

**VILLAGE OF WAUSAUKEE**  
**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
*(COMMITTEE MEMBERS: JOHN RANALLO, HILBERT RADTKE, BOB WESOLOWSKI)*  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2010**  
**WAUSAUKEE VILLAGE HALL**  
**428 HARRISON AVENUE**

**6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Ranallo called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The following committee members present were Hilbert Radkte, Bob Wesolowski and Jeff Townsend. Also present were Marinette County Fair Board members Dave Gross, Bonnie Gerner, Lisa Witak, resident Joellen Simpson and Clerk Toshia Ranallo.
2. Approval of Agenda – Bob Wesolowski made a motion seconded by Hilbert Radtke to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
3. Audience to Anyone Wishing to Speak – President Dave Gross from the Marinette County Fair Board stated that the Village and Town of Wausaukee, Marinette County and Marinette County Fair Association in 1946 entered into a lease that included the land occupied by the Marinette County Fair Association. He said in the late 1960's early 1970's the old library building was placed on the land and subject to the lease. Last year the library relocated and the old library building became vacant. Gross stated that when the Fair Board became aware of this they assumed it was owned by Marinette County until speaking with Marinette County Parks Director John Scott. Gross stated that when the transfer of Ballas Baseball Park was initiated they were going to ask the for the old library building to be transferred to the Fair Association in exchange for Ballas Baseball Park. Gross stated that he attended a Marinette County Buildings and Property meeting Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss this issue but because it was not on the agenda he could not make any suggestions. He said that after talking with Chairman of the committee Mike Behnke, it would be on their next agenda.
4. Discussion – Old Library –Townsend stated there has been a back and forth between the Village and Fair Boards through the years. He expressed his opinion and stated that it bothers him that our churches, Lions Club and other local non-profit organizations have moved out of the fair because the fees became too great in order to create all the manpower in operating their booths. Townsend added that there are two Resolutions created in 2001 by the Village and Town of Wausaukee expressing their dissatisfaction with the cost to our local non-profit organizations.

Townsend pointed out that the lease that was signed in 1946 has an incorrect legal description. It states Section 36 but in all factuality in Section 35. Townsend sated that as a longtime resident he would like to see our Village do something for our local non-profit organizations. Townsend also commended the Fair Board stating the he has witnessed the incredible effort that the Fair association does for putting on the Fair. Townsend also stated that he is not taking sides and is trying to put this into perspective.

Townsend asked the American Legion to provide him with information for the last to projects that the American Legion did free to enhance our Village. One is the construction of a new Pavilion in Evergreen Park. The Village paid for all the materials but the Legion had all the man hours and hired someone to design it. The Legion also constructed and bought materials for two (2) footbridges on our walking trails and picnic tables for the park. Townsend stated that he used a conservative number of \$12 per hour per person which totals \$11,850. He said that this is a good thing for our community and it is hard for him to say no to that. He asked the Fair members to put themselves in his seat as Village President. Townsend added that this is his position because it all comes back to our community. Bob Wesolowski agreed. In response Dave Gross stated that to his knowledge none of the non-profit organizations were forced out of the Fair and left on their own free will. He said that the Fair Board has no problem filling food stands. He believes they left because of lack of help or the long hours required for the older generation.

Gross stated that the Fair brings a lot of money to the Village. Townsend disagreed but agreed that for a short time the Fair does bring money to the Village. Townsend also stated that looking at building an economic base; it is one of the most prime pieces of property in our Village. It has water, sewer, electric, gas and is the only spot in the Village to build industry that would create jobs for 40 hours a week that would give people insurance and all the benefits that full time job brings. It would be a far greater beneficial base then what we are getting out of that property now. Gross stated that another point that was brought up at the Buildings and Property meeting he attended was that in 1946 when the lease was signed the County is liable for the property as much as the Fair board is liable. Gross stated that Steve Corbeille is looking into it. Townsend responded that it is a great point to bring to up. Townsend also stated that in his community minded manner he would like to see American Legion maintain the ability to raise funds out of that building. Bob Wesolowski agreed.

John Ranallo stated that he would like to see the Fair Board and Village build more of a relationship and work together. This can be a give and take relationship. Ranallo stated that he would like to see non-profit organizations catch a break if they decided to re-enter the Fair. Also see the property be utilized throughout the year. Ranallo asked what the fees were for a booth. Dave Gross stated that it depends on where they are. For example, the 4H pays \$1300. Portable booths pay anywhere from \$800 - \$1100. Townsend asked if the portables as well as others have to buy there soda and water through the Fair Association. Gross stated yes.

After additional discussion, the Fair Board request to enter into a lease with them for an administrative building. The committee will bring their thoughts to the whole board and gather further information from the County before any decisions are made.

5. Motion to Adjourn – Hilbert Radtke made a motion seconded by Bob Wesolowski to adjourn the meeting at 6:55pm. Motion carried.

Submitted by Toshia Ranallo