

PLAN

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
PLAN COMMISSION

COMMISSION

RE: CREMATION BY WATER - 11 WEST COLLEGE DRIVE - PC# 20-011
LAND USE VARIATION TO ALLOW A CREMATORIUM IN THE M-1 DISTRICT,
VARIATIONS

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had before the Village of
Arlington Heights Plan Commission Meeting held via virtual Webinar which permits the
public to fully participate in the virtual hearing via the Webinar or their phones, pursuant to
orders issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, on the 9th day of September, 2020,
at the hour of 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

TERRENCE ENNES, Chairperson
SUSAN DAWSON
GEORGE DROST
BRUCE GREEN
LYNN JENSEN
JOHN SIGALOS
MARY JO WARSKOW

ALSO PRESENT:

SAM HUBBARD, Development Planner

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: I'd like to call this meeting to order, and I would like to start that with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bruce, would you do this since you have the flag behind you?

COMMISSIONER GREEN: I will do that.

(Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Thank you, Bruce.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: You're welcome.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Sam, would you call the roll?

MR. HUBBARD: I will.

Commissioner Cherwin.

(No response.)

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Here.

and unmuted?

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Drost. Commissioner Drost, are you here

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Unmute yourself, George.

mute.

COMMISSIONER DROST: Yes, I'm here. Most of the time I should be on

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Green.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Here.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Jensen.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Here.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Lorenzini.

(No response.)

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Sigalos.

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Here.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Warskow.

COMMISSIONER WARSKOW: Here.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Here.

First item of business for this evening is to make an announcement, and that is in regard to this is --

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: We lost him.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman Ennes, we can't hear you. I see that you're not on mute, but you lost audio there. I don't know if it's your connection.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: It was me.

Can you put back up the agenda so that I can read the COVID announcement?

MR. HUBBARD: Sure, hold on.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: So, in response to COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting is closed to in-person public attendance. The meeting is being held virtually, which permits the public to fully participate via their computers and using their phones.

To participate in the virtual meeting, please follow the instructions on bit.ly/3bo8wmA.

Individuals who wish to comment or ask questions on an item on the

Agenda may either participate virtually or send an e-mail to the Village. Please limit e-mails to 200 words or less. To be shared at the meeting, the e-mail must be received by 3:00 p.m. on September 9th, 2020.

We've already called roll, and we can go back to the participants screen.

We have the approval of minutes from our last meeting, and that involves the Pet Suites petition.

Can we have a motion to approve the minutes from that meeting?

COMMISSIONER DROST: I'll make the motion.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: And a second?

COMMISSIONER GREEN: I will second it.

MR. HUBBARD: Okay, I'll call roll.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: That's George and Bruce.

All in favor?

MR. HUBBARD: Unfortunately, it has to be roll call this evening, so I'll call the roll.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Getting to the mute button, unmute. Yes, sorry.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Drost. It looked like it was an eye for Commissioner Drost.

Commissioner Green.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Jensen.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Lorenzini.

(No response.)

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Sigalos.

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Warskow.

COMMISSIONER WARSKOW: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: And Chairman Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Then I'll just go to --

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Also -- okay.

MR. HUBBARD: If I may, Chairman, may I just go through a few procedural things about the meeting this evening?

So, just to give a quick overview of how it's going to proceed, the Petitioner will give their presentation, and then Staff will give our presentation. Then the Commissioners will have a brief discussion. We'll open up the floor to the public. They can participate with the Raise Hand feature in Zoom, or they can dial *9 if they called in over the phone to be added to the queue to speak. Once all the public commentary is done, we'll close the public comment portion of the hearing.

All motions this evening and votes have to be in roll call vote. I

would remind anyone that while they're not speaking, please keep on mute. If you have a keyboard and you're on mute, when you press the spacebar and hold the spacebar, it will temporarily unmute you while you're holding the spacebar. Then you can release the spacebar when you're done talking and automatically be put on mute again.

If I lose the connection or our Chairman loses the connection this evening, please stick around. As soon as we rejoin back, everything will start back up. If one of the members in the audience loses their connection, they can just rejoin the hearing this evening via the same link that they joined with on the first time.

So, thank you for that and ready to go.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Thanks, Sam.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman, unfortunately we've lost you again on the audio side of things. I can hear you speaking in the other room, but I cannot hear you through Zoom, unfortunately.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, sorry.

