

## Roseville Citizens League 800 Brenner Avenue Roseville, MN 55113

## **MEMO**

**To:** Roseville City Council Members

**Chris Miller & Staff** 

From: Roseville Citizens League\* (RCL) Board Members

(\*Formerly known as the Roseville Citizens Council for Fair and Open

**Government**)

Date: 2-04-11

Regarding: Background material on the history of the Roseville Ordinance #1114 relative to Lawful Gambling

Questions have recently surfaced relative to the historical factors that brought Roseville's Lawful Gambling ordinance into focus. After reviewing a ten pound stack of historical material the key basic facts as I understand them are:

- #1 In 1987 & 1988 there were concerns raised about some possible unethical behavior occurring around Charitable Gambling in Roseville. The historical files have lots of items including newspaper articles on the issues. It was asserted that one person with one Charity had been "skimming" money off for his personal gain for over 13 years.
- #2 A letter to the editor dated June 6th 1990 states- "In Roseville alone, gambling operations [bingo & pull tabs] is expected to gross over \$12,000,000.
- #3 In 1990 a random survey was done of 400 residents and 85% indicated that the City should-"Strictly regulate gambling activity and provide automatic penalties for violations."

A tremendous amount of study and work was done by the then Roseville Citizens Council For Fair And Open Government, the Roseville City Council, and staff. Out of all of that came a comprehensive new Ordinance #1114 for regulating Bingo and Lawful Gambling signed by Mayor Vern Johnson on August 24th of 1992.

For background information I am attaching the following historical documents:

- A June 6, 1990 letter to the Editor
- B Letter of June 28, 1990- from Dan Wall
- C July 28, 1990 Minutes of the Roseville Citizens Council
- D A letter dated August 13, 1990 to Frank Rog that was not signed
- E September 6, 1990 letter from Hubert Humphrey, III
- F Memo from Steve Sarkozy dated September 14, 1990 on Lawful Gambling
- G Letter dated October 1, 1990 from Dan Wall to Jean Johnson
- H A memo dated November 2, 1990 from Bill Morris on survey
- I Memo dated November 10, 1990 From Don Wiski to the City Council
- J Administrative Summary of the North Suburban Youth Association by the Compliance Review Group of the Lawful Gambling Control Board for the State of Minnesota dated July 1991

- K Copy of final Roseville Gambling Ordinance # 1114 signed by Mayor Vern Johnson on August 24, 1992
- L City of Roseville 2010 Lawful Gambling Summary
- M E-mail from Roger Toogood dated February 1, 2011 Re: Charitable Gambling
- N E-mail from Roger Toogood dated February 1, 2011 Re: Further Follow Up On Lions Club & Charitable Gambling

The two e-mails from current RCL Board member Roger Toogood cover what he learned about the current 2011 situation. In essence there was confusion about which Charity had the gambling relationship with Grumpy's restaurant and why did they cancelled their contract.

Considering the fact that The North Ramsey 500 Lions Club was losing \$1,000 a month after they paid their rent and the costs of staff etc. an appropriate question would be - Why would the Blaine Lions Club want to get involved?

Another issue relates to the need to change the 19-year-old ordinance that apparently has been working well.

Has Grumpy's sought out other 501-c charities in Roseville?

If the business at Grumpy's doesn't work because the clientele is too young why couldn't that license be transferred to another Roseville restaurant?

The Roseville Citizens League Board is very interested in this matter and at this stage of development would not want to see the ordinance changed. We think we've selected the pertinent documents from our archives but if the council or staff would like to examine the remainder of the 6" stack just let us know.

Respectively submitted by the entire board of the Roseville Citizens League:

Dick Lambert - Chairman (615-483-9871)
Sara Barsel
Tom Campbell
Mike Hill
Anita Peterson
Doug Root
Larry Shearon
Roger W. Toogood
Bob Venters
Doris Wiehe