

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
OSWEGO VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OSWEGO VILLAGE HALL
100 PARKERS MILL, OSWEGO, ILLINOIS
March 7, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

President Gail Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS ON-ANY REQUESTS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN MEETING

There was no one who participated electronically.

ROLL CALL

Physically Present: President Gail Johnson; Trustees Ryan Kauffman, Karin McCarthy-Lange, Pam Parr, Luis Perez, Judy Sollinger and Joe West.

Staff Present: Dan Di Santo, Village Administrator; Christina Burns, AVA/HR Director; Tina Touchette, Village Clerk; Jennifer Hughes, Public Works Director; Jeff Burgner, Police Chief; Rod Zenner, Community Development Director; Michele Brown, Community Relations Manager; Corinna Cole, Economic Development Director; and Dave Silverman, Village Attorney.

PUBLIC FORUM

Public Forum was opened at 6:00 p.m.

There was no one who requested to speak; the Public Forum was closed at 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

F.1. Presentation on Village and Library Collaboration: Oswego(w): Entrepreneurs and Small Business Center.

Economic Development Director Cole presented the Oswego(w) Entrepreneurship Center collaboration to the Board. The Library and the Village partnered to launch Oswego(w) with the mission of providing resources for entrepreneurs and small businesses that otherwise may not have access to physical space, helpful software, and business mentorship. The objective is to nurture all types of business in Oswego. Oswego(w) is dependent on strategic partnerships. The Library has been the most significant partner offering space and bearing the cost of the software licenses. Free workshops and classes are likely to be offered via the Women's Business Center of Aurora. Waubensee Community College has been helpful in providing guidance and recommendations.

Oswego(w) started with three questions:

- What does Oswego's small business, entrepreneurs, and workforce need?
- What will they need in the future?
- What resources and strengths does Oswego already have in place?

The Future Economy

The economy and workforce have changed significantly. There are trends in the domestic economy towards free lancing or the "gig"; also called the "uber"- economy.

- The number of small and personal business in the US will increase by 7 million
- 40% of the American workforce are projected to be freelancers by 2020
- Oswego has 295 registered home based and small businesses in 2016

- National trends are reflected in Oswego's workforce and economy

Mission and Purpose

- Develop Oswego's workforce
- Foster Oswego entrepreneurship
- Innovate Oswego's marketplace so businesses are stronger and can compete regionally and domestically

Oswegro(w)

- Resource hub for entrepreneurs, small business and professionals
- Located downtown
- Hosted by Oswego Public Library District
- Offers:
 - Free co-working space
 - Networking
 - Professional education
 - Business software
 - Workshops
 - Mentorship

Partnerships

Village of Oswego, Oswego Public Library, Waubensee Community College and Women's Business Development Center in Aurora

- Oswego Public Library
 - Amazing and invaluable partner
 - Co-working space and access to software
 - ✓ Obtained the licensing software for a business planner and demographic databases
- Village of Oswego
 - Connect the center to the back bone of businesses here in the community
 - Create an advisory committee to help determine and direct the programs and offerings of the center
 - Look to the business community to give feedback needed to sustain a collaborative, innovative, and responsive center
- Waubensee Community College and Women's Business Development Center
 - Professional and business development programming

Oswegro(w) is still in the formation stage, but the progress and response received has been exciting. Director Cole thanked the Library District for their help and support.

Board and staff discussion focused on the collaboration being a great idea; Library is training staff on the software; services will be provided to everyone, not just small business owners; may be expanded to employees who want to learn the skills; great opportunity for entrepreneurs; whether there will be opportunities to teach people basics of programming and coding; marrying supply and demand; raspberry pi programming; Library has programs currently.

There was no further discussion.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Trustee Kauffman and seconded by Trustee Sollinger to enter into Closed Session for the purposes of discussing the following:

- a. Pending and Probable Litigation [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)]
- b. Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of

- Personnel [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]
- c. Collective Bargaining, Collective Negotiating Matters, Deliberations Concerning Salary Schedules [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)]
 - d. Sale, Lease, and/or Acquisition of Property [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) & (6)]

Aye: Ryan Kauffman Karin McCarthy-Lange
Pam Parr Luis Perez
Judy Sollinger Joe West

Nay: None

The motion was declared carried by a roll call vote with six (6) aye votes and zero (0) nay votes.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:09 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:01 p.m.; all remaining members still present.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Tina Touchette
Village Clerk