

VILLAGE OF NORTH UTICA
248 W. Canal St., North Utica, IL 61373
Committee of the Whole Meeting
January 27, 2022
www.utica-il.gov

AGENDA

- I. 7:00 p.m. - Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Village Clerk:
 - 1.) Consideration and Possible Recommendation regarding Annual Dues in the amount of \$1,000 to Illinois River Road Scenic Byway
- V. Director of Village Affairs
 - 1.) Update on Utica Business Association
 - 2.) Update on upcoming Village Events
- VI. Village Treasurer
- VII. Police Department - Chief Damron
- VIII. Building / Zoning Enforcement Officer
- IX. Maintenance Department/ Public Works Director
 - 1.) Update - Ongoing / upcoming projects in the Village
- X. Village Engineer
 - 1.) Update – Ongoing / upcoming projects in the Village
 - 2.) Update – DCEO Grant Application: Rebuild Downtown & MainStreet Program Grant
 - 3.) Update - 2022 MFT Road Project in the Village of North Utica – Street Assessment
- XI. Village Attorney:
 - 1.) Consideration and Possible Recommendation Establish a Gaming Machine License and Associated License Fee(s).
- XII. Village President
- XIII. Committees / Trustees
 - 1.) Committee Assignment updates
 - 2.) Trustee Reports
- XIV. Public Comment
- XV. Executive Session
 - 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal for specific employees
 - 2.) Pending Litigation
 - 3.) Purchase/Sale/Lease of Real Property
- XVI. Possible Action regarding Executive Session items
 - 1.) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal for specific employees
 - 2.) Pending Litigation
 - 3.) Purchase/Sale/Lease of Real Property
- XVII. Adjournment

Posted: 01-25-2022

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MINUTES

At 7:08 pm the Meeting was called to Order by Village President David Stewart who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Village Clerk Laurie Gbur recorded the meeting attendance. Present at the meeting were Trustees John Schweickert, Nate Holland, Mary Pawlak, Debbie Krizel, Kylie Mattioda and Jim Schrader. Also present were Village Attorney Herb Klein and Village Engineer Kevin Heitz, Director of Village Affairs Jamie Turczyn, Village Treasurer Jill Margis, Police Chief Rodney Damron and Public Works Director / Zoning Enforcement Officer Curt Spayer.

Village Clerk: Mr. Bill Zens, IVAC Executive Director, spoke to the Village Board about the benefits of becoming a Member of the Illinois River Road Scenic Byway. The Byway consists of 291 Federally Registered miles and the organization promotes the region with marketing on their website, maps, brochures and flyers. The Village had been a member of the organization several years ago, however, the website hadn't been updated. Mr. Zens stated that the annual dues for participation in the organization is \$1,000 and the Village of North Utica will receive an updated page on the website. It was then motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee Pawlak to recommend approval to become a Member of the Illinois River Road Scenic Byway in the amount of \$1,000 in annual dues for 2022.

6 Yes

Motion Carried

Director of Village Affairs: NONE

Village Treasurer: NONE

Police Department – Chief Damron: The Department is getting ready for the upcoming Winter Wine Walk being held on February 12, 2022 as well as other upcoming events including the annual Mardi Gras Parade and the annual St. Pat's Parade.

Building / Zoning Enforcement Officer: NONE

Maintenance Department: No updates. Mayor Stewart and the Board thanked the Maintenance Department for the great job they did in plowing and salting during the recent snowfall.

Village Engineer: Engineer Heitz provided a brief update on the ongoing and upcoming projects in the Village. DCEO Rebuild Downtown & Mainstreet Grant Application – At the Planning Commission Meeting held earlier in the Meeting, Engineer Heitz had provided a presentation of the Mini Mill St. Shops Development Project and Grant Application. 2022 MFT Road Project – When the roads are clear again, Engineer Heitz will begin reviewing their condition and he will put together a street assessment for Board consideration.

Village Attorney: Attorney Klein stated that in December, the State of Illinois updated the policy on the fees that a municipality could charge for a business having gaming machines. The previous Law allowed for a \$25 imposed fee per machine; the new Law allows for a \$250 fee per machine that could be imposed by a non-Home Rule Municipality and there is currently no cap on the fee, per machine, that can be imposed by a Home Rule Municipality. Trustee Schweickert stated that he thought that a fee in the amount of \$250 per machine would be sufficient.

Mr. Dale Senica stated that the Village Board denied the Petition from Kelly Waters when she wanted to put gaming machines in the building located at 142 Mill St. that is owned by his family.

Mayor Stewart stated that Ms. Waters Petitioned to move her gaming parlor business downtown however, the Village Board at that time had agreed that it was not a good fit for a full gaming parlor to be located within the C-1 Zoning District, in the historic block of Mill St.

Mr. Senica stated that he has another business interested in opening in the building now; it will be a Tattoo Shop. He stated, "The Village needs to consider these types of businesses so that we don't have empty buildings in town. If the Village doesn't allow these businesses, they will go open up somewhere else out of town instead of in Utica and we need them here."

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Mr. Senica then stated that he is also considering renovating some of the building and possible adding on to the back of the building. He stated that he is willing to invest the money to do the renovations but he needs a business to lease the building so that he can make that investment, in the building and in the downtown. He also stated that he needs a business to lease the building because if he does the renovations or adds on to the building, his taxes will increase in the Village.

Mayor Stewart stated that the Village doesn't have any control over the taxes assessed on a property however, the Village Board is always open to ideas for new businesses in the community.

After some discussion, the Village Board agreed to consider establishing a gaming license for businesses that have gaming machines, along with establishing a cap for the number of machines permitted in the Village. The Board would also like to consider imposing a \$250 fee per machine. Further discussion will be held at the February Board Meeting.

Village President: NONE

Committee / Trustee Reports: NONE

Public Comment: NONE

Executive Session: NONE

Adjournment: With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm. Motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee Holland.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Gbur
Village Clerk