

VILLAGE OF WAUSAUKEE
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 2008
WAUSAUKEE VILLAGE HALL
428 HARRISON AVENUE

7:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order – Village President Clark Caine called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Village Trustees present were Julie Parkansky, Jeff Townsend, Jerry Wojcik, Rosie Figas, and Hilbert Radtke. Also present were Street/Water/Sewer Supervisor Darryll Schmidt, Village Assistant Pam Aide, Village Treasurer Sara Pullen, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Jeske, residents Vicki Gocht, Barb and Jesse Rugg, Norb and Deb Van Den Elzen, June Caine, Joellen Simpson, Ray Gordon, and Ann Hartnell, Citizens for Sustainable Education member Jerry Gerbers and special guest Dave Kipp, Ron Lawrence from Coleman Engineering, and Shirley from the Peshtigo Times.
2. Approval of Agenda – Jeff Townsend made a motion seconded by Jerry Wojcik to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
3. Audience to Anyone Wishing to Speak –Joellen Simpson/December 12th regular meeting minutes correction. – Joellen stated that she was misinterpreted in the December 12th minutes. When she says “us” or “we” she is referring to the library or the Friends of the Library. Also the statement about the utilities being the responsibility of the Village she said is incorrect. The utilities will be paid with the money that the library gets to subsidize the rent and expenses. The final changed she would like is the statement that the library is asking the Village for \$1,500 a month. Simpson said that \$1,500 is the total amount of money that the library needs from all the communities it serves. Hilbert Radtke asked about an ad that was in the paper. He stated that a resident asked him if the ad was Board approved and if it was funded by taxpayers’ money. President Caine stated the he created the ad based on facts and figures that he had collected, and he also funded it himself. Resident Jesse Rugg asked if there is a minimum lot size in the Village for the purpose of building, if he could split a parcel, and if so, down to what size Caine, Radtke, and Wojcik responded that they believed it to be ¼ of an acre for both inquiries. Rugg also asked if there was an ordinance against wood burners. Caine stated there was nothing prohibiting them.
4. Business with Guest –Jerry Gerbers from Citizens for Sustainable Education Political Action Committee will give a presentation to oppose the school’s referendum. - Jerry Gerbers and Dave Kipp began by giving the Board and members of the public a ten-page handout in opposition of the school referendum. After presenting the information contained within the handouts, a very lengthy discussion/debate ensued. In short, the position of Citizens for Sustainable Education is that the problems with the school district are going to continue long after the four-year term of the referendum. They believe the public should vote no, and then begin working to permanently fix the problems with the district, not just throw money at them. The public and the Board alike wanted to know what the Committee has come up with in terms of solutions to the problems. Gerbers stated that the Committee is still in discussion and has not come up with a solid solution yet. Kipp said one suggestion was to form task forces made up of staff, general public, Board members, and the administrator to tackle each problem one at a time. Another was to increase attendance at school board meetings to get voter opinions heard. Trustee Rosie Figas asked if the Committee has taken action to change state law. Gerbers replied that they’ve tried only to be ignored due to the fact the northeast has such a small number of votes compared to the southern half of our state. Shirley from the Peshtigo times suggested trying to get our out of town property owners to get their legislators involved. Trustee Jeff Townsend suggested that the solution is simply to enroll more students and asked what the Committee has done to try and promote the school. June Caine added that this referendum is bringing to much negativity to our community, and quite possibly, turning people away. She believes the focus should not be on the money, but how many good things have come from the school in terms of awards and student accomplishments. Figas suggested passing the referendum and fixing the problems within the four-year window as opposed to not passing it and scrambling to get things fixed while running a deficit. Gerbers upheld the belief of the Committee, but offered little in the way of solutions to the Board and general public.

