

## Southern View President and Board of Trustees Agenda for the Regular Monthly Meeting

Tuesday / October 22, 2024 / 6:00 p.m.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER: Mike Patsche, Village President
- 2) ROLL CALL: Greg Bourland, Trustee  
Nate Briggs, Trustee  
Robert Eskew, Trustee  
Rebecca LaRussa, Trustee  
Betsy Richbark, Trustee  
Mike Tavernor, Trustee
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mike Patsche, Village President
- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approve September 24, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- 5) BILLS TO BE PAID: Approval of the Bills to be paid, with checks issued 10/22/2024
- 6) APPROVE TREASURERS REPORT: Approve September 2024 Treasurer's Report
- 7) CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: Deputy Chief Dodd, Springfield Police Department
- 8) DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Police Department Report for September 2024  
Public Works Department Report September 2024
- 9) OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION:
  - a) Discussion and Approval of the IDOT Condemnation of Village Property
  - b) Discussion and Approval of Land Acquisition from IDOT
  - c) Discussion of Pop-Up Tents at the Park
- 10) NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION:
  - a) Discussion and Approval of the Renewal of Principal Life for Dental, Vision, ADD and Life Insurance for Employees
  - b) Discussion and Approval of the Renewal of Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance for Employees
  - c) Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 24-10-01 An Ordinance Pertaining to the Regulation of Video Gaming for the Village of Southern View
  - d) Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 24-10-02 An Ordinance Pertaining to the Regulation of Liquor Control Chapter 112 of the Southern View Code
  - e) Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 24-10-03 An Ordinance Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax
  - f) Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 24-10-04 An Ordinance Authorizing Cancellation of an Agreement with Southern View Neighborhood Watch Committee

**g) General Business Discussion**

**President's Comments-**

**11) EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

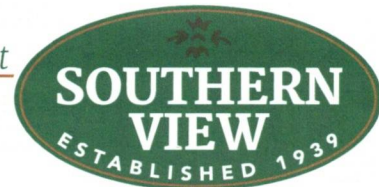
- a) The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of a Specific Employee or Legal Counsel for the Public Body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1))
- b) Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act for Purposes of Approval by the Body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21))
- c) Discussion Relating to IDOT Condemnation of Village Property (5 ILCS Exemption 2(c)(6))

**Return from Executive Session--may take action on the items discussed in Executive Session**

**12) ADJOURNMENT:**

**Any subject matter placed on the agenda, regardless of how the matter is stated on the agenda or where it is placed, may be acted upon by the President and Board of Trustees.**

**Posted: October 20, 2024 1:00 p.m.**



## Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Village of Southern View Board

**CALL TO ORDER:** The President and the Board of Trustees held the regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at the Southern View Municipal Building, 3410 South Fifth Street, Southern View, Illinois. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Patsche, followed by Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** The following were present:

Greg Bourland, Co-Trustee of Parks and Residential Permits  
Nate Briggs, Co-Trustee of Parks  
Robert Eskew, Trustee of Public Works and Commercial Permits  
Rebecca LaRussa, Trustee, via phone  
Betsy Richbark, Trustee of Public Health & Safety and Economic Development  
Mike Tavernor, Trustee

Also Present:

Lisa Cave, Village Treasurer & Clerk  
Don Craven, Attorney

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President Patsche stated that he is moving item F on the agenda to a special meeting for the Neighborhood Watch. President Patsche stated he does not do Facebook or social media but when he was alerted the radio made an announcement that the Board would be discussing the Curve's liquor license, he decided to move that agenda item to another day as this meeting would be a long meeting. Cyndi Tavernor stated that there are people here at the meeting that came to this meeting to discuss it and maybe they won't be able to come. Trustee Tavernor stated a post was made by a Trustee that the Board would not be discussing it tonight and they need to explain themselves. Trustee Eskew stated he responded to a post directed at him. Trustee Tavernor stated this is not going to stand. President Patsche stated yes, it is, that is the problem with the Neighborhood Watch, you want to run the Village, and it is not going to happen. President Patsche stated again that he will hold a special meeting for the Neighborhood Watch. Attorney Craven stated that what President Patsche was trying to allow folks that are here for the Neighborhood Watch that it would be a special meeting and that they would not have to stay for the whole meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** President Patsche asked whether the Board had reviewed the September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments.