We have more minutes to approve, that is our Budget Approval for 2021 which was conducted at our last meeting.

If I could have a motion to approve those minutes?

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: I'll so move.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Is there a second?

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: I'll second.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, and Sam, would you take roll call?

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Drost.

COMMISSIONER DROST: Aye.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Green.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Jensen.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Sigalos.

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Warskow.

COMMISSIONER WARSKOW: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

So, all approved, in favor of approval.

We'll move on to our first item of business this evening, and that is the petition for the Cremation by Water, PC# 20-011.

Is the Petitioner here?

MR. HUBBARD: The Petitioner is here. I'm bringing Mr. Philip Flores in. I'm going to unmute him and ask him to open his video and then he'll be clear to go.

MR. FLORES: Hello, everybody. Can you see us and hear us?

COMMISSIONER DROST: Yes.

MR. FLORES: Excellent, great. Thanks. We'll go ahead and get started. I want to thank you for an opportunity to go ahead and meet in front of you guys ahead from the

perspective of proposing and getting your approval for a land variance for the use of a flameless, aqua-cremation business in the M-1 district.

MR. HUBBARD: I'm sorry, can I put you on mute for a second? Can we just swear in the Petitioner before they give their presentation? I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes. So, Mr., is it Flores, F-l-o-r-e-s?

MR. FLORES: Yes, it is. Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: I see you have someone else with you?

MR. FLORES: My wife Colleen.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Will they be speaking this evening?

MRS. FLORES: Colleen Flores.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Colleen, okay. Can I ask the two of you to recite after me, or to acknowledge this.

(Witnesses sworn.)

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, so would you proceed with your presentation?

MR. FLORES: Perfect, thank you very much.

In a quick moment, I will go ahead and share my presentation so that you guys can see it. All right, there we go.

Can I get a thumbs up that you can see the presentation?

(All thumbs up.)

MR. FLORES: Outstanding!

Okay, so the purpose of this hearing meeting is to obtain the approval from the Plan Commission and the community on the land variance used for the flameless aqua-cremation business in the M-1 property.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Is anyone else having difficulty seeing the presentation?

Commissioners?

(Chorus of noes.)

MRS. FLORES: Should we go on?

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

MRS. FLORES: Okay, so we're Philip and Colleen Flores. We're long-time residents here in Arlington Heights. Phil comes from a commercial banking background, and I come from information and data management.

So, we've been wanting to embark on our own business for a while, but we really couldn't find the right opportunity that showed an unmet need in the marketplace. Then we stumbled on Aquamation, and it really peaked our interest from the beginning. As we learned more and more about the process, it just, you know, sucked us in more and more as something we really wanted to do, the aspect of being eco-friendly, you know, and an alternative to traditional funeral services that are more expensive.

So, we started to look into the most expensive component of the business which is the equipment. There we met the folks at Bio-Response. Are they on the call today, Phil?

MR. FLORES: So, we do have his line flagged in case you guys wanted to speak with Sam. She's the biologist and the senior VP of Research for Bio-Response.

MRS. FLORES: So, they're a family-owned business. They're close by in

Indiana. So, we spent the day with them and we got to know the safety of the equipment, everything that intrigued us, and really confirmed our thoughts that this is a really safe way, alternative to the regular cremation system. So, they really won our trust and we've just been, you know, moving ahead ever since then.

MR. FLORES: All right, so a little bit about what is Aqua-cremation and the history. I'm sorry, my bad. What is cremation? So, Aqua-cremation is the finest cremation method for both humans and pets. The scientific name which you may or may not have heard is known as alkaline hydrolysis. It's the same process that occurs in the natural way when a body is laid to rest in soil. The only difference is it's accelerated using the chemical components.

A combination of relaxed water flow, temperature, alkaline, and the use of accelerants break down the organic material which is what dissolves into sanitary water. The byproduct of the process and the process of the bones -- let me back up a step.

The byproducts of the process are bones and water solution, both free of disease, pathogens, DNA and RNA. The bones are dried, processed into fine powder and returned to the family. The final water solution is approximately 95 percent water and five percent salt, sugar and amino acids, and it will be discharged into the water treatment facility.

Potassium hydroxide and sodium hydroxide make up what's known as alkaline which is added to the water. This product is safe to store and handled with standard protective gear. These ingredients are traditionally found in soaps, lotions, and are really part of everybody's everyday household use.

