

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
OF THE ZIMMERMAN CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Zimmerman City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall by Mayor Earenfight, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Present: Mayor Earenfight, Council Members, Mathison, Merwin and Nathe. Member Brisbin was excused absent. Also present was Administrator Piasecki.

AGENDA APPROVAL **Mathison/Nathe unanimous to approve the agenda as presented.**

OPEN FORUM None.

SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE – Joel Brott, Sherburne County Sheriff

Sheriff Brott thanked the Council for the opportunity to present and further discuss the Social Host Ordinance for a second time. Brott provided copies of the County Ordinance, unanimously adopted in 2011 by the County Board, and stated the cities of Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Princeton and St. Cloud have since adopted the same or similar ordinances.

Social Host was summarized as an ordinance to discourage underage possession and consumption of alcohol, even if done within the confines of a private residence, and intends to hold persons criminally responsible who host events or gatherings where persons under 21 years of age possess or consume alcohol, regardless of whether the person hosting the event or gathering supplied the alcohol. Such an ordinance allows law enforcement to charge adults who knowingly provide a place for underage drinking to occur.

Brott shared statistics, citing 57% of underage drinkers reported their last use of alcohol was in someone else's home. In 2014, 76 juvenile minor consumption of alcohol cases were processed in Sherburne County, excluding those cities with their own law enforcement. Social Host has been used 26 times since 2011 to address issues of underage drinking, with 3 instances so far in 2015. The Sheriff would like a "countywide ordinance" as it would have a higher percentage of being successful in eliminating underage drinking, and eliminate "spots or areas" where such activities could occur. To date, 22 counties and 109 cities in Minnesota have adopted Social Host Ordinances.

Wendy Kowalski, 26412 Lake Avenue, questioned Brott regarding issues in the Ordinance such as allowing a premises to be used for underage drinking, specifically if a landlord rented to a person who violated the Ordinance, could the landlord also be held responsible. Brott and Capt. Stangler explained the use of the ordinance and how it applies to those persons providing direct access or permission for the underage consumption. Discussion between Council, Sheriff, staff and Kowalski continued regarding the use, interpretation and intent of the Social Host Ordinance. Brott offered to further discuss specific issues with Kowalski at a later date.

Brott concluded his presentation by stating these regulations do not apply to parents providing their own children alcohol in their home, religious rights, or minors working in retail sales, bars, and restaurants. Social Host doesn't allow other adults to make decisions regarding consumption of alcohol for other people's children. Pastor Sterneman of Refuge Free Church and Pastor Cunningham of Zimmerman Community Church were present and stated the local ministerial group supports the Sheriff's Department efforts and encourages the Council to adopt a Social Host Ordinance. Sheriff Brott will provide city staff with copies of the County Ordinance and other models for the city to consider at an upcoming meeting. Council consensus was to further review Social Host in July.

POTENTIAL CIVIC BUILDING RENOVATIONS

Council discussed potential renovations to the Civic Building and funding sources. Unless a significant renovation or expansion were considered, the \$408,000 in Legacy Grant monies may be better utilized for a larger public use building in the future. Thoughts to improve the Civic Building include: addition of a kitchen space, relocation of the coolers and compressors, expansion of seating area, replacement of the exterior doors, siding and roofing. Other improvements to the park area were also discussed, including storm drainage and paving of the parking lot. More discussion to occur at future meetings.

COMMUNICATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mayor Earenfight noted the following events and activities:

- Agenda Items for June 15 City Council Meeting
- Tuesdays ; 3 – 6:30 p.m. -- Farmer’s Market – City Park
- June 12 – Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament – Princeton Golf Course
- June 12 – 14 and June 19 – 21 – ZAYAA Baseball Tournaments – City Park
- June 27 -- Zimmerman/Livonia Fire Department Golf Tournament – Fairway Shores

Nathe/Merwin unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Approved this 15th day of June, 2015.

s/s Randy Piasecki, City Administrator

APPROVED 06/15/2015