

Agenda
Village of Port Edwards Board Meeting
Tuesday February 14, 2023

Board Meeting, Marshall Buehler center, 7:00 p.m.

If you are member of the public and wish to listen, please call the dial in number below and you will be acknowledged. It will be held via ZOOM for the most part.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85773035504?pwd=WjUwVnZsZGxQOGNYVkhVHLzUxamVRQT09>
Meeting ID: 857 7303 5504, Passcode: 777752, One tap mobile+16465588656
Meeting Audio Dial-in number: 715-423-6698, Access Code ID: 02067

Village Board Meeting

- 1) Call to order.
- 2) Roll call.
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4) **SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** Legislative Update from State Senator Patrick Testin via ZOOM. Topics on shared revenue and Development initiative for the Mill property.
- 5) **MOTION** to Approve the Consent Agenda and payment of Bills
 - a. Meeting minutes (from the 10 January 2023 Board MTG)
 - b. Vouchers (Pay monthly bills, journal entries, etc.)
- 6) Public comment on agenda items.
- 7) President's Report.
- 8) Committee Reports:
 - a. Airport Commission. (Met on 2 February 2023)
 1. Review proceedings of the commission.
 - b. Police and Fire Commission (Met on 7 December 2022)
 1. Review proceedings of the commission.
 - c. Public Works Committee. (Met on 18 January 2023)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
 - d. Parks and Recreation Committee. (Met on 25 January 2023)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
 - e. Public Safety Committee. (Met on 31 January 2023)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
 - f. Finance and Human Resource Committee. (Met on 2 February 2023)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
 2. **MOTION** to approve the Resolution #2202-02 on a request that the State re-evaluate the shared revenue models for local government funding.
 - g. Planning, Property & Information Technology Committee. (Will Meet on 4 JAN 2023)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
 2. **MOTION** to approve and support Resolution #2022-01 The creation of a NEPCO Lake District
 3. **MOTION** to approve the CSM to create the 231 market Ave parcel from the 241 Parcel.
 - h. Planning Commission (Did not meet since April 2022)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
 - i. NEPCO lake Transition Planning Sub-Committee (Met on 18 January 2023)
 1. Committee Chairman's Comments
- 9) Unfinished Business from previous meeting.
 - a) Floor is open to any Trustee to discuss any old topics with updates and committee or issue referral recommendations, *NO Motions can be proposed.*

10) New Business.

- a) Floor is open to any Trustee to discuss any late breaking business or issues that need to be referred to a committee for discussion/action. *NO Motions can be proposed.*

11) Report from Village Administrator.

- a) Administrators monthly SNAPSHOT
- b) Discussion on the Village office spaces signs
- c) Discussion on the April 2023 Reorganizational and Strategic meetings

12) Report from Clerk/Treasurer.

13) Trustee Comments.

14) Committee meeting calendar. (Next 30 Days)

- NEPCO lake transition meeting: 15 February 2023, Noon, 1200 (Wednesday)
- PS meeting: 7 March 2023, 1600 (4 pm), method in person (Tuesday)
- PLPIT meeting: 8 March 2023, 1630 (4:30 pm), method in person (Wednesday)
- FHR meeting: 9 March 2023, 1630 (4:30 pm), method in person (Thursday)
- Village Board: 14 March 2023, 1900 (@7:00 pm), method- in person (Tuesday)
- PW meeting: 22 March 2023, 1600 (4 pm), method in person (Wednesday)
- PR meeting: 29 March 2023, 1600 (4 pm), method in person (Wednesday)

14) Call for Adjournment.

Validated:

President of the Board of Trustees, Joseph Zurfluh

Village Administrator, Raymond “Boz” Bossert

Posted: 9 February 2023, 1100

The Village Board meeting was held at the Marshall Buehler Center and also set up as a conference call meeting and Zoom meeting. The number to call in: 715-423-6698; 5-digit conference ID: 02067.

The agenda for this meeting was posted on the Municipal Building door, the entrance of the Police Department/Marshall Buehler Center, and at Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank in Port Edwards, as well as on the Village website.

The Village Board meeting was called to order by President Zurfluh at 7:00 p.m.

Present: President Zurfluh, Trustees Grunden, Mancl, McGregor, Mitchell, Radtke & Saylor

Absent: None

Also Present: J. Worden, R. Bossert, D. Tremmel

Citizens: Eric Hummel

Motion (Zurfluh/Mitchell) to approve the Consent Agenda (meeting minutes from December 6, 2022 Board meeting and to approve monthly bills and the journal entries for the previous month). Motion carried. All ayes

Public Comment: None

President's Report: None

Airport Commission: Review of minutes.

Police and Fire Commission: No meeting held.

Public Works: No meeting held.

Parks & Recreation: No meeting held.

Public Safety: Review of minutes.

Finance & Human Resources: Review of minutes.

Motion (Mancl/Radtke) to award the full-time employees a \$50 Chamber gift certificate as a safety award for only one lost time incident in the past 26 years. Total cost \$700 (actual cost \$650); this is a budgeted line item for 2023. Motion carried. All ayes.

Motion (Mancl/Radtke) to approve Length of Service Award (LOSA) payment for 2022 qualifying firefighters in the amount of \$300.91 per firefighter and the annual corresponding maintenance fee of \$800 plus \$20 per firefighter, for a total of \$5,934.56. (This will impact 16 firefighters.) This is a budgeted line item for 2023. Motion carried 5-0; 1 abstain (Saylor).

Motion (Mancl/Mitchell) to approve the reassessment of all Village properties to be conducted in 2023 at a cost of \$30,000. Motion carried. All ayes.

Planning, Legislative, Property & Information Technology: Review of minutes.

Motion (Saylor/Grunden) to approve changes to Village Ordinance Chapter 1, General Government with administrative changes; Village Ordinance Chapter 4, police administrative changes based on Police and Fire Commission recommended changes; Village Ordinance Chapter 5, fire department administrative changes based on Police and Fire Commission recommended changes. Motion carried - 5 ayes; 1 no (Radtke).

Motion (Saylor/Grunden) to approve changes to Village Ordinance Chapter 12, Licenses and Permits based on administrative changes in fees and licensing. Motion carried. All ayes.

Motion (Saylor/McGregor) to approve the final purchase of 140 Market Ave, parcels 27-00208, 27-00209 and 27-00210, by sheriff's sale for \$29,000 with administrative and title costs. (This will be funded by the TIF account). Motion carried. All ayes.

Chairman Saylor withdrew the following motion on the agenda: Motion to approve the pending lease agreement of Village property for 251 Market Ave, parcel 27-01007 for \$1000 per month with Nancy Patino.

Motion (Saylor/McGregor) to approve the lease purchase agreement of 140 Market Ave, Suite A, parcels 27-00208, 27-00209 and 27-00210, to Jennifer Oswald of Behind the Curtain LLC, dba Mission Coffee, for a 3 year lease purchase for \$140,000 and an escalating monthly lease of \$350-\$550. Motion carried. All ayes.

Motion (Saylor/Grunden) to approve a 3 year lease agreement of 140 Market Ave, Suite B, parcel 27-00208, for an escalating monthly lease of \$150-\$350 per month with Joe Hoffman of Fiddle Bread LLC. Motion carried. All ayes.

Plan Commission: No meeting held.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Administrator Bossert informed the Board that the Village is renewing its municipal property insurance through the League of Wisconsin Municipalities; the issue with the camper parked in a driveway has been resolved; and that the insurance company is covering repairs to the fire truck less the \$500 deductible which the Village will pay.