MRS. FLORES: So, the history of Aquamation, it originated in Europe in the late 1800's for use in disposing of farm animals. The United States' adoption began in the 90's for lab disposal of animals, and then it expanded to humans, hospitals, universities. So, the first funeral industry use was in 2011, and the pet use expanded rapidly. It's now, you know, available everywhere in every state.

The human adoption was a bit slower because, you know, states need to pass legislation. There are now 21 states that have approved it, and the Illinois legislation approved it in 2012.

MR. FLORES: So, often questions we get from people are what happens to the water? So, 99 percent of the water is returned to the ecosystem via the normal water waste treatment facility. The Aquamation process produces a completely sterile solution of amino acids, sugar nutrients, salts, and soaps in water. The byproduct is natural decomposition, and there's no odors, but more importantly, no EPA emissions.

So, let me tell you a little bit about cremation and, you know, who our business is going to go in to serve. So, it's going to be funeral homes, veterinarian clinics, pet shelters, municipalities, and families directly who have pets who may have died at home and they want to go and bring it directly.

Our business model will allow for website enabled ecommerce, which is really designed to try and ensure that we're going to encourage online engagement. We're going to have a low volume of walk-in visits because it's going to be by appointment only.

So, here is a pictorial, if you guys can see, an aerial view of our M-1 property. It's located within that red box, and it's also part of the package that was put together by Sam Hubbard for our presentation.

So, we'll talk a little bit about the property. The ownership is 11 West College Drive General Partnerships. The principal there is Rich Bondarowicz which, if you stop

and you look at the parking space, it may be a little difficult to go and see from this view, but there are 63 parking spots. 33 located in the front as well as 30 in the rear. The unit composition is made up of 14 units, eight over on the west side of the building which would be to the left of the picture, and then six units to the north which would be on the top side of the picture. You'll see like two L-roof ways that kind of connect both buildings together.

The neighboring M-1 properties consist of Advocate Health, which is going to be on top which is directly to the north, and then the building directly to the south, I have it incorrectly labeled here, but to the south is going to be the Arlington Heights Heritage Tennis Club.

So, for your perspective, we wanted to share a rendering of what the building was going to look like so you can have an appreciation of the space. So, the far left-hand side which you're going to notice here is really the consultation table, the place where we could have a chance to go and connect with customers if they're looking at more complicated cremates discussions and better understanding of what the business is. The right side of that pictorial is going to illustrate the crematorium, our warehouse where we're actually going to be operating.

What you have here is, the core two systems are the HT500 towards the center top, and then to the right is the PET550. What you'll notice is those are two specifically different systems that are used for humans as well as a different machine that's used for pets.

Here is an example, or a rendering of what the equipment looks like. So, on the left, you'll have the human container. It looks like a vessel, and towards the very front end, what you can see here is a door. So, that door is what's used to go and open and insert the human remains.

The pet system actually goes in from the top side, and that's what this other system is on the far right-hand side.

The reason you may, you might be wondering why the numbering, just for the sake of editorial, the HT and the 500 stands for a 500-pound weight person. The pet machine, that means that it can handle up to 550 pounds of animals that get put in.

So, we want to go ahead and thank you guys for giving us an opportunity to make an introduction on our business and share with you the rationale for why we want to operate here. We look forward to hearing questions from this audience so we can obtain approval on our land variance for a flameless aqua-cremation business.

Sam, we'll turn it over.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, thank you for that.

Sam, are you going to present the Staff report now?

MR. HUBBARD: Yes, I'll give the Staff report. Let me pull up the presentation here.

All right, can everyone view the presentation?

(Chorus of yeses.)

MR. HUBBARD: So, the Petitioner is here before you this evening because, as you've heard, they would like to establish their aqua-based cremation facility in a property located in the M-1 Zoning District. Cremations are most similar and compatible to our zoning classification of cemetery and mausoleum. So, they're allowed, crematories are allowed in the same areas where a cemetery and mausoleum would be allowed, which is in residential

districts only. So, in order to allow this use on this property, a land use variation is necessary to allow it within an M-1 Zoning District.

Additionally, the Petitioner is seeking a variation from our requirement to provide a traffic and parking study. This is required for all land use variation projects that are on a local street. College Drive is considered a local street, and therefore, a land use variation application must provide a traffic and parking analysis. Staff is supportive of the request for both variations, the land use variation and the variation to waive the traffic study, and I'll get into those reasons shortly.

