

Village of Port Edwards

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

Village of Port Edwards Board Strategic Planning meeting Saturday April 20, 2024 Environmental Learning Center – 9:00 a.m.

- ❖ Call to order at 9:00 a.m.
- ❖ Present: President Mancl, Trustee Moore, Trustee Hess, Trustee Grunden (zoom), Trustee Radtke (10:00 a.m.)
Also attending: Assistant Chief Brian Luebke, Commissioner Gary Blum, Eric Hummel, Sandy Robinson, Chairman Scott Stewart (10:00 a.m.) and Tim Martin (zoom)
- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance.
- ❖ Duane Gau presented on information for Newly Elected Officials. Reviewed “The Municipality”
<https://www.lwm-info.org/DocumentCenter/View/6567/6-23-Newly-Elected-Officials-Guide-Updated-PDF?bidId=>
- ❖ Break
- ❖ Discussion on taxes and expense summary. Reviewed taxes from 1998-2024. Discussion on levy limits, residential growth vs commercial growth vs industrial growth. Discussion on how the mill closure impacted the Village.
- ❖ Discussion on Alternatives of the Village Administrator position.
The Village has a “Weak Village Administrator position”. Often times the Village Administrator is bypassed. Discussion on alternative options of not having a Village Administrator, divvying out responsibilities to staff, Village Board President take more of a lead on items, sharing the position with a neighboring community.
- ❖ Discussion on Alternatives – Fire Department Organization.
Discussion on combining with another department. Administrator Gau stated that we have a “sweet deal” with the structure we have now with our auto and mutual aid partners. Restructuring so that the department isn’t so “top heavy”.
- ❖ Discussion on Alternatives – Police Department
Discussion on the process of hiring a new chief. Do we combine with another municipality etc.
- ❖ Lunch Break
- ❖ TIF & TID 101 presented by Scott Harrington.
Explanation of how a TIF/TID works, how we can spend the money from a TIF. Also, a discussion on if we would need another one set up because the current one is finishing up.
- ❖ DNR Planning Grant Study – Wood County Development Opportunities presented by Scott Heacock.
- ❖ Went over the grant study and the “mill site” property development and other opportunities that we may see.
- ❖ Economic Development – Comprehensive Plan presented by Duane Gau/ Scott Harrington.
The Village does not utilize their comprehensive plan effectively. We need to be able to use that in order to stay consistent with planning and development. The Village needs to grow. The Village needs to seek out opportunities to develop for housing and for industry/business.
- ❖ Discussion on Alternatives – Public Works Operations
Duane Gau stated that the Public Works budget keeps getting minimized due to the need to find money to provide other services. The Village needs to have realistic conversations on the services that we provide and how that affects staffing.
- ❖ Adjournment: 3:32 p.m.

Betsy Mancl – Village President