Village Administrator Report: Administrator Bossert provided his monthly report including general government, human resources, public works, budget and safety & security.

Clerk-Treasurer Report:

Motion (Zurfluh/Mitchell) to approve an Operator's License for Adrian March/Amoco valid through June 30, 2023.

Motion carried. All ayes.

Motion (Zurfluh/Mancil) to approve a Class "B" Beer and "Class C" Wine License for El Cafe LLC, 221 Market Avenue, Port Edwards, through June 30, 2023. Motion carried. All ayes.

Communications: None

Trustee comments: Trustee Mitchell stated that she was glad to see the number of people using the dog park.

Trustee Saylor expressed the following concerns or comments he received from residents while getting nomination signatures: A lot of residents (including elderly) appreciate the Facebook page as a quick method of getting information. Some residents expressed their dislike of the Village website and stated that it is not very user friendly. Many residents would like the meetings televised on the community media channel or uploaded to You Tube.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Minutes taken by Diane M Tremmel, Village Clerk-Treasurer

The following Village bills were approved for payment:

Mid-State Technical College-January tax settlement	32970.13
Port Edwards Schools-January tax settlement	363720.71
Wood County Treasurer-January tax settlement	215310.16
Abts Law LLC-monthly retainer (January)	1000.00
Ace Hardware-misc expenses	83.82
Advance Janitorial Service & Supply-monthly statement	208.50
Alliant Energy-monthly statement	6141.36
Amazon-tools & supplies	147.97
BGA LLC-January building inspection expense	2000.00
Cintas-monthly statement	884.43
Derick Lucio-refundable shelter deposit	25.00
Diversified Benefit Services Inc-health insurance deductible reimbursement	222.67
Erco Worldwide Inc-refundable shelter deposit	25.00
Ferguson Enterprises LLC #1550-maintenance of pumping plant	104.51
First Choice Fire Protection LLC-tools & supplies	48.00
GCS Software Inc-tax software for 2023	682.50
Glatfelter Specialty Benefits-annual contribution & fee/fire dept service award	5934.56
GoGov Inc-annual citizen notification app	1920.00
James Leiser-unused sick leave health insurance reimb	382.14
Jason Leverance-DOT physical for CDL	103.50
Josiah Mertes-reimbursement for fuel for squad	75.17
League of Wis. Municipalities-2023 League dues	786.02
Matthew Fletcher-reimbursement for "You Tube" tv subscription	163.49

Port Edwards Water Utility-quarterly bills	2305.22
Port Edwards Water Utility-clear utility bills added to tax bills	2019.58
Port Edwards Water Utility-10% penalty utility bills to tax bills	201.99
Praxis Consulting-2023 Quick Clerk for court	1100.00
Ray Bossert-reimb for add'l deposit & fees (140 Market); flags for Vet Mem	635.34
Solarus-monthly statement	1255.10
State of Wisconsin-December court report	313.00
Wis Chiefs of Police Association-2023 dues	150.00
Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources/OCF-wastewater certification renewal (Murray)	45.00
Wis. Municipal Clerks Association-2023 annual membership renewal	65.00
Wis Municipal Court Clerks Association-2023 dues	45.00
Wis. State Fire Chiefs Association-2023 dues	95.00
Wood County Clerk of Court-down payment for purchase of 140 Market Ave	2500.00
Wood County Fire Chiefs Association-"I Am Responding" annual subscription	263.00
Wood County Fire Chiefs Association-2023 dues	100.00
Wood County Treasurer-December jail assessment	80.00
Workhorse Software Services Inc-2023 software support	4050.00
Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce-safety awards/gift certificates	650.00
Ag Source Coop Services-wastewater testing	186.00
American Welding & Gas Inc-fire health & welfare	37.33
Amoco-monthly statement	1257.38
Aspirus Inc-police misc expense	33.00
Badger Sporting Goods-digital informational sign (ARPA)	24245.00
Chemtrade Chemicals US LLC-wastewater chemicals	6306.52
Commercial Testing Laboratory Inc-wastewater testing	1824.00
Diggers Hotline Inc-maintenance of mains	17.60
Diversified Benefit Services Inc-health insurance deductible reimbursement	245.83
Diversified Benefit Services Inc-health insurance deductible reimbursement	503.41
Diversified Benefit Services Inc-annual fee; January health reimb arrangement	210.57
Farrell Equipment & Supply Co Inc-roads & streets maintenance	404.85
Fastenal Company-street machinery	12.24
Health Special Risk Inc-volunteer fire dept policy	1108.19
Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce-2023 membership dues	435.00
Hotsy Cleaning Systems Inc-tools & supplies; maint of water services	455.21
Insight FS-fuel for equipment; roads & streets maintenance	4470.40
Kenneth Murray-work related safety gear	50.63
Lonn Radtke-unused sick leave health insurance reimbursement	295.48
Mailboxes & Parcel Depot-water utility testing	29.34
Marco Technologies LLC-copier monthly contract & usage	96.31
Mobile Lock & Security-locks for 140 Market Ave building	287.95
Napa Auto Parts/Nekoosa-street machinery; parks	583.06
Nassco Inc-misc supplies	552.88
Principal Life Insurance Company-monthly premium	63.44
Rapids Sign Inc-trail map sign (recreational trail signs)	400.00
S & R Truck LLC-repair damage to Engine #2	4469.00
Security Health Plan-monthly statement (plus adjustment for error on last bill)	32733.82
Spectrum Insurance Group LLC-property, liability, workers comp, etc.	66212.00
Team Matthews Tire Center-police vehicle	366.56
Verizon Wireless-monthly statement	389.50
We Energies-monthly statement	4510.26
WI State Lab of Hygiene-water utility testing	28.00
Wis. Dept. of Justice TIME-police computer system	218.25
Wisconsin Media-publication of Spring Election Notice	22.62
WM Corporate Services Inc-monthly statement	10271.00
Wood County IT Dept-information systems support & backup	1635.29
Aflac-monthly statement	216.62
Ag Source Coop Services-testing (water utility & wastewater)	390.50

Applied Industrial Technologies-maintenance of pumping plant	57.37
Beaver of Wisconsin-tools & supplies	156.00
BGA LLC-monthly building inspection expense	2000.00
Craig Kasten-unused sick leave health insurance reimbursement	1767.44
Delta Dental of Wisconsin-monthly statement	1544.34
Diggers Hotline Inc-1 st prepayment for 2023	336.00
Diversified Benefit Services-health insurance deductible reimbursement	688.21
Diversified Benefit Services-health insurance deductible reimbursement	5.73
H&H Industries Inc-municipal garage	425.97
Matthew Fletcher-reimbursement for December 2022 TV services	68.57
Mid-State Technical College-PILT distribution	54.97
Nekoosa Port Edwards Bank-monthly direct deposit fee	50.00
Port Edwards Schools-PILT distribution	606.42
We Energies-monthly statements (231 & 241 Market Ave)	19.14
Wis. Dept. of Administration/Milw-monthly website hosting	65.00
Wis. Rural Water Association-WRWA Annual Tech Conference registration	345.00
Wood County Treasurer-PILT distribution	358.98

Wages & Salaries – January wages **67632.23**

The following Water Utility Bills were approved for payment:

Alliant Energy-monthly statement	2487.48
Badger Meter Inc-Orion Cellular Serv Units	28.48

Building Permits:

Bohn Trucking/Heather Westlund (Deb Klein)-raze house due to fire
 BL Carpentry LLC/Connie Jagodzinski-bathroom remodel with new cabinets & flooring
 Tranel Properties LLC-new siding & windows
 Fidel Perez-sign permit
 Stevens Point Log Homes/Robert Knowles-new construction

