

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oakfield Village Board  
Oakfield Community Center  
130 N. Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065  
Monday October 31, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Collien.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

**2016 Budget Discussion:**

**Library:** Library director Sharon Belling presented the library's 2017 budget. There is a proposed 2% wage increase for employees plus an increase in the library director's weekly hours. The library board continues to look for additional funding opportunities.

**General Fund:** Expenses for 2017 are up due to a large increase in debt service payments. The majority of this is from the large shortfall for the annual payment for TID #1. The general fund would be supporting the payment in 2017 with \$92,000.00 from the operating budget. An option being considered was to take \$92,000.00 from the \$214,000.00 CD for the final payment on TID #1 but the village should keep enough in the CD to cover the final payment and it is approximately \$100,000.00 short of that. A suggestion from Paul Thompson, the financial advisor with Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co. who helped set up TID #1, was to cash out the CD and take out a two year general obligation loan from the local bank at a much lower interest rate than the 5.75% the village is currently paying on the TID #1 note. This would allow the village to pay off the TID early and make loan payments through the local bank at a much lower interest rate. This option will be discussed at a meeting with a potential financial advisor for the village but will most likely progress as suggested.

**Beautification:** No changes from last year.

**Community Center:** No changes from last year.

**Plan Commission:** No changes from last year.

**Solid Waste & Recycling:** Total budget is down from 2016. This is due to removing an hourly equipment use charge which the auditor states hasn't been put into the financial audit in years.

**Public Parks:** Fond du Lac County is giving the village \$25,000.00 to help with the cost of demolishing the house, removing trees and putting up fencing at 147 N. Second Street. Maintenance and repairs cost are up to include crack filling in the parking lot and around the building at Village Park. Gary would like to crack fill the tennis courts but there isn't enough money to work with in the budget. He is considering using money from the Belle Reynolds fund for these repairs. The repairs would be expected to last about five years.

**Public Works:** Dan would like to look at purchasing a wood chipper for next year to help reduce the amount of brush the village must dispose of. Dan would like to add as much expense to street maintenance as possible to improve some roads in the village. Health insurance costs are still unknown so that figure is estimated. All employee wage increases were calculated at 3% but final numbers haven't been discussed.

**Water Utility:** No major increases from last year.

**Sewer Utility:** More money will be allocated for sewer plant pump repairs. One blower is in need of immediate repair and two more should be repaired or replaced next year. Money was budgeted to make a payment(s) on the revolving line of credit for the sewer lateral replacement project. Since the actual cost for this year is still unknown, the amount on the budget may be inaccurate.

**Public Safety & Welfare:** Chief Schuster would like to start saving for purchasing a new squad car in the future. Any unused funds from this year will be allocated for this purchase. Fire protection down slightly from the previous year. There is still \$5,250.00 budgeted to the fire department's equipment replacement fund for purchase of a new fire truck.

**Village Office:** Election expenses are lower for 2017 due to having only two elections. There is no anticipated change in billing/accounting software for next year as more information is needed regarding compatibility with the Metron meter system. If a change is needed it will be looked at for 2018.

**Adjourn:**

**Motion:** Dennis Steinke, seconded by Dan Redman, to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Miriam Thomas, Clerk/Treasurer