

Willow Park City Council
Public Comment: Commercial Amusement Ordinance and the card room
Tuesday, 12 October, 2021

Mr. Mayor, Council Members and Neighbors,

President Theodore Roosevelt said “In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.”

And that’s exactly the decision the Willow Park city council seems to have chosen, to do nothing. During the last city council meeting, attended by over fifty citizens, over twenty spoke to the council and asked them to explain how the new Commercial Amusement Ordinance was used to sneak an adult, card gambling room into Willow Park. The citizens of Willow Park spoke up, we did something. In the minutes you just approved is the entry. “Councilman Runnebaum requested to revisit the Commercial Amusement Ordinance.” The Community News even had a front page article on our requests for information. And directly after the last council meeting and for a few days afterwards, several of the council communicated with several of the citizens assuring them the issue would be addressed.

But last Thursday when The Community News echoed our request for information about the Commercial Amusement Ordinance and the adult card room, the city replied with... nothing... until the last minute when the City tersely indicated more information would not be forthcoming because of a potential law suit.

The card room was a surprise. The law suit was a surprise. And the final surprise was none of this is included on tonight’s agenda; the lawsuit is not even on tonight’s Executive Session agenda. Nothing. That’s what it looks like. It looks like our elected officials have chosen to do the nothing.

OK, maybe you’ll heed THIS advice from President Teddy Roosevelt; he said, The person responsible for most of your trouble, if you could kick that person in the pants, you wouldn't sit for a month.

Keep doing nothing and every elected official in Willow Park will be standing by the next council meeting.