Motion to approve the September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented by: Trustee Bourland and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Eskew

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee LaRussa voted present

**MOTION PASSES.**



**APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS:** President Patsche asked whether the board had reviewed the October 22, 2024, Bills to be Paid, and whether there were any changes, corrections, or amendments. Trustee Tavernor asked what the charge for the Illinois Times was? Clerk Cave reported that by state statute the Village posts the annual treasurer report in the paper. Trustee Briggs asked what the keys were made for at Lakeside True Value and the mailing services. Trustee Eskew stated it was for the police department. Trustee LaRussa stated she thought all the Trustees would receive a key. Trustee Tavernor asked when the monies will be received from the Flock camera? Chief Maki stated we were approved for the grant and are awaiting the funds. Trustee Tavernor also asked where was the hotmix used at? Trustee Eskew stated several different areas in the Village, 2<sup>nd</sup> and St Joseph, 1<sup>st</sup> and Garrett all over.

Motion to Approve the Bills to be Paid, for October 22, 2024, as presented by Trustee Richbark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Bourland  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee LaRussa voted NO  
**MOTION PASSES.**

**APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER REPORTS:** President Patsche asked whether the Board had reviewed the September 2024 Treasurer Report and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments. Trustee LaRussa stated she had a question on the Treasurer Report that she is still not seeing where the money is being placed in the accounts. Lisa stated on page 6 of the Treasurer Report, which is the page after page 4. President Patsche said hearing none, the September 2024 Treasurer Report stand approved as submitted.

Motion to approve the September 2024 Treasurer Report as presented by: Trustee Bourland and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Eskew  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee LaRussa voted present  
**MOTION PASSES.**

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Attorney Craven stated that we have Chief Dodd and citizens to speak on 10-D the Liquor Control Ordinance it would be appropriate to take 10-D out of order and consider it at this time. President Patsche asked for a motion to consider item 10-D at this time.

Motion to approve moving 10-D the Liquor Control Ordinance at this time to discuss as presented by: Trustee Richbark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Bourland  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee Tavernor did not vote as he questioned why the roll call is not in the order of the agenda. Trustee Richbark stated it should never be the same each time it is called should be different.  
**MOTION PASSES.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chief Maki provided information to the Board regarding incidents at the Curve Inn from 2022 to present from 5 agencies, listed separately. From January 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024 there were 147 calls, 85 of those were after 1:00 am. From 7/1/24 to today, 105 calls and 87 of those were after 1 am. These are just calls to the Curve. The Southern View Police Department has recovered two firearms in the parking lot of Little Flower. There was a call from someone inside the Curve that a guy was showing a weapon, when our officers located the individual we recovered the weapon in the parking lot. Trustee Tavernor asked wonder if our presence would make a difference over there? Chief Maki stated we are the Police Department we work for the Village of Southern View we are not doorman. President Patsche stated Ami and Ray have a good business at the Curve, it is their patrons that leave the bar and go into the parking lot at Little Flower and cause the disruptions.

Officer Griffin stated he had another officer with him one night when he went into the Curve and was questioned by one of the patrons why their tax dollars are paying him to be at the Curve? He stated that he left to de-escalate the situation as the patron appeared to be intoxicated. People are being injured in the bar and in the parking lot.

Ami Merchant, stated that she feels if she calls for help from the Police Department it is being held against her. Ami asked how many Southern View has arrested? Chief Maki stated that he does not have the information on how many people were arrested.

Deputy Chief Dodd, Springfield Police Department, stated that the Curve is not in their jurisdiction, and they do provide back up. The Springfield Police Department does patrol the parking lot. Three weekends ago, Springfield Police recovered 4-5 guns at 3 am in the morning. The three am bars have a large call volume. Someone asked why the officers that are in the parking lot are not enforcing them drinking in the parking lot. People are partying in the parking lot. The officers are looking for violent offenders. Another person stated that they are pop-up parties at least they know where they are at the parking lot instead of elsewhere in the City. Trustee LaRussa asked who is liable if something happens at the parking lot. Ami Merchant stated they have an agreement with Little Flower paying them monthly and they have an umbrella policy for any liability. Deputy Chief Dodd stated the City voted for 2 am that takes place on January 1, 2025 and the County voted for 1 am that took effect on July 1, 2024. Another citizen asked why they are not writing open alcohol tickets? He has never seen anyone be issued a ticket. Another citizen asked why we are allowing criminals to dictate when businesses are opened? Another resident stated ok, so someone could drink till 2 am at Motorheads and drive through Southern View? Trustee Briggs stated that from the conversations that we have had before that the Curve did not want to be the only 3 am bar, is that not the case? Ami Merchant stated no, she is ok with being uniformed with 2 am like the other bars in the City of Springfield but she feels that it is not going to solve our problems. Ami stated she pays for a Springfield officer to sit in the parking lot and there are pop up parties to prevent anything. Ami stated she needs help from Southern View. Chief Maki stated he will ensure officers will go into the Curve and walk through nightly.