Electrical Permits:

Home Run Electric/Robert Knowles-new construction

Plumbing Permits & HVAC Permits:

Tri-City Services/Connie Jagodzinski-furnace replacement
 Tundraland/Leaf Home Enhancements (Scott Fields)/Garold Lampman-bathtub & surround replacement
 Van Dreel Plumbing & Heating/Robert Knowles-new construction

Excavation Permits: None

Zoning Permits: None

ALEXANDER FIELD
SOUTH WOOD COUNTY AIRPORT
MUNICIPALLY OWNED

MEETING MINUTES

AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS:

Shane Blaser, Mayor
Jeremy Eichorn, Chairman
Joseph Zurfluh, President
Brad Hamilton, Alderman

MUNICIPALITIES:

City of Wisconsin Rapids
Town of Grand Rapids
Village of Port Edwards
City of Nekoosa

12/1/22

The South Wood County Airport Commission met on Thursday December 1, 2022 at 8:00 AM at the South Wood County Airport, Alexander Field. Members present were Shane Blaser, and Joe Zurfluh, Jeremy Eichstad and Brad Hamilton attended via phone. Also in attendance were Dennis Polach, Randy Gustafson, Arne Nystrom, Paul Tranal, Bill Clendenning, Bill Menzel, Mike Esser, and Jeremy Sickler.

1. Call to order: Chairman Blaser called the meeting to order at 8:03 AM.

2. Approval of previous month's minutes (11-3-22):

Motion by Commissioner Zurfluh, 2nd by Commissioner Hamilton to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. Airport Manager's Report:

Airport Manager Sickler presented the monthly report and updated the Commission on the progress of the ongoing and future projects. The fuel system project was substantially complete and operable. Training has been ongoing for employees using the new system. Primarily the inventory control system and the leak detection monitor.

There is nothing to report on the progress of the easement acquisition project. Sickler will get an update from MSA regarding this project, hopefully somebody can attend in person at an upcoming meeting. At one point it was believed tree removal may have taken place this winter/spring.

Sickler provided an update on the progress on several of the items which arose from the results of the survey. Several quotes, estimates, and ideas are still being sought on some of the more costly items. Many of the less laborious tasks have been completed.

Sickler reported that the fuel sales and activity in November was well below the month last year. Fuel sales to date are 18% below 2021. Motion by Commissioner Hamilton, 2nd by Commissioner Eichorn to approve the Airport Managers Report. Motion carried.

4. New Business

a. Discuss and consider action regarding T-Hangar door quotes. The Commission reviewed and discussed the door quote presented by Sickler. Sickler will pursue options and estimates for door repairs/replacement and present them when received. No action taken.

5. Review of Financial Statements

Financial statements were presented and reviewed. Motion by Commissioner Hamilton, 2nd by Commissioner Zurfluh to approve the financial statements as presented. Motion carried.

6. Future agenda items:

Airport satisfaction survey results actionable items.

7. Public Comment

Arne Nystrom commented on having printed copies of the packet available.

EAA 706 commented on the completion of the COnttractor Guidelines.

8. Correspondence received: None

9. Set next meeting date:

Thursday January 5 at 8:00 AM.

10. Adjourn: Motion made by Commissioner Eichorn, 2nd by Commissioner Hamilton to adjourn at 0828. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Jeremy Sickler, Respectfully reviewed and submitted, Chairman Blaser

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Public Works

DATE: 18 January 2023

TO: JOSEPH ZURFLUH

cc: BETSY MANCL

SUE MITCHELL

TIARA GRUNDEN

SCOTT DREW

CALEB MCGREGOR

ERIK SAYLOR

DAILY TRIBUNE

WFHR/WGLX

NICK ABTS

RAYMOND BOSSERT

JASON WORDEN

DIANE TREMMEL

LONN RADTKE

Purpose of Meeting: Regular Monthly Meeting

Attendance: J. Zurfluh, L. Radtke, E. Saylor, C. McGregor, Public Works Supervisor Ben Martinson

Absent: None

Citizens: None

Subjects Discussed, Action Taken & Board Action Required:

Regular Monthly Meeting

- ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order by Chairman Radtke at 4:00 p.m.
- ***Roll Call:*** All present from above.
- ***Approve the agenda & previous month's minutes:*** **MOTION** (McGregor/Saylor) to approve the agenda & minutes from 19 October 2022. **Motion carried.**
- ***Public comments on agenda items:*** None.
- ***Committee Chairman's comments:*** None.
- ***Public Works Updates***
 - a. **Department of Public Works Report - Project Update.** 3rd Street TIF project bids are out to 3 parties and should be returned by March 2023.
 - b. **Public Works Budget and Project List for 2023.** No changes.
- ***Old Business:*** Range line Road is getting worse. Saratoga is considering backing out, if that is the case, the Village should as well. We will revisit this next few months and consider abandonment of the road.

- **New Business:** Ash Bore tree removal is an issue, we have over 230 trees in the Village right of ways that need to be removed, a conservative estimate for removal is \$300 per tree(approx. \$70K) we remove 10 per year internal to our budget , anything more is unbudgeted.
- **Correspondence received.** None.
- **Future Agenda items for next meeting:** Discussion on Rangeline Rd to either fix it or abandon it., Summer help names.
- **Next meeting date:** 22 February at 5:00 p.m., in person at the Marshall Buehler Center.
- **Adjourn:** Adjourned at 4:29 p.m. by Radtke.

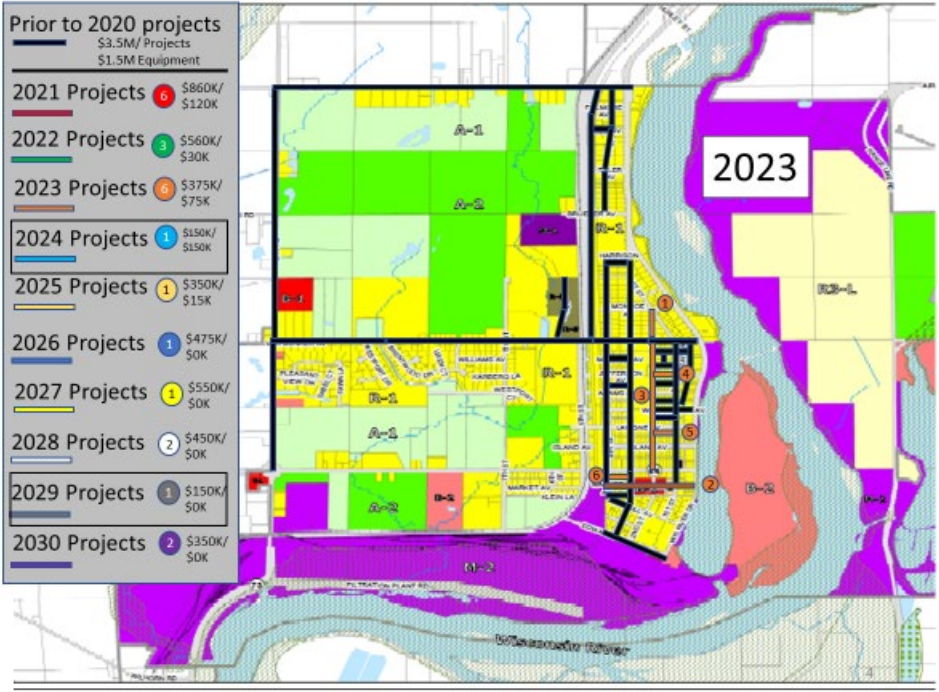
Lonn Radtke – Chairman

2023 Village Road Capital Projects

- Market Ave, Street overlay (just the Horseshoe)
 - Replacement of sidewalks/curbs/gutter (random), street mill and overlay \$250K
 - TIF account
- 2nd Street **Planning** (Ver Bunker to Monroe)
 - Replacement of sidewalks/curbs/gutter random, infrastructure \$50K
 - TIF account
- 3rd Street (Chip seal) Verbunker to Le tendre
 - Replacement of sidewalks/curbs/gutter (random), street chip seal \$60K
 - Infrastructure fee (wheel tax)
- ALLEY 1, \$23K(TIF), 3rd to 4th on Market ave
- ALLEY 2, \$22K (TIF), 1st to 3rd on Lavigne St.
- ALLEY 3, \$30K(ARPA), 1st to 2nd on Jefferson Ave.

