
The Village Board meeting was held at the Marshall Buehler Center and set up as a Zoom meeting and a conference call meeting according to Wisconsin Attorney General Release Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Open Meetings. 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 Bingham (via Zoom), Duncan (via Zoom), Grunden (via Zoom), Mancl (via Zoom), Mitchell (via Zoom) & Saylor

Absent: None

Also Present: R. Bossert, B. Martinson, S. Drew (via Zoom), D. Tremmel

Citizens: Delno Stewart, Matthew Fletcher, Mike Martinson, LuAnn Martinson, Jim Schuerman, Jerry Zurfluh, Lee Tremmel and Tony Bastien. Katie Martinson attended via Zoom.

Motion (Duncan/Mitchell) to approve the Consent Agenda (meeting minutes from February 9, 2021 Board meeting and to approve monthly bills and the journal entries for the previous month). Motion carried. All ayes.

Public Comment: Delno Stewart stated that he does not understand how so much money can be removed from the capital outlay for streets when all of the trustees were on the Board when he was Public Works Supervisor.

Matthew Fletcher stated that he owns multiple homes in the Village so the flat rate assessment proposal would affect him even more. He was wondering where the money is going that used to be there.

LuAnn Martinson stated that, being a past member of the Board, she understands how stressful it is working on the budget. She does not feel it is advisable that the budget be cut to the point where the general public has to make up the difference. It is not fair to the people who own these properties to be assessed for these special projects.

Jim Schuerman stated that he has a lot of questions about the proposed assessment procedure. He feels something this big should be on a referendum so the whole Village has a right to vote on it. He had concerns about the resale of properties in the Village if this does pass. He also had concerns about where the surplus of money was as stated in the Administrator's "State of the Village Address" and in the Spring Newsletter. He also questioned the way the Village was split up in the proposal and noted that all the properties in the "Village Proper" do not have everything mentioned therein. He feels there should be no new assessments at this time and there needs to be a lot more discussion about this.

Jerry Zurfluh stated that he has lived in the Village since 1968, and through this period he has seen the Village go downhill. He pointed out how the proposed assessments were unfair in that 175' of frontage would pay the same as 55' of frontage and the large difference that a property with 55' would pay in lineal feet compared to a property with 175'. He stated that he is not at all in favor of this, especially for the smaller lots.

Lee Tremmel stated that everyone uses the streets, sidewalks and roads, so everyone pays for them. He pointed out the unfairness of the 50' to 55' properties paying the same as someone with more lineal footage. He stated that everyone pays taxes, and those taxes are to go toward the roads and sidewalks. He also questioned the verbiage about sidewalks being required in the "Village Proper" as there are a lot of properties without sidewalks and questioned if the Village plans to put sidewalks in all the properties. He feels it is fair to get charged by the lineal foot as has always been done.

Tony Bastien stated that he is not too familiar with how the assessments worked previously but echoed Mr. Tremmel's words that there needs to be something more fair. He owns an entire block so anything done on that block would be his responsibility. He feels it is unfair because the residents do not ask for the road to be repaired (especially where there is low traffic). He stated it is a collective Village effort, not just the people whose properties are along the road that is being repaired.

Mike Martinson stated it should be a fair thing for everyone. We are all in this together, and to pick out certain people to pay more for something we all use is not fair. At a minimum, a letter should have been sent to every resident with contact information to express concerns. He stated that he is strongly against this proposal and that more effort and time should be put into this matter. He feels this should be tabled and looked at a little closer.

Administrator Bossert stated this has been an ongoing Committee discussion since last September which started with these options: Wheel tax, transportation utility fee, increase in infrastructure fee, and the flat rate assessment. He stated that there is a difference between the Public Works budget and assessments and that the citizen contribution is in the 20% - 25% range. He feels it is more than fair and that we would need a surveyor to come up with the lineal footage of the properties.

He also stated that regarding the budget, payroll has gone up because the Village is at full employment this year, inadequacies in the fire department wages were addressed, and the amount contributed for streets was reduced because the 3rd Street project is being paid for with TIF funds.