Gary Petrosky, addressed the Board stating he owns a gaming business and is a resident of 40 years. This will affect my business these ordinances will raise fees and taxes. What if the change causes our village businesses to close? The Village is proposing raising the liquor licenses and implement a gaming charge isn't bringing in almost over \$400,000 enough?

Shelly Vanbever, works at the Curve for over 21 years, this is a world problem and you are penalizing a family. It is everywhere in our homes, every one of us, when will we stop it? We will be ok with 2 am not 1 am. For over 21 years it has fed my family and everyone else's. It is not the Curve's problem it is everyone's problem, the worlds problem. We need the presence of the police officers. We have 50 employees at the Curve.

Ami Merchant, owner of the Curve for 22 years, good standing with Health Department everything, the reduced hours of 1-3 am is 23.5 % of their revenue. \$108,742.97 in sales tax plus 20% of our gaming. The Curve Inn is number 1. We sell more beer and liquor than anyone else in Central Illinois. We have over 500 people walking in the park we should not be judged by 1 or 2 people. People in the parking lot are not allowed in the bar. We are told to call the Police if we have any issues. We have 6 Bassett trained security guards, we pay \$250 each night for a Springfield police officer to sit in their lot. We have a great relationship with Little Flower Tommy Madonia. In April 2024 we noticed a shift of patrons and we called a meeting with the Chief and asked for a walkthrough, can we get a City officer across the street? How can her staff control the parking lot? We are playing house music in the bar to control the patrons, we scan every person, we take no sh\$t. We had never played house music till now. We control the music, no entry after 2 am. We were trying to control the whole Decatur thing that was happening. We appreciate the consideration of the Board for the 48 employees.



Samantha Bueling, this affects a lot of people. There were 4 county bars that the change of hours has affected and they have now closed their doors.

Ryan, Curve employee, has worked for 2 years and is 25 years old and she feels safe and secure at the Curve.

Brandy Ellis, employee at the Curve for 2 ½ years, Ami helped her move from Quincy. Closing early will affect her and her family.

Ashley Tavernor, a Curve employee for 3 years, she has never felt unsafe, she brings her family there.

Karly Martin, Curve employee for 18 years, states she watches a lot of YouTube scanner calls, kids have no respect they are not raised correctly, it's the whole damn country. The world is going to hell in a hand basket. Why are we being punished because the idiots are trying to take it from us? People across the street are cheap, they don't want to spend the money, and they want to hear our music. They leave trash bottles, and some are barred from entry, cops can't get them to leave the parking lot. When they close, they have to wait till the public leaves so we can go clean the lot.

Mike Connelly – 24 years he has DJ in this town. The Curve Inn is proactive, they are doing everything they can and doing it differently since day one. 3 am, he does not know but it should be even across the board possible 2 am.

Martina Pierre, works at the Curve for 3 years on Friday and Saturday nights and she loves the Curve.

Jessica Floyd, employee at the Curve for over 7 years, Ami does a lot for the community, and it is a safe establishment.

Samual Gollen, employee for 3.5 years at the Curve stated he has met thousands of people from all over the world working there. He feels like the Curve is a family do not let it go away.

Mike Estes, Curve employee of 3 years security officer, he stated it is his job to make people smile, our job is to make people happy.

Tom Hamilton, Curve employee for 20 years, stated he works 5 days a week 10 pm to 4 am he has never felt unsafe, he handles problems initially, he is the one that calls 911 75% of the time. He is a veteran, met his wife at the Curve after 1 am. This bar has helped put my wife through medical school. Everyone there is his family members. He has watched 2 bars close, and he has been assaulted by customers. He understands not being alone for the police to come through and that he asks that the police come in and let him know they are there. Tom stated we are the best bar in Springfield. The bar does cancer benefits, charity events and he wants help from the police department. At 2 am we can set the standards.

Trustee Richbark, stated she likes the family part of the Curve. How have the calls and behavior been since the County reduced to 1 am. Chief Deputy Dodd stated he does not have that information. If the parking lot is the issue, how long does it take to empty out the parking lot? Tom stated they try to have the parking lot cleared by 4 am they sweep up the lot and are out of there by 4:15 am.