Village costs for the work= \$435K
(\$345K TIF/ \$30 ARPA/ Wheel Tax \$60K)

EQUIP Mower Legacy (\$15K) Leaf loader ARPA (\$50K)



VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Parks & Recreation

DATE: January 25, 2023

TO: JOSEPH ZURFLUH

cc: BETSY MANCL	ERIK SAYLOR	RAYMOND BOSSERT
SUE MITCHELL	DAILY TRIBUNE	JASON WORDEN
TIARA GRUNDEN	WFHR/WGLX	DIANE TREMMEL
SCOTT DREW	NICK ABTS	LONN RADTKE
CALEB MCGREGOR		

Purpose of Meeting: Regular Monthly Meeting

Attendance: R. Bossert, J. Zurfluh, B. Mancl, T. Grunden, L. Radtke, B. Martinson

Absent: None

Citizens: Jamie Rokus (Sentrail organization) via ZOOM

Subjects Discussed, Action Taken & Board Action Required:

Regular Monthly Meeting

- ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order by Mancl - Chairman at 4:00 p.m.
- ***Roll Call:*** All present from above.
- ***Approve the agenda & previous month's minutes:*** **MOTION** (Radtke/Grunden) to approve the agenda & minutes from 27 October 2022. **Motion carried.**
- ***Public comments on agenda items:*** None.
- ***Committee Chairperson's comments:*** None.
- ***Parks & Recreation Updates.***
- **Update/discussion on the broken slide at triangle park -**
 - a. **No status change, we will renew the estimate to replace, approx. \$3500.**
Discussion amongst committee members to replace it and find a source to fund it, not tied to the 2023 parks CIP budget. There have been no comments or complaints from residents on this issue but the committee members stated they want the same

resources on the east side of the Village like the west side. **MOTION** made by Radtke, 2nd by Zurfluh, MOTION carried, to Purchase a slide for no more than \$3500 and install ASAP. Administrator will seek a funding solution and present at the next meeting.

- **Kayak input update**

- a. The County has provided the \$10K grant to help with installation on the west side of NEPCO lake. The site has been visited by the DOMTAR and Village and is acceptable. The Village will gather estimates on actual gravel emplacement up to the input as well as some signage. Trustee Radtke was not in favor of this action and is concerned with overwhelming the parks department and long-term maintenance. He also questioned the need for a Kayak input. It was explained that this was a 2021 initiative and approved at that time, and this update is only tied to the actual receipt of funding and if there are any concerns. The Staff will confirm the cost of labor and gravel and provide to parks and rec in a few months. No work is expected to begin until mid-summer.

- **Dog park update. Any complaints from Employees? Garbage/ waste being picked up appropriately?**

- a. No complaints or issues with the park. It has been well received by the Village and outside visitors. All committee members applauded the efforts to establish it and how well maintained it is. Citizen Rokus thanked everyone for the collaboration and looks forward to the ribbon cutting and future addition of other items as well as a small dog fenced in area. Trustee Radtke stated that if there are any things the Village can do to help please contact use. There will be a Ribbon cutting in Spring and all additional items added to the Park will be passed thru the Staff and parks and REC committee for approval.

- **Community calendar ideas**

- a. The calendar was reviewed and approved for Distribution. We will seek ways to add PE school sporting events.

- **Ripple creek park updates, potential all inclusive playground , ask for community collaboration**

- a. Question was asked if the Village agrees with an external citizen group fundraising to help pay for new playground equipment. The consensus was yes, as long as the concept and expectations of the equipment met the Village long term plan and quality standards. The Administrator will work with the citizen group moving forward to help shape this fund raising effort. Initial cost estimates for a compatible piece of equipment are \$175K to \$225K

- *Old Business.*
- *New Business.*
- *Correspondence received.* None.
- *Agenda items for next meeting.* Triangle park Slide update.
- *Next meeting date:* 22 February 2023 at 4:00 p.m., in person at Marshall Buehler Center.
- *Adjourn:* Adjourned at 4:55 p.m. by Mancl.

Betsy Mancl – Chairman

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Public Safety Meeting

DATE: January 31, 2023

TO: JOSEPH ZURFLUH

cc: BETSY MANCL

SUE MITCHELL

TIARA GRUNDEN

SCOTT DREW

CALEB MCGREGOR

ERIK SAYLOR

DAILY TRIBUNE

WFHR/WGLX

NICK ABTS

RAYMOND BOSSERT

JASON WORDEN

DIANE TREMMEL

LONN RADTKE

Purpose of Meeting: **Regular Monthly Meeting**

Attendance: J. Zurfluh, K. Nagorski, S. Mitchell, T. Grunden, C. McGregor, Police Chief Drew, Fire Chief Worden

Citizens: None

Subjects Discussed, Action Taken & Board Action Required:

Regular Monthly Meeting

- ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order by Chairman Mitchell at 4:00 p.m.
- ***Roll Call:*** All present from above.
- ***Approve the agenda & approve the previous month's minutes, 3 January 2023:*** **MOTION** (McGregor/Gruden) to approve agenda & previous month's minutes. **Motion carried.**
- ***Public comments on agenda items:*** None.
- ***Committee Chairperson's comments:*** None.
- ***Public Safety Updates***
 - Police Department**
 - a. **Review monthly & budget comparison reports.** Completed reconstruction report from state patrol of the crash on 12/24/2022 & was sent to the district attorney. 47% of Lexipol policies applied; will continue to implement new ones when time permits. No complaints or issues with the three sex offenders located in the village. United States Attorney's Office reported that a defendant in a previous case that was worked on by former employees of the police department was sentenced to 10 years of prison. Squads are in good condition & budget is on track.

Fire Department

- a. **Review monthly & budget comparison reports.** January started off with fewer calls than last year. Retired firefighter Lester “Pinky” Emerson passed away, he helped co-cook the Thanksgiving dinner meeting meal for the department every year. The officer's meeting was rescheduled to be in January to get a headstart on yearly planning. Yesterday, disposed of Class B Foam; the state is paying for this disposal. Had team building exercises with the police department. Vehicles are in good condition other than the rescue squad that had a dead battery. Requesting another email address to use for fire reports.
- **Old Business.**
 - a. **Conduct an update on the corrective actions for the fire department from the 2021 report.** A draft was submitted to Raymond Bossert on Friday, an internal investigation was performed on April 21. Will be updating bylaws which will link up to Lexipol & the village handbook.
Funds raised for the athletic association are in a privately held account. Those funds go towards bells & whistles equipment: Example: side by side UTV.
- **New Business.**
 - a. **Discuss Lexipol status by the department. Status of the updates & issues.** Parts were addressed in old business, step one is updating the bylaws for the fire department. The committee is acknowledging that it is harder to find police officers due to high risk. In order to go forward, will need quality & higher wages.
- **Correspondence received.** None.
- **Future Agenda items for next meeting:** Police department wages.
- **Next meeting date:** 7 March 2023 at 4:00 p.m., in person at the Marshall Buehler Center.
- **Adjourn:** Adjourned at 4:48 p.m. by Mitchell.

