



Meeting Date: 2/28/11
Agenda Item: 7b

Mission Statement
Provide quality services in a modern, courteous and cost-efficient manner.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: President Burt McIntyre and Village Board of Trustees **REVIEWED BY:**
REPORT FROM: Robert Bartelt, Village Administrator
AGENDA ITEM: Update on the synthetic cannabis legislation developed by Rep. Bies in 2010 and co-sponsored by Sen. Harsdorf in the Senate and due for a vote later this spring
ACTION REQUESTED: ___Ordinance ___Resolution ___Motion x Receive/File

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the Feb. 18, 2011 Village Board meeting, Trustee Steffen requested monthly status updates on the synthetic cannabis legislation developed by Rep. Garey Bies in 2010 and co-sponsored by Sen. Sheila Harsdorf in the Senate.

Eight states – Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey and New York – have banned synthetic marijuana. Rep. Garey Bies has drafted similar legislation to ban synthetic cannabis in Wisconsin, and other lawmakers already have gone on record to support it, including Reps. David Cullen of Milwaukee and Jeff Smith of Eau Claire and State Sen. Spencer Coggs of Milwaukee.

POLICY ISSUE

At the Jan. 24, 2011 Village Board meeting, the Board passed Ordinance 2011-4, prohibiting the possession, use and sale of synthetic cannabis in the village. A statewide ordinance may or may not impact the village policy.

STATUS UPDATE

Chief Janke contacted Rep. Bies’ office to get a status update on the legislation. Though Rep. Bies has been preoccupied with the budget crisis and related activity in Madison, his assistant Tyler Sivret said the final draft of the legislation was expected to be completed on Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011, with the co-sponsorship memo expected to follow.

Staff will continue to communicate regularly with Rep. Bies and his assistant and attempt to have a draft of the legislation for the next Village Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY VILLAGE BOARD

None

ATTACHED INFORMATION

- I. E-mail correspondence with Tyler Sivret from the office of Rep. Garey Bies

From: Sivret, Tyler [mailto:Tyler.Sivret@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2011 12:46 PM
To: Leigh Ann Wagner Kroening
Subject: RE: Synthetic Marijuana

Good Afternoon,

We should have the final draft today, and the co-sponsorship memo should go out in a few days after that.

Thank you,
Tyler Sivret

From: Leigh Ann Wagner Kroening [mailto:lwagnerkroening@villageofhoward.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2011 12:43 PM
To: Sivret, Tyler
Subject: FW: Synthetic Marijuana

Good afternoon, Tyler,

I hope you are holding up well. Please see below. As Ed mentioned, our Village Board has requested monthly written status updates regarding the proposed state legislation regulating synthetic marijuana. For this month's report, we simply noted that Rep. Bies is busy with the budget crisis in Madison. Please let us know if/when there is any progress with the synthetic marijuana legislation.

Also, I was wondering if – at some point – we may be able to get a copy of the draft legislation to provide our trustees.

We appreciate your help!

Leigh Ann

Leigh Ann Wagner Kroening
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From: Ed Janke
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 11:12 AM
To: Sivret, Tyler
Cc: Robert Bartelt
Subject: RE: Synthetic Marijuana

Thank you Tyler,
Could you update me as information becomes available?

My elected body has asked that I complete a monthly written report.
Respectfully

VILLAGE OF HOWARD

Ed Janke
Director of Public Safety
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From: Sivret, Tyler [mailto:Tyler.Sivret@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 10:57 AM
To: Ed Janke
Subject: RE: Synthetic Marijuana

Good Afternoon Ed,

This is Tyler from Representative Bies office. We have the draft of the K2 legislation, but we're kind of swamped with the budget repair bill at the moment.

Thank you,
Tyler Sivret

From: Ed Janke [mailto:EJanke@villageofhoward.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:09 AM
To: Rep.Bies
Subject: Synthetic Marijuana

Good Morning Sir,
I hope this e-mail finds you well.
Could you kindly advise the status of the K-2 legislation.
The reason I ask; I am getting questions from my Village Board regarding the necessity for our local ordinance.
Respectfully,

VILLAGE OF HOWARD

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