President's Report: President Zurfluh stated that he would like to reinstate the Parks & Recreation Committee as a standing committee as of March 2021. Erik Saylor is in favor of the standing committee because the Parks & Recreation Committee would have a meeting if there was an issue for discussion such as the dog park, splash pad and other things coming up. Administrator Bossert pointed out the walkway that is part of the DMI development. The bulk of work is becoming excessive for the SIRC Committee. It was decided that there will be a motion on the April 13th Board agenda to bring the Parks & Recreation Committee back permanently.

President Zurfluh stated that he would like to establish a Special Projects Committee to streamline Village business and special issues which would be directed to the entire Board as required. Chairman would be Trustee Duncan with additional members as required. A monthly report would be provided to the SIRC Committee.

Motion (Duncan/Zurfluh) to approve Resolution 2021-02 Adopting the Wood County All Hazards Mitigation Plan dated September 2020. Motion carried. All ayes.

Airport Commission: Review of minutes.

Streets, Infrastructure, Recreation & Cemetery: Review of minutes.

Motion (Mitchell/Duncan) to approve Resolution 2021-01, A Resolution Levying A "Flat" Special Assessments for Major Village Construction Projects Along Streets, Roads and Alleys for New or Replacement Construction Projects.

After a discussion amongst the Board members, the following motion was presented:

Motion (Zurfluh/Grunden) to postpone the motion to a definite or certain time, that being the April or May Board meeting. Motion carried. 4 ayes; 3 noes (Roll call vote: Bingham-no; Duncan-no; Grunden-yes; Mancl-no; Mitchell-yes; Saylor-yes; Zurfluh-yes)

Motion (Mitchell/Grunden) 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. Motion carried. All ayes.

It was noted that the Village portion may require only chip sealing and that the project has a cap of \$25,000.00.

Public Safety: Review of minutes.

Finance and Human Resources: Review of minutes.

Motion (Zurfluh/Duncan) to go into closed session at 8:20 p.m. per §19.85(1)(g) "Discussion about employee counseling for the Administrator – six-month review." Motion carried. All ayes.

Motion (Duncan/Zurfluh) to reconvene from closed session at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried. All ayes.

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

Trustee Saylor pointed out that #4 of the minutes is incorrect stating that he made the motion as he was not present. It was determined that President Zurfluh made the motion.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: The Village supports having Village-wide garage sales for May 15, 2021. The Village supports having the Port Edwards Fire Department street dance scheduled for June 18, 2021.

Village Administrator Report: Administrator Bossert discussed the items included on his monthly report including general government, human resources, public works, safety and security, budget, census update and COVID-19.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: None

Communications: None

Trustee comments: Trustee Bingham stated that he will be ready for in-person meetings beginning in April. He suggested that a survey be emailed to the Board for their thoughts.

Motion (Duncan/Mancl) to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried. All ayes.

The following Village bills were approved for payment:

5 Alarm Fire & Safety Equipment LLC-fire equip replace & maint	279.23
Abts Law LLC-monthly retainer (January – March)	3000.00
Ace Hardware-misc expenses	973.34
Advance Janitorial Service & Supply-monthly statement	179.85
Aflac-monthly statement	274.50
Alliant Energy-monthly statement	7466.18
American Welding & Gas Inc-fire equip replace & maint	24.39
Aspirus Riverview Hospital & Clinics Inc-police misc expense (blood draw)	28.00
Brooks Tractor Inc-street machinery	332.13
Chili Implement Co-small equipment	131.46
Cintas-monthly statement	671.77
Clifton Larson Allen LLP-auditing services	10621.02
Concentra Health Services Inc-annual admin fee; random drug test	185.00
Crescent Electric Supply Co-maint of wastewater equipment	47.44
Diversified Benefit Services Inc-health insurance deductible reimb	1977.64
Diversified Benefit Services Inc-March health reimb arrangement	100.51
Insight FS-street machinery; small equipment	2611.40
Jason Leverance-work related safety gear	100.00
Kenneth Murray-work related safety gear	47.46
Lonn Radtke-unused sick leave health insurance reimb	285.04
MacQueen Equipment-street machinery	1564.66
Napa Auto Parts/Nekoosa-misc expenses	461.85
Oshkosh Fire & Police Equipment Inc-fire dept capital outlay (2020)	830.00
Patrick Arendt-reimb for Dominos Pizza & Napa of Nekoosa	204.40
Phillips 66-restitution on citation	43.00
Piggly Wiggly-fire meeting expense	68.69
Port Auto Service LLC-street machinery	787.92
Port Edwards Post Office-postage stamps for newsletter, water bills, court, misc	660.00
Power Pac Inc-small equipment	58.74
Quill LLC-municipal garage	65.98
Scott Drew-reimb for face masks and uniform cleaning	36.87
Security Health Plan-monthly statement	17608.00
Solarus-monthly statement	1276.24
State of Wisconsin-February court report	557.20
The Dirks Group LLC-information systems	626.75
Tom’s Paint & Decorating-parks	57.23
Tractor Supply Credit Plan-tools & supplies	187.97
We Energies-monthly statement	2933.74
Wis. Dept. of Revenue/Madison-annual TIF fee	150.00
Wis. Municipal Judges Assoc-2021 dues	75.00
Wood County CISM-fire dept 2021 dues	100.00
Wood County Treasurer-February jail assessment	120.00
Advanced Disposal-WR-M3 – monthly statement	10010.25
Aflac-monthly statement	274.50
Amazon-parks	80.89
Applied Industrial Technologies-street machinery	322.25
Aspirus Clinics Inc-physical for fire dept employee (A. Abley)	240.00
Badger Plastics & Supply-street machinery	200.00
BDT Inc-parks	51.98
BGA LLC-April building inspection services	2000.00
Brandon Burroughs-police vehicle expense	175.00
Brock Supply-tools & supplies	69.23
Commercial Testing Laboratory Inc-testing (wastewater)	852.50
Delno Stewart-unused sick leave health insurance reimb	479.90
Diversified Benefit Services-health insurance deductible reimb	1225.50
Diversified Benefit Services-health insurance deductible reimb	1556.90

Goodwin Construction-half down for pavilion at splash pad	7250.00
James Leiser-unused sick leave health insurance reimb	157.84
Jason Worden-reimb for fire equipment replace & maint	33.61
Joshua Mancl-reimb for Mid-State tuition, books, etc.	1013.28
Marco Technologies LLC-monthly copier & usage charges	60.92
Minnesota Wisconsin Playground-swing set seats	1810.18
Nassco Inc-misc supplies	456.60
Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank-monthly direct deposit fee	50.00
Notary Bond Renewal Service-notary renewal for cashier (bond)	30.00
Owl Labs US-camera for meetings	999.00
Partners Mfg Group Inc-street machinery	4415.88
Phillips 66-monthly statement	1105.51
Principal Life Insurance Co-monthly premium	60.58
Quill LLC-misc expenses	149.93
Stainless & Repair Inc-fire equipment replace & maint	18.49
Staples Credit Plan-misc expenses	98.45
Superior Chemical Corp-weed control	1165.07
Team Matthews Tire Center-police vehicle expense	634.61
The Dirks Group LLC-cybersecurity mailbox update; remote support	882.50
The Dirks Group LLC-spam filtering for 38 mailboxes	912.00
The Emblem Authority-police shoulder patches	705.00
Truck Equipment Inc-plow	7550.00
Truckshop USA-street machinery; wastewater transportation	1400.00
Verizon Wireless-monthly statement	429.80
Wausau Chemical Corp-chemicals	4120.65
WI Environmental Improvement Fund-wastewater loan payment	209175.31
Wis Dept of Financial Institutions-notary renewal for cashier	20.00
Wis Dept of Natural Resources/OCP-renewal of water operator's certifications	90.00
Wood County Fire Investigation Task Force-annual dues	50.00
Zarnoth Brush Works Inc-street machinery	861.40

Wages & Salaries – March wages **73138.67**

The following Water Utility Bills were approved for payment:

Alliant Energy-monthly statement	2986.58
Badger Meter-February Beacon services	206.16
Mailboxes & Parcel Depot-testing	37.13
USA Blue Book-maint of pumping plant	65.80
WI State Lab of Hygiene-testing	52.00

Building Permits:

Wisconsin Mechanical Solutions/Edgewater Haven (COMMERCIAL)-upgrading 4 bathrooms
 Goodwin Construction Inc/Village of Port Edwards-new 16' x 16' pavilion

Electrical Permits:

Plumbing Permits:

Steve's Plumbing/Johnson-install new pvc drain, repair liner and line entire sewer

Excavation Permits:

We Energies/1660 4th St (Marcia Ferry)-new gas service install