

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oakfield Village Board
Oakfield Community Center
130 N. Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065
Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Collien.

Roll call found the following trustees present: Chris Cook, Tim Stoppleworth, Dan Redman, Julie Franke, Dennis Steinke, Jim Eckberg, and Gary Collien. Also in attendance: Tom Henke, Tim Wright, Tracy Sabel and Miriam Thomas.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: Julie Franke/Tim Stoppleworth to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the April 8, 2015 meeting and accept them as written. Motion carried 7-0.

Cowles-Henke-Kemmel Insurance: Tom Henke was present to discuss insurance coverage for the Village for 2015. The value of the property insured in the village has not changed since last year. Premiums increased 1% from 2014.

Public Works:

Tim Wright from Bertram Communications was asked to talk about the antennas that are on the water tower. Mr. Wright stated that Bertram averages 50-60 customers per tower and charges \$30-\$54 per month for internet service. There are currently 9 antennas on the water tower. Bertram pays the Village \$250 per month to rent space on the water tower for their antennas. Mr. Wright said he could offer us an internet connection instead of the village raising rental rates. The Village did not accept the internet connection offer.

Motion: Gary Collien, seconded by Dennis Steinke, to renew the contract with Bertram Wireless with no changes. Motion carried 7-0.

Dan Redman reported that the meters at both wells are reading accurately per MCO. He is looking into having MCO check for water leaks in hydrants and valves to eliminate more water loss.

A water shut off valve at a property on Oakview Circle needed to be replaced this week. The valve was located in the property owner's driveway and the driveway needed to be dug up to replace the valve. The valve itself was leaking which is the village's responsibility to fix.

The water line at the intersection of East Church Street and North Second Street has been fixed three times this year. Approximately 37 feet of line in that area is very weak and should be replaced. It was unable to be dug up before the county came to patch up spots in the streets. Water loss in the area will be checked before digging up the intersection for replacement.

There was discussion about a water pipe that broke inside a residence earlier in the year. The homeowner's water bill was quite large but this was not due to any fault of the Village. Office staff will work on educating residents via social media, the village's website and the quarterly newsletter about the importance of monitoring homes and pipes during winter months, especially when water will not be used for long periods of time.

The Public Works Committee has been looking into options for replacing the current meters. The meters the village has are obsolete and have been for some time; the outside Badger Read-O-Matic is no longer produced. Options available include a digital outside read system similar to the Read-O-Matic but using a handheld wand to collect readings or a radio read system, which would eliminate the outside read on buildings and the need for extra wires. The Metron meter system (a radio read system that uses a laptop and antenna to collect data) is being recommended by the committee. The radio read heads made by Metron can be retrofitted to current Badger meters and can be fully integrated with the current billing software. Metron meters claim to read more accurately, to a tenth of a gallon, at a low flow which is what most of the usage is at the average residential house. This equates to an approximate 3%-4% increase in revenue. Dan would like to order a couple Metron meters to piggyback with current Badger meters to verify how much more accurate the Metron meters actually are. There was also a question about how much money the utility can handle borrowing. The clerk will check with the auditor on this. Office staff is putting together information for the next board meeting on what the return on investment would be for the Metron meter system.

The possibility of creating a third holding pond was discussed. An area of the village that has large quantities of water coming into the sewer system is at the east end of Church Street. The ditch at the southeast corner was made as large as possible to direct water away from the village. A meeting will be set up with Fond du Lac County regarding how this could best be fixed in the future.

The annual meeting with Anne Van Grinsven and Mark Stanek was held this morning at 10:00 a.m. An update on the 7 Year Sewer Lateral plan was given and there was discussion on the reasons why the village is currently behind. While discussing the target areas for this year, the question of whether there may be abandoned sewer lines (covered up after the tornado in 1996) that are causing some of the groundwater infiltration problem. Another meeting is scheduled in 2016 for the second Wednesday in May at 10:00 a.m. and will probably continue until progress is made. A letter recapping the meeting will be typed up and sent to Ms. Van Grinsven within two weeks as requested.

The influent pump at the wastewater treatment plant was sent in for repairs. Repairs are estimated at approximately \$3,000.

The current private sewer lateral ordinance states that homeowners are responsible for all costs of lateral replacement from their home to the main. It was previously thought the ordinance was written to have homeowner responsibility stop at the sidewalk. This topic will be revisited at next month's meeting.

Tom Janke from Fond du Lac County contacted Gary Collien about setting up a meeting to discuss repaving all of Main Street and East Church Street. The Village needs to decide whether there would be infrastructure repair being done at the same time or not. A special meeting will be scheduled with Tom Janke and the Public Works Committee to discuss this project.

Tom Henke stated that the shed owned by the Lions Club near the Village Garage is in need of a new roof. The Village uses this shed for storage of several items so the Lions would like to know if the Village would be willing to pay for a portion of the repair.

Motion: Dan Redman, seconded by Julie Franke, to pay \$900 towards the new roof. Motion carried 7-0.

Beautification: Join Hands Day was held on Saturday, May 2nd with the assistance of local Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Brownie Troops. The group cleaned the parks, the bike trail and County Y going north. The Village donated one bike to give away and \$40 for lunch for the participants. Join Hands Day was sponsored by the local chapter of the Modern Woodmen of America. Every year this association donates \$225 to plant a tree somewhere in the village. The Beautification committee plans to continue to support this event annually.

The Urban Forestry Grant was received in the amount of \$2,250. Dan will contact Ron Rademann and try to get a group of people together to plant more trees this year.

Public Safety: Copies of the proposed Neighborhood Electric Vehicle/Golf Cart ordinance were handed out. Dennis Steinke would like to look at the draft more closely in a public safety meeting before bringing it to the board for approval.

New Business:

Resolution 2015-06, Appointed Officials:

Motion: Dennis Steinke, seconded by Tim Stopplesworth, to approve the appointed officials. Motion carried 7-0. A copy of this resolution can be obtained at the Village Office during regular business hours.

Ordinance 2015-5:

Motion: Julie Franke, seconded by Jim Eckberg, to approve the amended ordinance 2.21.040 (A). Motion carried 7-0. A copy of this ordinance can be obtained at the Village Office during regular business hours.

Copies of the current committees and members were handed out. A few changes were made and will be updated by office staff.

Motion: Tim Stopplesworth, seconded by Julie Franke, to accept the committee roster with discussed changes. Motion carried 7-0.

Adjourn:

Motion: Dennis Steinke, seconded by Jim Eckberg to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Thomas, Clerk/Treasurer