

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS  
Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Streets, Infrastructure, Recreation, and Cemetery Meeting

DATE: January 19, 2021

TO: JOSEPH ZURFLUH

cc: BETSY MANCL  
DANA DUNCAN  
JOHN BINGHAM  
DIANE TREMMEL  
PATRICK ARENDT

ERIK SAYLOR  
SUE MITCHELL  
TIARA GRUNDEN  
SCOTT DREW  
RAYMOND BOSSERT

JP LACHAPELLE  
DAILY TRIBUNE  
WFHR/WGLX  
NICK ABTS

Purpose of Meeting: **Special Assessment Public Hearing and Regular Monthly Meeting**

Attendance: S. Mitchell, B. Mancl, E. Saylor, J Zurfluh, R. Bossert, B. Martinson

Citizens: J. Bingham, Nick Abts, Del Stewart (1211 4<sup>th</sup> St), Rick Murtas (311 Market Ave), Joe and LaCinda Terry (Port Road), provided documents to be read into the record.

**Subjects Discussed, Action Taken, and Board Action Required:**

**Public Hearing**

- ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order by S. Mitchell at 5:00 p.m.
- Ray Bossert- Administrator went through the Assessment slideshow explaining the Special Assessments and why we have come to discuss changing how the village is currently doing these. The Staff recommendation was a Flat Assessment Model.
- Letters received from Joe & Lacinda Terry were reviewed and entered for the record. These were explaining their thoughts on the special assessments, both in opposition to any changes.
- Rick Merkes is concerned about getting charged double because he is on a corner lot. He also stated that when getting contractors for projects, to keep in mind that getting better quality is better than getting the bottom dollar for the projects.
- Attorney Nick Abts explained the legal side of special assessments and mention that if a property is deemed agricultural that we have to proceed with them differently.
- Public Hearing adjourned at 5:48

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

- ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order by S. Mitchell at 5:48 p.m.
- ***Roll Call:*** All Present from above less John Bingham
- ***Approve the previous month's minutes and Agenda:*** **MOTION** (Saylor/Mancl) to approve minutes. Motion carried.

- **Public comments on agenda items:**
  - a. Special Assessments: Rick Merkes spoke in favor of how we have things now.
- **Committee Chairman's comments:** Sue Mitchell- also in favor of exploring this option, as long as it is used specifically for its intended purpose. Recommended a **MOTION** to Freeze all Special Assessment Collections for 2021 until the final decision is made by the Board. (Mitchell/ 2<sup>nd</sup> by Saylor) All AYE's.
- **Special Assessment update/recommendation:** Discussed a few different solutions and the committee directed to focus on the Wheel tax and small adjustments to the current Special Assessment language in our Chapter 8 Ordinances. Erik Saylor shared his opinion on keeping things the same, but enforcing them. OR exploring the "wheel tax" that way everyone has to pay smaller amounts every year, instead of one bigger bill. Erik Saylor also wants to make sure that the money collected will be specifically used for street projects. Betsy Mancl spoke in favor of a "wheel tax" as well, everyone pays smaller amounts every year, it is easier for everyone to digest.
- **Review of Capital Improvement 2021 Plan.** The Administrator conducted a review of all the proposed 2021 projects, timeline for execution and funding options. No issues other than Market Ave completion will be based on progress and funding availability and may be pushed into 2022 if required.
- **Townline Road repairs.** The Administrator briefed the request by Saratoga and Grand Rapids to abide by the agreement to resurface the road. Our Village is responsible for .62 miles of the 4.5 Mile stretch and will cost approx. \$25K. This will be funded by our NEPCO planning account, thus no increase to the budget. **MOTION** To authorize the use of the NEPCO lake Planning Funds already budgeted to pay for the Village portion of the Tri-municipality agreement (.62 miles) to resurface Townline road in 2021.
- **Geese droppings in Ripple Creek Park:** The administrator found a non-intrusive option that can be floated in the Pond. This will cost approx. \$400 and is guaranteed for 90 Days, thus the item can be returned if it does not work in a few weeks. The Administrator had discussions with the DNR and Wisconsin Trapper association to seek other options.
- **Department of Public Works report:**
  - a) **Discuss Siren Installs:** short Update all goes well final install in 2 weeks and then complete.
- **Correspondence received:** Received from Joe & Lacinda Terry about Special Assessments
- **Future Agenda Items:**
  - a) Special Assessments focus on the Wheel tax
  - b) Geese Options
  - c) Catch Basin Painting by the Boy Scouts
  - d) Port Road NO Truck signage.
- **Next meeting date:** February 16, 2021 at 4pm.
- **Adjourn:** Adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Sue Mitchell – Chairman