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lee, Mazzanti and Simonson. Nays: None. Motion carried.
Public Discussion. President Eisenberg then opened the meeting up for discussion by the public.

Brian Golwitzer, resident in the Thousand Oaks subdivision, opposed the proposal to allow non-highway vehicles as village streets are not meant for them. He asked the board to consider the costs associated with the implementation of the program.

Bill Koenig, resident in the Thousand Oaks subdivision, agreed with Mr. Golwitzer and opined residents are limited on where they can travel.

Don McHugh, resident in the Thousand Oaks subdivision, opposed the proposal for golf carts on village streets and expressed concern that the walk path along Winn Road would be used for their travel.

Mike Starsiak, resident in the Preserve subdivision, opposed the proposal for golf carts on village streets citing safety concerns of children. He then reported there are additional sink holes in his subdivision.

Frank Tripicchio, resident in the Thousand Oaks subdivision, agreed with those before him and voiced concern with the police department having to enforce the ordinance.

Jeff Tietz, resident in the Thousand Oaks subdivision, inquired if a cost analysis has been done to implement the program and ongoing enforcement. Chief Sanders guessed the cost to be $18,000, which includes the cost of the signs, additional posts, and staff time to install signs and post and conduct an inspection. The cost for ongoing enforcement is unknown. In response to an additional question, Chief Sanders stated the police department does have records of accidents involving non-highway vehicles and there are probably more that often go unreported.

President Eisenberg announced the request for non-highway vehicles was initiated by village residents whose vision was to be able to drive downtown and to businesses on Route 12. After researching the matter, it was found that this could not work because Illinois law prohibits the use on streets with a posted speed limit of 45 mph or more. The village conducted a survey of the residents to gather their thoughts, opinions and ideas. He added the community is surrounded by sites offering outdoor recreational activities and clarified straddle seat vehicles, such as ATVs, are prohibited per state statute.

Rich Kurowksi, resident in the Oak Valley subdivision, expressed concern with the village’s liability by allowing non-highway vehicles on streets and questioned if a 16-year-old operator would be only allowed one passenger just like if they were driving a car. State statute states the minimum operating age is 16 year of age and insurance is required for non-highway vehicles if operated on streets.

Jim LaFontaine, resident in the Stonegate subdivision, conducted an unofficial poll of the subdivision and 10 of the 13 homes opposed the use of non-highway vehicles. He opined the village should look at banning ATVs and UTVs on private property as they have an issue in their neighborhood.

Debbie Dayboll, resident in the Oak Valley subdivision, supported the use of UTVs and would like the opportunity to ride around her neighborhood.

Terry Dayboll, resident in the Oak Valley subdivision, supported the use of UTVs. He stated the village cannot prohibit the use of ATVs and UTVs on private property and spoke of his experience of riding UTVs in Wisconsin on roads that are posted 55 mph. He noted his UTV is plated in Wisconsin and fully insured.
Ryan Richardson, Richardson Adventure Farm, supported the use of non-highway vehicles as they are another way to connect the community and increase the community’s outdoor recreational activities.

Paul Tierney, resident in the Preserve subdivision, opposed the use of non-highway vehicles and agreed with those who have previously spoken. He questioned if the approval would nullify their covenants that prohibit the usage. Attorney Puma replied he is unsure as the village is only in charge of its streets and not the enforcement of the subdivision’s covenants.

Greg Dunkin, resident in the Thousand Oaks subdivision, spoke of his experience with golf carts in Hawthorn Woods where the issues were with younger drivers. He opposed the use of non-highway vehicles.


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Trustee Simonson moved, seconded by Trustee Mazzanti to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lee, Letzter, Mazzanti, McMahon, Popelka and Simonson – 6. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business. None.

New Business.
Consideration of a variance to allow a masonry mailbox at 9115 Bentley Lane. Trustee Mazzanti stated the Public Works Committee will be discussing allowing masonry mailboxes village-wide at its October 2 meeting. Trustee Mazzanti moved, seconded by Trustee Lee to approve a variance to allow a masonry mailbox at 9115 Bentley Lane subject to 3-inch reflectors be added to it. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lee, Letzter, Mazzanti, McMahon, Popelka and Simonson – 6. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Consideration of an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Motor Vehicle Code, relative to the Operation of Golf Carts on Village Streets. President Eisenberg highlighted the results of the community survey.

- 42% of the respondents were likely or very likely to use a non-highway vehicle.
- 50% of the respondents were unlikely or very unlikely to use a non-highway vehicle.
- 25% of the respondents reported they already own a non-highway vehicle.
- 44% of the respondents were supportive of non-highway vehicles.
- 39% of the respondents were not supportive of non-highway vehicles.
Trustee McMahon stated this has been circulating for years with residents asking the village to consider. He acknowledged there will be cases where people don't follow the rules but there are residents who want to enjoy this recreational activity. He supports the use of golf carts and UTVs and if a subdivision doesn't want them the village should exclude them. Trustee Mazzanti responded that this would be impractical to enforce. Trustee McMahon then questioned the need for a 6 ft. orange flag on a golf cart. Trustee Lee explained it was recommended as an additional safety feature to draw attention to the golf cart especially when coming over a hill or around a corner.

Trustee Lee expressed concern with the safety of people operating golf carts and drivers not seeing them. He had a golf cart and sold it for this very reason. He stood by the recommendations of the Safety Committee.

Trustee Letzter opined the village’s infrastructure is not set up to allow golf carts and he voiced concern with safety and police enforcement. At this point in time, he did not see it as a good fit for the community.

Trustee Mazzanti spoke of his experience with non-highway vehicles. He opposed UTVs because of the speeds they can travel and golf carts for safety reasons. He did not support the ordinance because the village’s infrastructure is not set up to allow.

Trustee Popelka echoed the enforcement concerns and went on to state survey respondents had concerns with speeding and operators not stopping at stop signs.

Chief Sanders voiced concerns with safety, lack of infrastructure and enforcement.

PZC Chairperson Gajewski opposed the use stating it is not viable in the community.

President Eisenberg remained open minded through this process and shared similar concerns with safety and young drivers. He opined the community is not ready to embrace this concept at this time.

Trustee McMahon moved, seconded by Trustee Letzter to approve the Ordinance with the amendment to allow UTVs. Roll call vote: Ayes: McMahon – 1. Nays: Lee, Letzter, Mazzanti, McMahon, Popelka and Simonson – 5. Motion failed.


Other Business. Chief Sanders reported Sgt. Jason Hintz will be retiring from the department on September 22 after 21 years of service.

There being no further business, Trustee Simonson moved, seconded by Trustee Letzter to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. On voice vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Sandi Rusher, Village Clerk