The property is designated as suitable for research and development, manufacturing, and warehousing uses on the Comprehensive Plan. Given the kind of industrial, processing, and chemical nature of the proposed use, we feel like it's more similar to an industrial warehousing/processing-related use. So, we feel it's compatible with the Comprehensive Plan designation.

So, here you can see the subject property. The particular unit in question is located right here. There are 63 parking spaces on the site. You can see to the north, south and east are all light industrial uses, and then to the west you have single family homes on Tanglewood Drive.

Here's the site plan. It's a poor quality plat of survey but it gives you the general idea of how the site is laid out. Access comes in here and then wraps around the building and to a secondary parking lot in the front and then out onto the cul de sac. To the rear of the building, there's approximately 50 feet of separation between the building and the neighboring residential properties, which is compliant with M-1 Zoning District regulations for rear yard setbacks.

Here's the floor plan. Looking at it, this would be the front of the unit facing east, and then the rear of the unit facing west. The delivery overhead door would remain. I think the Petitioner was considering at one point putting some walls in to create a dedicated delivery bay. I'm not sure he's going to be moving forward with that work at this point. So, all vehicles transporting human remains or animal remains would pull in here through the overhead door, park, and then the door would close. All loading and unloading of remains would take place on the interior of the building.

I would mention that the cremation business operates with privacy and in a discrete manner. Given the sensitivity of, you know, the human remains and the loved ones and the emotional connection that a lot of people can have in this process, it's really, they don't want a lot of advertisement and attention drawn to their business. They try and keep a low profile. So, we don't expect that this use will be noticeable in the business park. In fact, unbeknownst to me until this application moved forward, we actually already have a crematory in our business park here. It's for pets only and it's been in operation for several years which I think illustrates the fact that nobody is likely going to know that this crematory is here unless they're, you know, coming to the site on a daily basis.

So, again, here's an interior floor plan. This is for the interior furnishings and equipment. I'm not going to go into this in detail other than to say the Petitioner will be installing some exterior vents for the equipment. These are going to come through the roof at the rear of the property. According to the Petitioner, there will be absolutely no odor from this process.

The Petitioner has been made aware that the M-1 Zoning District

has regulations that state if a use has, you know, negative impacts that are detectable outside of the property and become a nuisance to nearby property owners, then it's a violation of our zoning code. So, you know, the Petitioner has been made aware that no odors are allowed and he's certified that there will be no odors. Again, if there are odors detected, the Petitioner would need to make changes to the site in order to bring it into compliance with code. Either the odors would have to be released only at a time, you know, when everyone is sleeping, or you know, additional odor buffering equipment or scrubbing equipment would need to be incorporated to eliminate those odors.

So, Staff is, you know, supportive of this land use variation. From a land use analysis, this use is really going to function, again as I said, in a manner that's comparable and harmonious to a lot of permitted uses that are allowed by right in the M-1 district. So, we don't expect that it's going to have a negative impact on any surrounding property owners. Again, given the desire for discreetness in the industry, it shouldn't be detectable or noticeable. Actions on the subject property would appear as typical industrial functions that could occur on a permitted use, so this use is very similar to other permitted uses in the M-1 District. So, in that sense, we're supportive of the use.

From a parking standpoint, again, very little impact. As you've heard, the Petitioner and his wife will be the main employees. They may have one employee in addition in the future. From a parking standpoint, the site complies with the code with a three-space surplus.

The Petitioner did survey parking in the parking lot over two days, just to verify if baseline usage was already at capacity. They found that max demand was under 50 percent utilization of the parking lot. They found that the peak time for parking was around the lunchtime time period. Staff looked at some historical aerials and found two over the last year that were right around that time period, and we did not observe anything more than approximately 50 percent of the parking lot being occupied in those aerials. So, we do not expect this to have a substantial parking impact, and the traffic should easily be accommodated in the existing street network of the vicinity.

So, the Staff Development Committee is recommending approval of the application subject to the two conditions as you see here, the first condition being that the land use variation shall apply only to Cremation by Water. This condition is mostly just because of, you know, if the Petitioner has great success here and decides to move his business and then another cremation facility moves in; we just want to make sure that they have the same operational model as Cremation by Water because we're confident that that model won't have any negative impacts on surrounding property owners and we just want the opportunity to verify the same with any future user. This is a standard condition that was also applied to the animal pet cremation facility that's already within the business park. Then the standard condition of compliance with all other codes, regulations and policies.

