

A Special Board meeting was held on October 30, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Edwards Alexander Shelter.

**Present:** President Zurfluh, Trustees Bingham, Duncan, Grunden, Martinson, Mitchell and Saylor

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** N. Abts (Village Attorney), S. Harrington (Interim Administrator), D. Stewart, J. Iverson, P. Arendt, D. Tremmel

**Citizens:** Thomas Duncan

**Citizens Comments:** None

**President Comments:** None

Motion (Mitchell/Duncan) to approve Fire Protection Agreements with the Town of Port Edwards, Town of Seneca and Town of Cranmoor for 2018 based on the 2017 budget and to submit proposals to these municipalities. Motion carried. All ayes.

Attorney Abts will prepare a letter to the Town Chairmen explaining the changes made to the agreements.

Attorney Abts provided an update on the Domtar Corporation tax appeals which were dismissed with prejudice on September 11, 2017. The Department of Revenue has removed the properties from the manufacturing classification. Therefore, defending any future tax appeals would be the responsibility of the Village rather than the State of Wisconsin. The League of Wisconsin Municipalities insurance policy would provide \$50,000 a year for defending tax appeals. The Village has until November 10, 2017 to appeal the State's decision to declassify the properties as manufacturing. It is not likely that the decision would be overturned by the State. The next step would be to appeal to the Circuit Court. Attorney Abts' recommendation is to not appeal the decision by the State to declassify the properties as manufacturing for the following reasons: (1) Under the Statute, the Department of Revenue has sole discretion regarding classification; and (2) It is not relevant that the dam is serving Nekoosa Paper Mill because it is not in the Village. The Board members agreed to take no action on appealing the Domtar properties' declassification.

The preliminary budget as submitted by the Finance and Human Resources committee was reviewed and discussed.

Motion (Duncan/Bingham) to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. Motion carried. All ayes.

Diane M. Tremmel, Clerk-Treasurer