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Finance & Human Relations

DATE: 2 February 2023

TO: JOSEPH ZURFLUH

cc: BETSY MANCL

SUE MITCHELL

TIARA GRUNDEN

SCOTT DREW

CALEB MCGREGOR

ERIK SAYLOR

DAILY TRIBUNE

WFHR/WGLX

NICK ABTS

RAYMOND BOSSERT

JASON WORDEN

DIANE TREMMEL

LONN RADTKE

Purpose of Meeting: Regular Monthly Meeting

Attendance: R. Bossert, D. Tremmel, B. Mancl, S. Mitchell, L. Radtke

Absent: J. Zurfluh

Citizens: Ben Martinson, T. Grunden (Via ZOOM)

Subjects discussed, Action, Taken & Board Action Required:

Regular Monthly Meeting

- **Call to Order:** meeting called to order by Mancl-Chairman at 4:29 pm
- **Roll Call:** all present from above.
- **Approve the agenda & previous month's minutes from 4 November, 2022: MOTION**
(Mitchel/Radtke) to approve agenda. **Motion carried.**
- **Public Comments on agenda items:** None
- **Committee Chairman's comments:** None
- **Discussion then MOTION to approve the monthly bills, journal entries for previous month and financial report:** No discussion. (Mitchell/Radtke) **Motion to approve carried.**
- **Old Business:**
 - -Discussion on Village Employee satisfaction survey, draft questions presented by the Administrator. Discussion on the focus of the survey. Is it about Job satisfaction or pay and benefits satisfaction? Request to add a range of answers, not just YES or NO. Also add a comment block to every question. Will review

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

the questions and take any input from staff or trustee's and present a new survey next month.

- **PAA Payroll survey analysis.** A presentation showing the 2 page PAA pay survey was presented and it was made clear that the Village has completed over 90% of the pay adjustment recommendations by the PAA. The report is now 'stale' and over 3 years old and the staff will craft a new pay survey for discussion. The administrator requested some general guidance on the concerned areas on pay and what the consensus of the board would be in raising---- the hourly rate?, the benefits?, etc.... this would help in crafting a report.
Trustee Radtke mentioned that employee recognition should be rekindled and would be supportive of different measures to do so, plaques, recognize work anniversaries, cards, etc...
The Administrator will present an updated complete staff analysis and include some options to recognize performance- step increases, years of service increases, etc...

- **New Business:**
- **Correspondence received:** None
- **Future Agenda items for next meeting:** Employee survey presentation, payroll review for increases, Boundary agreement and financial impacts.
- **Next Meeting date:** *March 9, 2023 at 4:30 pm*
- **Adjourn:** adjourned at 5:25 by Mancl

Betsy Mancl- Committee Chairman

VILLAGE BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02

**VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS
WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO FIX THE BROKEN SYSTEM OF
FUNDING CRITICAL SERVICES**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS, WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION:

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's system for funding vital services like police, fire protection, EMS well maintained streets, parks and libraries is broken, unsustainable, and needs to be reformed, and communities are forced to rely on property taxes and flat or declining state aid to pay for critical local services that residents and businesses need; and

WHEREAS, state sales and income tax revenues have tripled in the last 30 years, but the share of those taxes going to support police, fire, EMS, and other local services has gone DOWN; and

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, state aid for police , fire, and other critical services has steadily declined in real dollars, while inflation has caused average prices to increase by 62 percent. The funding level for the Village was \$255,817 in 2003, in 2023 it is \$225,400 a 12% decrease over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the steady decline in the State's contribution to the cost of critical local services has forced communities to rely more heavily on property taxes to maintain Police, Fire, EMS and critical services; and

WHEREAS, the overreliance on property taxes to pay for critical services must end, and to compete regionally, nationally and globally, Wisconsin needs to develop and maintain quality communities that can attract and retain talent and enterprise and spur job creation; and

WHEREAS, for local communities to flourish and the State's economy to grow. State and local leaders must work collaboratively and Local governments need reliable, growing, sustainable, and diverse sources of revenue to continue to deliver police, fire, EMS and other critical services and safe streets now and into the future; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Port Edwards urges the State Legislature and the Governor to work collaboratively with the Wisconsin league of Municipalities, Wisconsin Counties association, Wisconsin Towns Association, and other government leaders and business leaders to create a better way of funding local governments that includes revenue options other than property taxes to continue to deliver police, fire, EMS and other critical services.

Adopted the 14th of February 2023.

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS
WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Joseph H. Zurfluh, Village President

Diane M. Tremmel, Village Clerk

By a Vote of: _____ in Favor, _____ Opposed, _____ Abstain

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Planning, Legislature, Property
& Information Technology

DATE: February 1, 2023

TO: JOSEPH ZURFLUH

cc: BETSY MANCL
SUE MITCHELL

ERIK SAYLOR
DAILY TRIBUNE

RAYMOND BOSSERT
JASON WORDEN

TIARA GRUNDEN

WFHR/WGLX

DIANE TREMMEL

SCOTT DREW

NICK ABTS

LONN RADTKE

CALEB MCGREGOR

Purpose of Meeting: Regular Monthly Meeting

Attendance: J. Zurfluh, K. Nagorski, E. Saylor, C. McGregor, T. Grunden

Citizens: Eric Hummel

Subjects Discussed, Action Taken & Board Action Required:

Regular Monthly Meeting

- **Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Saylor - Chairman at 4:30 p.m.
- **Roll Call:** All present from above.
- **Approve the agenda & previous month's minutes:** **MOTION** (Saylor/McGregor) to approve minutes from 4 January 2023 & agenda. **Motion carried.**
- **Public comments on agenda items:** None.
- **Committee Chairman's comments:** Saylor received an email concerning chickens from Amanda Erdmann. Will discuss more under chickens-fowls when Ms. Erdmann arrives.
- **Planning, Legislature, Property, & Information Technology Updates**
- **Discuss & review Chapter 10, Public Nuisance, Possible MOTION to approve changes to Chapter 10. Administrative changes & updates to outdated rules.**

MOTION (Saylor/McGregor) to approve the changes to Chapter 10 with the discussed updates to the outdated ordinances. **Motion Carried.**

10.04 Public Nuisances Offending Morals & Decency - remove all
10.04 - 1 Disorderly houses - remove all

- 10.04 - 5 Illegal drinking - remove all
- 10.05 - 10 Remove the word “*considerable*.”
- 10.12 - 11 Remove “*thru the Public Works committee*”, replace with
“*administrator with appeals through the PLPIT committee*.”

- ***Discuss chickens-fowl in the village & the rules governing them.*** Tabled due to the absence of citizen Amanda Erdmann, would like to give her another opportunity to come & discuss her point.
- ***Discuss development options in the TIF district & incentives utilizing TIF funding.*** Tabled, awaiting more information.
- ***Discuss resolution supporting the Nepco Lake district formation, MOTION to approve.***

MOTION (Grunden/Saylor) to support the resolution supporting the Nepco Lake district formation. **Motion carried.**

- ***Old Business.*** None.
- ***New Business:*** None.
- ***Correspondence received.*** Email from Amanda Erdmann concerning chickens in the village.
- ***Future Agenda items for next meeting:*** Chickens-fowl in the village, discuss development options in the TIF district & incentives utilizing TIF funding.
- ***Next meeting date:*** 8 March 2023 at 4:30 p.m., in person at the Marshall Buehler Center.
- ***Adjourn:*** Adjourned at 5:13 p.m. by Saylor.