So, again, we're supportive of the application. I'm happy to answer any questions, and I would mention that all public notices on this application have been given.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Sam, thank you for your report.

Can I have a motion to approve the Staff report?

COMMISSIONER DROST: Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Second?

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Seconded.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Sam, can we have a roll call vote on this?

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Drost.

COMMISSIONER DROST: Aye.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Green.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Jensen.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Sigalos.

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Warskow.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: You're on mute.

COMMISSIONER WARSKOW: Yes, my spacebar wasn't unmuting me.

Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

Any of the Commissioners have questions that they would like to present to Staff at this point?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Terry, did you vote?

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes, I did.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Oh, I didn't hear you.

MR. HUBBARD: I heard it from the other room that he voted yes, but the connection didn't quite capture it. But for the record, thank you, we didn't capture your yes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Almost all of my questions were answered when they went before the Conceptual Plan Review. Just one question, just for information.

The relative cost of your Aquamation versus the traditional cremation?

MR. FLORES: Great question.

So, because our customers are really funeral directors, by the way, for humans, what ends up happening is they will go ahead and share what the approach is. If you choose to go ahead and go with cremation versus burial, you save a significant amount of money in total expenditure for individuals.

As it relates to the aqua-cremation business, I'm going to say it's roughly comparable but certainly less than what you would spend with normal flame-based cremation.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Okay, thank you.

MR. FLORES: You're welcome.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: I just have a quick question.

MR. FLORES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Okay, I think it's a good project and it's interesting to me, so I'm not, I just want to make sure it goes on the record that we've asked about it, if there's any smell or anything associated with this so that we've asked that question for

the neighbors.

MR. FLORES: Yes, no, that's a great question.

I will say there's been, a lot of successful conversations have taken place as a result of the letter mailings to residents showcasing that the hearing was taking place today. I spoke to a total of eight people, and in every one of those conversations, everyone has started off with severe concerns and that primary question, Commissioner, was the one you just asked which was tell me a little bit about the environmental impacts, and is there going to be an odor in the air because it could affect a loved one in the way they live today and respiratory problems, et cetera.

The beauty behind this business is that, you heard us describe it as eco-friendly, and you heard us talk about the water being sanitized. So, unlike a flame-based that gets projected into the air, you have none of that taking place with the aqua-cremation business. All it really is is just water that's sanitized and goes into the drain. The only reason we're going to have roof venting taking place is in that first image where I showed you, the one on the left-hand side for the HT500, it's a sealed vessel. So, what you're going to have is a stack very similar to what you see in your house coming up to vent your washing machine, your sinks, your toilets. The same thing is going to happen here, it's just going to be a round, small vent four inches wide, the same thing you have in a residence, and all that's doing is equalizing the pressure that's going into the sealed container.

So, there is going to be no odor that gets dispensed. We're going to have a convection, electric convection oven so we don't really have to worry about that as well. The only other thing that we're going to be venting to the rooftop is going to be two-tankless water heaters, and everybody has those today. It's the same thing, it's just vaporless and it's just heating up the water as it comes through. So, that's a gas-based system.

So, that's what you can expect from the water cremation business.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson, if I could jump in real quickly?

Staff was also very keen to understand if this would create odors.

We reached out to municipality that has a similar aqua-cremation facility and verified that they had not received any odor-related or nuisance complaints related to that facility.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Great. I don't have any other questions. I think it sounds like a great use, a great project. It's very interesting. I hadn't heard of this before, so very interesting.

MR. FLORES: It's a greater approach to business. Thank you, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Any other Commissioner questions?

(No response.)

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, before we move on to the audience, Sam, I do have a question. That's in regard to is there any state legislation regulating this industry, or a study on putting this into the water system? Because this is like gray water, is that what it's considered?

MR. HUBBARD: Yes, I don't know the particulars of the wastewater discharge and what it's classified as. I can say that our Engineering Department has reviewed the proposal, and the Petitioner has provided documentation from the MWRD that verifies that this is allowed to be discharged into, you know, the storm sewer and sanitary system without needing to be pre-treated. So, it is an acceptable material to be discharged.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: So, this goes not only into the sanitary system, it also goes into the storm?

MR. HUBBARD: No, it will go to the sanitary system. I misspoke. If it was a combined system, it would be both, but I believe that there is no combined system here. It's just sanitary.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, thanks, Sam.