5. Motion to Approve Minutes – Regular Village Board Meeting 1/9/08 – Hilbert Radtke made a motion seconded by Jeff Townsend to approve the minutes.
6. Motion to Approve Bills – Jerry Wojcik made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to approve the bills as printed. Motion carried.
7. Treasurer’s Report – Jerry Wojcik made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report seconded by Rosie Figas. Motion carried.
8. Approval of Major Purchases
 - a. Inlet Electric/JT Electric Quotes – Jeff Townsend made a motion to accept the Inlet Electric quote for \$3,644 seconded by Hilbert Radtke. Motion carried.
 - b. Hydro Designs, Inc. – Tabled until next meeting
 - c. Davies Water estimate – Jeff Townsend made a motion seconded by Hilbert Radtke to accept the quote of \$520. Motion carried.
 - d. MJB quote – Floor drains for shop – Tabled until next meeting, and in the mean time, get the drains cleaned.
 - e. TAK – Quikwater upgrade quote – Tabled until next meeting
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Discussion/Action – TIF meeting – Rezoning of Southview project – Rosie Figas stated that the first course of action is to get the area rezoned to two-story. From there, talks with the developer can begin as to what type of median income housing would be attractive in that area. Clark Caine mentioned that the last time a two-story apartment building was proposed, there was very little support for the idea. Jerry Wojcik stated that Wausaukee Composites is looking to hire 40 more employees. He spoke in support of the idea saying that the community cannot grow without necessary change. After some discussion, Figas made a motion that the Village pursues the rezoning of Southview seconded by Julie Parkansky. Motion carried by unanimous decision.
 - b. Discussion/Action – ECDC meeting – Purchase of land east of town on Highway 180 – As discussed last month, the 24.93 acres is up for sale to the Village at a locked in price of \$45,000 good for 60 days from January 8, 2008. ECDC member Ann Hartnell stated that when she spoke with the DNR, they informed her that the wetland maps are not very accurate. She stated that the land would have to be inspected to determine just how much is considered wetland. Figas stated that the Village could purchase it and hold off on developing for a few years or sell it. President Caine offered an alternative to the DOT suggested detour for the new highway project scheduled four to five years from now. The DOT is going to resurface the entire length of the detour. The original route, which begins down 1st street, has been recently resurfaced. Also, instead of crossing two sets of tracks and County C, Caine suggested a route that would run east on 180 to Cedar Street, north on Cedar to North Avenue, then west on North until travelers hit Highway 141 on the north end of town. Two road construction projects would have to take place to make this possible. Caine suggested that Darryll could dump the gravel in the low spot on Cedar for the next couple of years as opposed to the gravel pit. A discussion evolved when it came to how to bypass the park, if at all. Some Board members were concerned about losing so many of the large trees while others didn’t want to see busy traffic through the park. Caine stated the detour is a great way for the Village to save a lot of money, and possibly open up some areas for new development. It was asked of Ron Lawrence of Coleman Engineering if an impact study can be done on both properties. After discussion, the Board decided to table the two issues until March 5th at 6:30 pm at which time they will hold a special meeting.
10. Village Street and Utility Report – Darryll Schmidt stated the furnace went out at the plant earlier in the week. President Caine said that he could either approve Jeff Townsend to get the furnace or the issue could be addressed in the special meeting. He then asked if the issue could wait until March 5th. Townsend replied that waiting is risky because the furnace is so old there are no longer schematics for it and the company who made it is no longer in business. He also said, however, that holding off on the purchase would give us time to get another quote. The Board decided to add the furnace purchase to the March 5th special meeting. Darryll stated that the leak detector and the locator were repaired today at a Sewer/Water seminar attended

by him and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Jeske. He also stated they brought back five meters. Jeske explained that the letter from the DNR approved the Floodplain Zoning Ordinance and was complimentary of the job done. She continued by informing the board about audits currently being conducted by the Public Service Commission. Jeske stated that she has not been notified as to whether or not the Village is scheduled to be audited, but she will keep the Board informed. Jeske also mentioned that she and Darryll met with Bruce from the DNR per the Sewer inspection. She said they got a good review with the exception of some files and reports that were not filled out properly or to the satisfaction of the DNR. She went on to say that she has corrected the problem. Jerry Wojcik made a motion seconded by Jeff Townsend to approve the Street and Utility Report. Motion carried.

11. President's Report

- a. Jerry's Market update – President Caine stated that the lawyer wants a certified commercial appraisal on the building and the fair market value of the rent before he will proceed.
- b. Warehouse update – Caine explained that the architect is almost finished with the plans.
- c. Advertisement in the paper – Caine presented his ad on the overhead. It shows rising assessed values from 2005 to 2008, but lower taxes. He explained that the Village was assessed in 2007 and the assessed value went up by \$7,000,000 yet the county taxes did not increase. The surrounding communities are taking up the Village's share of the taxes by continuing to build new homes and add new businesses. His belief is that the referendum may increase property taxes, but will be offset by decreasing county taxes as well as the school tax being spread out as Wausaukee grows.