VILLAGE BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

**VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS
WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEPCO LAKE
DISTRICT FOR TAXING PURPOSES AND LAKE MAINTENANCE
OPERATIONS**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS, WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION:

WHEREAS, The Village of Port Edwards supports the establishment of the NEPCO lake District, boundaries established by the map attached.

WHEREAS, The Village of Port Edwards working in conjunction with the NEPCO lake District Board will annually establish the Millage rate or flat rate determined by the Voting members of the district and those rates will be published on the annual Tax bills.

WHEREAS, The Village of Port Edwards will be allotted 1 seat, to be filled by the Village President and approved by the Village Board for a 1–3-year assignment on the NEPCO lake District Board.

WHEREAS, The Village of Port Edwards has reviewed the Citizen petition presented that included over 279 parcels and 258 eligible signatures and had a positive response rate of 70% as of 1 February 2023. This includes the majority parcel owners of the Pavloski development company and DOMTAR.

WHEREAS, The Village of Port Edwards has determined that parcels owned by the Pavloski development company (unsold/undeveloped parcels) will be exempt from any annual fees. The individual owned developed parcels and 1 collective undeveloped parcel (representing all the unsold and undeveloped parcels) will be the only parcels assessed a tax fee on the developer. Also, the DOMTAR (riparian and lake bed), parcels will be designated as EXEMPT parcels and thus never charged any Lake District fees unless they change ownership or development status.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Port Edwards agrees with the establishment of the NEPCO lake District as of the date below.

Adopted the 14th of February 2023.

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS
WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

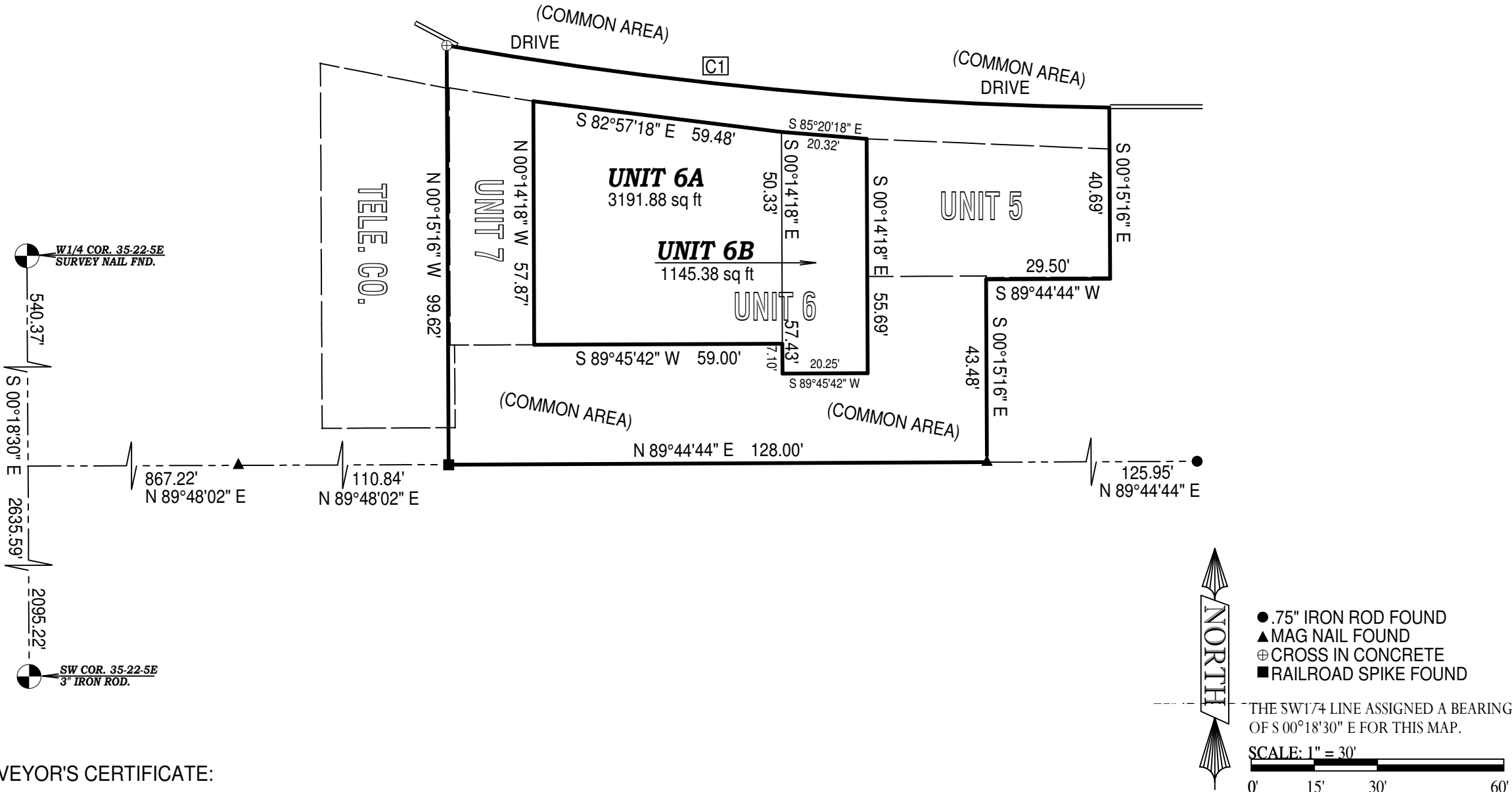
Joseph H. Zurfluh, Village President

Diane M. Tremmel, Village Clerk

By a Vote of: _____ in Favor, _____ Opposed, _____ Abstain

PORT PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ADDENDUM #1

BEING ALL OF UNIT 6 OF PORT PLAZA CONDOMINIUM, LOCATED IN PART OF GOV'T LOT 3, SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 22 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST, VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS, WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN, BEING PART OF LOTS 2 & 3 OF BLOCK 21 OF THE FIRST ADDITION TO THE TOWNSITE, NOW VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS.



SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE:

I, KEVIN M. WHIPPLE, PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR, hereby certify:

That I have surveyed, mapped, and divided this Survey being all of Unit 6 of Port Plaza Condominium, Located in part of Government Lot 3 of Section 36, Township 22 North, Range 5 East, Village of Port Edwards, Wood County, Wisconsin, being part of Lots 2 & 3 of Block 21 of the First Addition to the Townsite, Now Village of Port Edwards; subject to right-of-ways, easements, restrictions and reservation of record, IF ANY.

That I have made such survey at the direction of VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

That such map is a correct representation of the exterior boundaries of the land surveyed and the subdivision thereof made; That I have complied fully with the provisions of Chapter 703 Wisconsin Statutes and the Village of Port Edwards Municipal Code in surveying and mapping the same to the best of my knowledge and belief.

KEVIN M. WHIPPLE, P.L.S. 2444
Drafted by: Erin Whipple
Field Work Completed on 1/17/23

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS APPROVAL

Resolved, that this PORT PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ADDENDUM #1located in the Village of Port Edwards is hereby approved by the village board.

Date_____,2023 Approved _____
Village President

Date_____, 2023 Approved _____
Village Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a copy of a resolution adopted by the village board of the Village of Port Edwards.

