

# VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Finance & Human Resources

DATE: November 2, 2023

TO: BETSY MANCL

CC: LONN RADTKE

TIARA GRUNDEN

CALEB MCGREGOR

JEN MOORE

ERIK SAYLOR

JOSEPH ZURFLUH

DAILY TRIBUNE

WFHR/WGLX

NICK ABTS

DIANE TREMMEL

JASON WORDEN

SCOTT DREW

**Purpose of Meeting:** Regular Monthly Meeting – Marshall Buehler Center

**Attendance:** L. Radtke, T. Grunden, C. McGregor, D. Tremmel

**Also Present:** S. Drew

**Absent:** B. Mancl (excused)

**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.
- Motion (Grunden/McGregor) to approve agenda and October 5, 2023 minutes. Motion carried. All ayes.
- **Public Comments on Agenda Items:** None
- **Committee Chairman's Comments:** None
- Motion (Radtke/Grunden) to approve the monthly bills, journal entries for the previous month and financial reports. Motion carried. All ayes.
- There was discussion regarding an additional stipend to Trustees for taking meeting minutes. Wood County's resolution was presented providing for a \$10.00 stipend for a person designated as the primary minute taker who had to type the minutes up as well. The Wood County Clerk indicated that nobody has claimed the additional stipend in many years. It was decided that a motion would not be brought.
- The proposed garbage collection fee for 2024 & 2025 was approved at last month's meeting.
- There was discussion regarding the 2024 budget, which will be discussed in more detail at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
- **Old Business:** None.
- **New Business:** None

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- **Correspondence Received:** Trustee Radtke mentioned an email received from Leo Thomasgard expressing his belief that the Village needs a full time Administrator (see attached).
- **Agenda Items for Next Meeting:** Monthly bills, journal entries and reports.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Lonn Radtke - Committee Chairman

## Diane Tremmel

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**From:** Tiara Grunden  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 4:43 PM  
**To:** Diane Tremmel  
**Subject:** FW: New Village Administrator

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**From:** Susan Thomasgard [leosuthomasgard@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 8:14 PM  
**To:** Betsy Mancl; Tiara Grunden; Jen Moore; Joseph Zurfluh; Lonn Radtke; Caleb McGregor; Erik Saylor  
**Subject:** New Village Administrator

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.  
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Greetings All,

According to the recently posted adenda, the Village Board will meet soon to determine whether or not to hire a new Village Administrator. As I have in the past, I wish to express my sincere belief that, for our community to move forward, there needs to be a full time professional with the experience and education to take us where we can and should be going in the 21st century.

The complexity of modern life in general and governmental operations in particular warrants someone who can devote the time, attention and professional expertise necessary to gain full advantage for our community and citizens. I understand that there is some consideration being given to having the Village Board members deal with their own assigned areas and not replace Mr. Bossert. All that I can say in response to that is that I have served on the PE School Board since 2007, I have Undergraduate and Graduate degrees in Education, I taught Middle School kids for 34 years, but there is no way I would be capable or able enough to run our school district on my own, which is why Mr. Bena has his job, which he is doing very well!

If you're worried about saving money and decide to wing it by not hiring a new administrator, I can virtually promise you that there will be lost opportunities for funding, programs, and training that will get missed. There will be conflicts, bad feelings and potential legal trouble that could have been avoided. In addition, your personal lives might become even less of your own because you will be faced with added responsibilities many times beyond the range of your experience and expertise.

The Village of Port Edwards has been known for decades as having a well run, high functioning, responsive local government organization. We are not a rural township whose primary concern is to plow snow and collect garbage. My life experience has repeatedly taught me that you usually get what you pay for. If you let money solely drive this decision, we will all lose in the end. Look for a professional, experienced administrator, pay the person, and move PE forward to where we can and should go. If my taxes go up, so be it. Money well spent.

Thank you for the service you all provide to our community in so many ways. It is deeply appreciated even if no one tells you that most of the time.

Leo Thomasgard