12. Old Business

- a. Discussion/Action – Old Village Hall property – Caine stated that as of last week there were no grants available for the demolition of the building. He asked the Board if they wanted to accept Delaet's quote of \$22,800 or put the project out on bids. The Board decided to bid the job with a bid limit of \$25,000.
- b. Discussion/Action – Old school – Caine stated that Chuck Edlebeck is still willing to donate the old school to the Village with the clause that his name is included somewhere if the gym becomes a Community Center. Caine also stated that the last price he received was \$50,000 to tear down the center part. He explained that it must all be treated as hazardous waste. The Board suggested putting the project out on bids. Caine stated that he would try and get some prices by the next meeting. The issue was tabled until the March 5th special meeting.
- c. Discussion/Action – Increase in hours for Heidi Jeske – Caine began by presenting the Board with an outline of the projected costs and savings of hiring Jeske full time at \$14.75 per hour. Briefly, the full-time position would increase wages by \$15,000, but ultimately save the Village about \$3,000 overall since Jeske is now going to be doing all the cross-connects, sample testing, leak tests, meter change outs, and reports as opposed to hiring outside companies. Caine also stated that hiring Jeske would eliminate Eric VanLaanen's wages completely and some of Darryll's overtime. Caine went on to explain the costs to the Village including an increase in state retirement and medical reimbursement. Trustees Rosie Figas and Jerry Wojcik suggested that Jeske be hired full time on a three-month trial basis at the end of which a report be filed to determine whether or not the position is beneficial to the Village. Caine explained that Jeske has a full time job now making it impossible. Townsend stated that he does not believe the position should be full time. He also stated that the person hired should be physically capable of doing all the work. After discussion, Figas made a motion to hire Jeske full time-30 to 40 hours a week-seconded by Jerry Wojcik. Motion carried by unanimous decision.
- d. Discussion/Action – Purchase of Rhino Blade – Jeff Townsend made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to purchase the Rhino Blade. Motion carried.

13. Approval of Permits/Licenses

- a. Building Permits
 - i. Kenny Gocht/Slab for Ken's Mini Storage – Butternut Ave – Julie Parkansky made a motion seconded by Jeff Townsend to approve the building permit. Motion carried.

- ii. Ranger City Distributors/Addition – 402 Main Street – Hilbert Radtke made a motion seconded by Jerry Wojcik to approve the building permit. Motion carried.
- iii. Jesse and Barb Rugg/Repair – 1506 Hillside – Jeff Townsend made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to approve the building permit. Motion carried.

b. Operator's Licenses

- i. Elizabeth Hoffman/Citgo – Hilbert Radtke made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to approve the operator's license. Motion carried.
- ii. Patricia Jarman/Citgo – Hilbert Radtke made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to approve the operator's license. Motion carried.
- iii. Misty Quistorf/Citgo – Hilbert Radtke made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to approve the operator's license. Motion carried.

14. New Business

- a. Discussion/Action – Second checking account for water and sewer – Caine explained that currently the water/sewer and Village finances are comingled in one checking account, and it would be much easier to have them separated. He added that the auditor has suggested the change as well. Julie Parkansky made a motion seconded by Rosie Figas to open a second account. Motion carried. Caine asked the Board if the account should be opened at Bank North or Florence State Bank. The Board decided that keeping our accounts at one bank would be best. Jeff Townsend made a motion seconded by Hilbert Radtke to open the account at Bank North. Motion carried.
- b. Discussion/Action – Appointment of Pat Tracy to another 5 year term for the Housing Authority – Jerry Wojcik made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to appoint Pat Tracy to another 5 year term. Motion carried.
- c. Discussion/Action – Adoption of the Marinette County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan – Hilbert Radtke made a motion to adopt the plan seconded by Jeff Townsend. Motion carried.
- d. Discussion/Action – Ranger City Riders snowmobile route detour on Cedar Street – Radtke explained that the club has a new route through town. However, for the next three weeks or so, the club would like permission to detour down Cedar Street. Rosie Figas made a motion to approve the detour seconded by Julie Parkansky. Motion carried.

15. Additional Business – Parkansky stated that Ken Wallace called her back on the pavilion sign. He gave her a price of \$125 for two mounted signs measuring 18 inches high by 36 inches long. He also wanted to know what colors were desired for the plaque and the lettering. The sign is to read, "Thank You American Legion Post #150." The Board decided to go with green lettering on a white sign.

16. Adjourn – Jeff Townsend made a motion seconded by Julie Parkansky to adjourn at 10:20 pm.

2/22/08 (SP)

PLEASE NOTE: UPON REASONABLE NOTICE, EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEEDS OF DISABLED INDIVIDUALS THROUGH APPROPRIATE AIDS AND SERVICES. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST THIS SERVICE, PLEASE CONTACT THE VILLAGE CLERK WITHIN TWO BUSINESS DAYS
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