Village Clerk

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
WOOD COUNTY)SS

I, Village Clerk, being the duly elected, qualified and acting clerk of the Village of Port Edwards of Wood County do hereby certify that the village board of the Village of Port Edwards passed Resolution Number _____ on _____, authorizing me to issue a certificate of approval for this PORT PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ADDENDUM

#1, upon satisfaction of certain conditions, and I do hereby certify that all conditions were satisfied and the APPROVAL WAS GRANTED AND EFFECTIVE ON THE _____ day of _____, 2023.

Dated _____
Village Clerk

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Village of Port Edwards

Municipal Building
201 Market Ave. P.O. Box 10
Port Edwards, Wisconsin 54469
Phone: 715-887-3511

NEPCO Lake Residents meeting MINUTES

Started meeting at 1200, on the 18 January 2023.

1. Call to order-
2. 8 attendees by ZOOM;
 - Lyman Schantz
 - Jim Stout
 - Eric Hummel
 - Sue Mitchell- Trustee
 - Lance Pliml
3. 6 in person
 - Administrator- Bossert
 - Jeff Manor- 876 Quiet Waters Trail
 - David Dobner- 630 Private Beach Trail
 - Ben Martinson- PW Director
 - Tiara Grunden- Trustee
 - Dave Alnes
4. **INTRODUCTIONS**- Administrator Bossert Introduced the attendees and explained the process of the meeting.
5. Approve the agenda. **MOTION** by Manor, 2nd By Dobner all AYES
6. Approve minutes from the 16 November 2023 meeting **MOTION** by Manor 2nd by Dobner, all AYES
7. Public comments on agenda items. None
8. Chairperson comments. None
9. Discussion on the procedures to establish a lake district or lake association
 - Petition Status. A discussion by the group on the progress of the petition. All surveys have been distributed; they have received about 160 petitions at 60% back most in the positive. The Citizens should be ready to submit to the County by February 2023 meeting.
 - Discussion on the lake assessment that needs to be conducted. A firm needs to be identified to proceed and the funding mechanism.
10. Discuss Boundary transition issues
 - Roads- awaiting feedback from the survey to express the desire to remain private or request public help in maintenance.
 - Weed machines- Still being offered by the developer for free, we are awaiting some data on the operation of the machines as well as finding a place to park them. A discussion was had on who can take a look at the machines and Jeff Manor offered his time to coordinate and do so.

The Administrator from Port Edwards meet with Chad Lee from Aquarius systems on site of the machines. They both were in good shape and would need approx. \$20K to begin operations in 2023. The Village will ask the developer on the way ahead to accept the donation.

11. Discuss Old Business. NONE

10. Discuss New Business. NONE

12. Discuss any correspondence. NONE

13. Future Agenda Items. We will review results from Survey, and discuss the weed machine donations.

13. Next meeting date, 15 February 2023 at 1200 at the Marshall Buehler center and via ZOOM.

14. Adjourn by Bossert at 12:47 on the 18th January 2023.

6. ACTION Items:

Administrator Bossert-

- Continue to work with state and County tax sources to refine the ability for the Village to address Millage rates and not impact the revenue to support Village operations.
- Establish an initial meeting with Saratoga to inform them of our progress and issues, potential discussion in January 2023.
- Discuss future mail coverage for residents and the ability to go door to door delivery
- Receive the official MEMO from the State stating that the Roads cannot be included in State Road assistance.

Brain Formella- Village Attorney-

- Review all HOAs and address issues that might arise
- Confirm ownership and responsibilities of all owners (residents, developer, Domtar, County etc...)
- Review a question asked, “does the Village have any option to decline the Boundary agreement” and what would that look like.
- Review the responsibilities of the lake bed owner- DOMTAR in respect to lake maintenance

Residents and HOAs-

- Conduct an assessment of residents in each HOA and gauge their support of a lake association or district
- Conduct an assessment of residents in each HOA and gauge their support of a contributions by HOAs towards an updated Lake management plan
- Produce individual memorandums from the HOAs of request for Village services based on those discussions and to what level of services requested.

Village of Port Edwards

Raymond "BOZ" Bossert
Administrator

Municipal Building
Port Edwards, Wisconsin 54469
Phone: 715-887-3511
Fax: 715-887-3524

Date: 1 February 2023 (Report Period 1-31 JAN 2023)

To: Village Board

Subject: Administrators REPORT, FEBRUARY 2023

Summary: *(A summary of events since last meeting. This will include an assessment in safety, security, Infrastructure, fiscal issues and general government for the Village. This area should also address any external/regional factors that may impact the city.)* No issues for the Village. We continue supporting Winter activities in our Parks and Roads departments with no concerns and are continuing to support the response to Winter weather. Budget is being executed with NO issues.

Human Resources:

1. The village has currently 6 police officers/ 13 firemen/ 3 general government/ 1 court officer/ 7 public works employees = 30 employees (This does not include the 46 Board & Commission/Committee members we pay) out of 90 authorized. **So, we are back to 76 filled positions of the 90 authorized (all part-time help has departed the Village)**
2. Our Village employee expenses to date have been approx. \$68,000 out of our total employee budget of \$1,600,000, for the year. We have a payroll execution rate of 8%, no issues. FYI---The Village Payroll is a total of 45% of the Overall Village 2023 Budget.

Public Works:

1. The Dog park is open and we will monitor the use and any issue over the winter month. We plan to conduct a more formal ribbon cutting in April 2023.
2. We have submitted Bids for our 1st street project for this year. This is mainly for planning work not to exceed \$50K from the TIF account.

Safety and Security:

1. Police- We have had 8 citations; 17 Traffic stops and 4 criminal/warrants and 5 ordinance violations these past 30 days. We responded to over 105 calls/events in the past 30 days. The Police are executing their budget.
2. Fire- Responded to 16 events (3x Fire calls and 9x 1st responder events). They conducted 2 drill and training events as well as 2 meeting. The Fire Department are executing their budget.

Budget:

1. Our Village budget is on track on execution. We have expended approx. \$990K so far this year, an 24% expenditure rate, we expected to have spent \$1M. No issues. Our revenue to date is \$1.5M approx. 74% of our expected revenue this year, no issues.
2. We conducted some initial discussions on the Village payroll in the FHR committee and this will continue. The Administrator will gather data for a new Village Wage Study. The 2019 PAA audit is outdated at this time, however the Village has completed over 90% of those recommendations.

General Government:

1. NEPCO lake meeting will be scheduled for 15 FEB 2023 to further discuss the lake district petition.
2. We continue to renovate the 231/241/251 parcels and will be marketing them in the near future. We also have purchased 140 market avenue and will close with the County on 27 FEB 2023. Total cost of \$35K.
3. Need to set the date for the April Strategic meeting. Elections are 4 April 2023, the Board meeting (old Board members) is the 11th. The reorganization meeting is the 18th of April. Recommended dates (18 April- Tuesday, 19-21 April (Wednesday-Friday) or the 22nd of April (Saturday) Concept- weekday event 9-3pm. Meade Hotel setup cost \$1500 Administrator budget. The league would also like to open a session up to other league members; Invite list for us is Wood County Chairman, Neighboring Mayors Nekoosa, Rapids, Grand Rapids, Saratoga, Chamber of Commerce President, Key stakeholders in Port- bank, ERCO, school.
4. Village signs have been ordered, need some discussion on replacing the Village Municipal Building and Marshall Buehler center signs.
5. The League of Municipalities will host their winter executive conference from 21-23 February from 12:00-1:30 pm. I will participate in the Village Hall and offer anyone interested to drop by to view. If we need to notice the meetings we can if more than 2 trustees plan to attend.
6. We have submitted a grant thru the Legacy organization for \$250K for village wide electric vehicle charging stations. Pending any approval, it will be in midsummer before we see any funding.
7. We have submitted downtown Vibrant spaces grant thru the WEDC for \$50K a 1-3 match. This will be incorporated with our pending TIF improvements for 2023.