Mr. and Mrs. Flores, you're franchising this then?

MR. FLORES: No, we're not franchisees, we're owners.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: It's your own, okay. You said that, so the whole business process and proposal is your design, your undertaking, you just learned about it through other people doing this?

MR. FLORES: Yes, so great question.

We spent, we did a lot of researches; we were looking into the business. Being in commercial lending, I have supported a lot of funeral businesses, helped them get started. I have spoken quite a bit on how businesses become more successful in what they do. When we connected with CANA, and I know that was another question, you know, who regulates the space, CANA stands for Cremation Association of North America. So, what it does is all government agencies, all the states really connect and rely on the guidance and the regulation that's put forth by CANA, the abbreviated acronym, to make sure that they are in compliance. So, part of the application for the state is approval, operator licenses, certifications, the things that we've actually obtained to make sure that we are successful in our operations, along with consultation to make sure we had a full appreciation of the business, the industry, the competition and what it offers.

The solution that Colleen and I are putting forth is really nothing more than an alternative to people to take an eco-friendly solution to 'dispose' of their loved one, sorry about that.

Commissioner, back to you.

MR. HUBBARD: Yes, I'm hearing the Chairman. There we go, Chairman Ennes, you're back now.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes. So, are you regulated by the state? You're actually licensed by them or, what is that process?

MR. FLORES: Yes. Yes, okay.

So, go ahead, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes, this would fall through the Department of, what department in the state?

MR. FLORES: So, it's the Department of, it's the Comptroller's Office for Funeral Homes and Cemeteries.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, that's all I have.

Commissioners, any other questions?

(No response.)

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, Sam, let's move then to the audience.

MR. HUBBARD: Yes, if there's anyone from the audience that wishes to make a comment, if you would please click the Raise Hand feature in Zoom right now? Or if you're calling in from a phone, you can dial *9 to raise your hand and I can identify you to speak.

Going once, going twice, I don't see any hands raised, Chairman

Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, well, if we have no other questions and no audience questions, is there a motion from the Commissioners in regard to this petition?

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Yes, I would like to make a motion.

A motion to recommend to the Village Board of Trustees approval of PC# 20-011, a Land Use Variation to allow a 'crematory' within the M-1 Zoning District, and the following variation:

1. **A Variation to Chapter 28, Section 6.12-2C, to waive the requirement for a traffic and parking analysis by a qualified professional engineer.**

This recommendation is subject to the following conditions:

1. **The Land Use Variation shall apply only to Cremation by Water.**
2. **The Petitioner shall comply with all federal, state, and Village codes, regulations, and policies.**

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, is there a second?

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: I'll second.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Can we have a roll call vote, Sam?

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Drost.

COMMISSIONER DROST: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Green.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Jensen.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Sigalos.

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Warskow.

COMMISSIONER WARSKOW: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

I paused, Sam, for a couple of the replies. Was that unanimous?

MR. HUBBARD: Yes, it was unanimous. Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, so to our Petitioners, you have a unanimous approval of your petition. Good luck with your business.

MRS. FLORES: Thank you.

MR. FLORES: Thank you, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: You're welcome.

MR. FLORES: Thank you, everybody.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Good luck, okay.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Sue, congratulations on moving to Arlington Heights with your practice.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Oh, thanks. You saw that. Yes, we're

officially moved to Arlington Heights after 12 years, it's exciting.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: You're welcome.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Congrats!

Okay, is there any other business on the agenda?

MR. HUBBARD: No.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Motion to close the meeting.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Adjourn?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Adjourn the meeting, sorry.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: I'll second it.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Are you motioning?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Okay, we have a motion, was that a motion,

Sue?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: And a second?

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Second.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: All in favor? Roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Roll call vote.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Dawson.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Drost.

COMMISSIONER DROST: Aye.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Green.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Jensen.

COMMISSIONER JENSEN: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Commissioner Sigalos.

COMMISSIONER SIGALOS: Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: Chairman Warskow. I'm sorry.

COMMISSIONER WARSKOW: Wow, I get to be Chair for the last 30 seconds of the meeting, woo-hoo. Yes.

MR. HUBBARD: And Chairman Ennes.

CHAIRPERSON ENNES: Yes.

Thank you all for attending tonight, and we'll see you soon.

(Whereupon, at 8:11 p.m., the above-mentioned petition was adjourned.)