Trustee Eskew asked when the security shirts are worn. Tom stated that one staff member after 10 pm wears a security shirt on Friday and Saturday. When we stopped letting people in at 2 am they were jumping the fence trying to get in and fighting at the door. Trustee Richbark asked if they would stop entry at 1 am? Tom stated if they closed at 2 am it would be like everyone else, last call would be at 1:30 am and 1:45 am they would stop serving to get people out of the bar. Tom stated he cant arrest people or write tickets, he scans everyone, including a 60 yr old man, we require all ids to be scanned. We provide the scanner information, video and all information we have to the police department. We have house music to avoid the bad crowds.

Motion to discuss the Ordinance 24-10-02 An Ordinance Pertaining to the Regulation of Video Gaming for the Village of Southern View by Trustee Richbark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Eskew.

Trustee Bourland stated he would like to propose 2 am and that he feels the Curve is willing to work with the Board. Trustee Richbark asked if they could go to 2 am for 6 months and revisit, Attorney Craven stated it is a one-year license so that is not possible. Ami Merchant stated hopefully we will meet again in a year and be able to go back to 3 am.

Motion to amend section 112-13 b class 3BB from 1 am to 2 am by Trustee Bourland and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Eskew  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;  
**MOTION PASSES.**

Nora Petrosky asked if there is any language that would affect her business. Attorney Craven stated that they would continue to operate a 3 am license until ownership would change and then the liquor license would be 1 am. Nora stated her business would not be worth what it is today. Nora stated that her business has not had any issues. Trustee LaRussa would like to amend the gaming license for 1AA if the ownership changed, they would roll back to 2 am.

Motion to amend section 112-13 b class 1AA \* in the event of ownership change the license to operate would roll back to 2 am by Trustee LaRussa and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Richbark  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;  
**MOTION PASSES.**

Motion to approve the Ordinance 24-10-02 An Ordinance Pertaining to the Regulation of Video Gaming for the Village of Southern View as twice amended by Trustee Bourland 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eskew  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;  
**MOTION PASSES.**

President Patsche asked for a 10-minute break from the meeting, meeting resumed at 7:45pm.



**OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION:** President Patsche stated IDOT Condemnation of Village Property and the for the Land Acquisition from IDOT is tabled along with pop up tents in the Village Park.

**NEW BUSINESS:** President Patsche asked for discussion and approval of the renewal of Principal Life for Dental, Vision, ADD and Life Insurance for the Employees. Trustee LaRussa stated we don't offer plans for family members and asked if the Village could look into providing dependent care for the employees? Lisa stated the Village allows for dependent care at 100% costs to the employee, the Village does not pay for any of the dependent care.

Motion to approve the Renewal of Principal Life for Dental, Vision ADD and Life Insurance for the Employees by Trustee Richbark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Bourland  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee Briggs abstained  
**MOTION PASSES.**

President Patsche asked for discussion and approval of the renewal of Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance for the Employees.

Motion to approve the Renewal of Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance for the Employees by Trustee Richbark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Bourland  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee Briggs abstained  
**MOTION PASSES.**

President Patsche asked for discussion and approval of Ordinance 24-10-01 An Ordinance Pertaining to the Regulation of Video Gaming for the Village of Southern View. Nora Petrosky asked how this ordinance would pertain to the gaming parlors? Attorney Craven stated that it would be an annual fee of \$250.00 per gaming machine split between the Vendor terminals and the business. Nora stated that everything is going up and it may only be \$1,500 per year but with minimum wage going up to \$15.00 she has looked at cutting back. Trustee Richbark stated that she understands costs are going up along with everything going up with the Village also. There has been no charge for machines in the Village since 2012.

Motion to approve Ordinance 24-10-01 An Ordinance Pertaining to the Regulation of Video Gaming for the Village of Southern View by Trustee Richbark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Bourland  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE; except Trustee Tavernor who voted NO  
**MOTION PASSES.**

President Patsche asked for discussion and approval of Ordinance 24-10-03 An Ordinance Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax. Attorney Craven explained that the General Assembly eliminated the states 1% grocery tax, when they did that, they allowed non home rule communities to implement the 1% grocery tax to come to the Village instead of going to the State.

Motion to approve the Ordinance 24-10-03 An Ordinance Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax by Trustee Bourland and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Eskew  
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;  
**MOTION PASSES.**



**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, President Patsche asked for a motion to close the meeting at 8:00 pm. Motion was made by Trustee Eskew and 2nd by Trustee Bourland.

**PREPARED BY:** Lisa Cave, Clerk

**DATE APPROVED:** November 26, 2024