HOLIDAY:

1. None

MAJOR Initiatives in the next 30-60 DAYS:

1. Continue to work off PAA Audit corrective actions
2. DMI engagements
3. GRANT requests and preparations

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Raymond “BOZ” Bossert

Administrator

C: Board members

C: Village Department Heads (Treasurer/Clerk, Police, Fire, Public Works)

C: File



Multi-Metro Deer Management

Daniel Hobbs
Hunt Coordinator
121 3rd St. N.

01/27/23

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Phone #'s Day 715/423-5450, Night 715/325-3844, Cell 715/459-4761, Fax 715/423-5407

E-mail: danh@hobbsind.com

End of harvest year end report to Communities

HI All,

This is my annual report to let everyone know the harvest results and let you know any issues and/or anything new.

We began the year with a High harvest rate. At about mid November the harvest fell off the map. Not really sure, deer were there, but they were all nocturnal. Still can't figure out why, but it is what it is. The amount of deer on the West side of Rapids and Port is still growing as there have been very few tags available for the General Public for quite sometime. The herd has been building. At the direction of the DNR we are submitting all heads for testing due to CWD being found in Wood Co.

The other problem we are still seeing is the prevalence of white deer. These are NOT albino, just white. Very frustrating to see herds of them and not be able to do anything about it.

This year we harvested a total of 43 deer of which 41 were antler less. The breakdown is as follows:

Biron: 5,

Grand Rapids: 12 with 5 Urban and 7 rural.

Wisconsin Rapids: 18

Port Edwards: 6

We do have all locations of the harvested deer for all 16 years marked on a map, if anyone wants to see it.

Again, is the illegal feeding and baiting that is going on all over. This can have the real impact of bringing in large herds of deer and keeping them in town while we are trying to harvest them. Just doesn't make sense. The other problem is that if a landowner is feeding and not allowing harvest.

The deer just roam at night off of that property causing accidents and gobbling up everyone's plants.

Please note: For every antler less deer not harvested, next year should see 1.5 fawns, depending on winter. In town, if we do not harvest 20 deer, that equates to 55 total deer the next year and so on....

We have not gotten back into most of the properties owned by Verso. They were systematically posting most of their properties which causes major areas of Refuge for the deer. You can see upwards of 20 deer standing around their properties in broad daylight. We will try to work on opening access, but it does not look good. If anyone from the Communities can help, it would be greatly appreciated.

We did gain some new properties and access to neighborhoods, which was a great help in our harvest. We had 0 complaints or problems that I am aware of.

The cooler again was a great success for keeping the donated venison cool. It is invaluable in running this organization. Wisconsin Rapids paid for the electricity. Thank you, City of Wisconsin Rapids.

The general public is quite supportive of our efforts, and have been told so numerous times. It seems the only complaints we get are from other hunters.

We held an open shoot for new Members, we had 4 New hunters that passed the shooting test and went through all the orientations. We will be having the next one

One thing to remember is that just because we do not harvest a deer on a property, It is still helpful because we do not give them a safe zone. Making any refuge is a bad thing.

Other observations: The white Deer herd is REALLY getting large in some areas. At present I estimate they make up 40% of the herd in some areas. As we keep harvesting Brown deer, it is only going to make matters worse. Eventually something will need to be done. We have always recorded deer sightings with our harvest reports and now will also record the number of white deer we see. In 2020 we starting keeping track of the white deer sightings, we had 178 sightings. In 2021, with way few hours of hunting, total we had 253 white deer sightings, up substantially.

We have now harvested a total of 1078 deer in this program. That amounts to 43,120 lbs of Venison donated to area families. Which also means 172,480 meals provided. That is an amazing amount of meals. I really wish we could do more as we get calls all the time for people requesting deer from us. I believe it is one of the most important parts of the program, donating to needy families.

We have a new Wildlife Biologist is Lesa Kardash , phone # 715 340 5034, her email is lesa.kardash@wisconsin.gov he will look at our Hunter Reports and come up with her conclusions.

We received and have applied for the Wildlife Grants to help cover the cost of the program.

Any help with the Railroad or with or Verso Papers would be greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to call with any questions. If any of you need me at any board meetings, let me know. I am more than happy to show up.

Respectfully,

Daniel Hobbs.



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79.79"

49.65"

25.23"

39.50"

VILLAGE HALL

211



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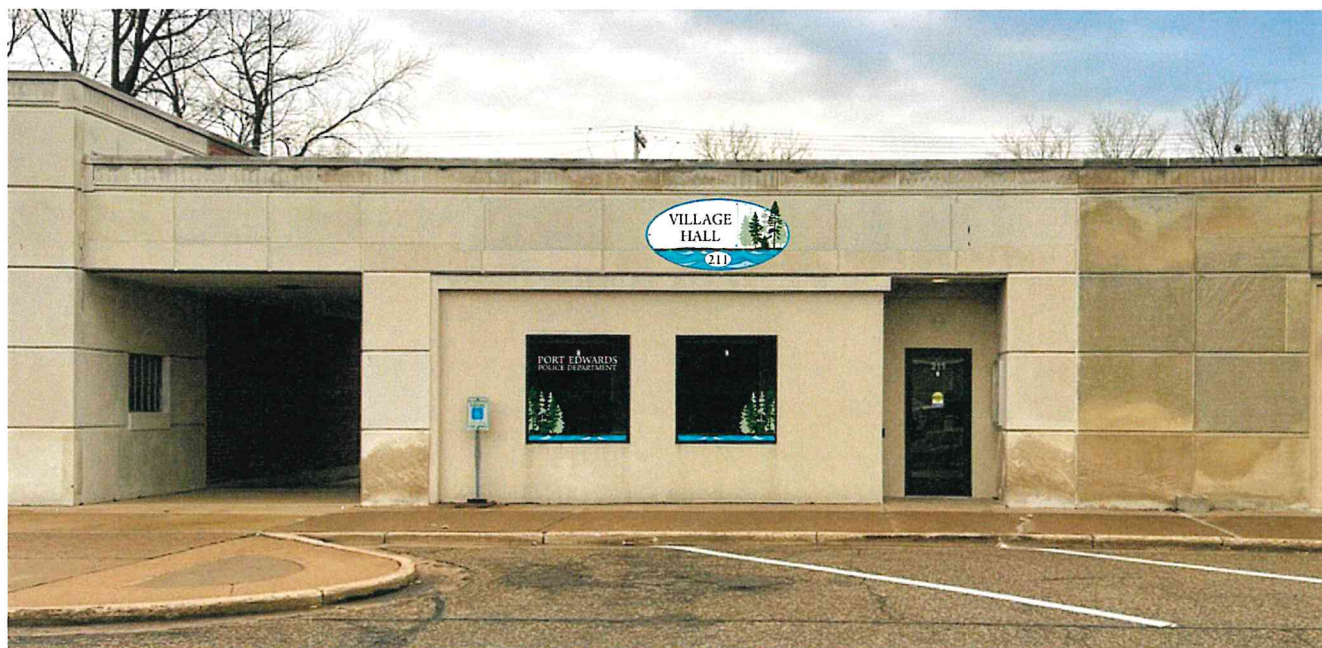
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