

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oakfield Village Board
Oakfield Community Center
130 N. Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Roll call found the following trustees present: Al Kamenski, Julie Franke, Jody Marcoe, and Jim Eckberg. Also in attendance: Daniel Degner and Miriam Thomas. Tim Stoppeworth was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: Julie Franke, seconded by Al Kamenski, to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the October 13, 2021 regular board meeting and the September 23, 2021 special board meeting and approve them as written. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comments: Daniel Degner was present to observe the meeting. He previously served on Fond du Lac City's Council.

Sam Kaufman: Mr. Kaufman was unable to attend the meeting.

Public Works:

East Church Street: The non-compliant crosswalks should be repaired next week. The Village may have to pay 10% of the cost to repair but it is not known for certain. The village has been notified it is eligible for both the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water loans and possible principal forgiveness. These loans should cover the water and sewer portions of the East Church Street project. A State Trust Fund loan is being looked into for the road portion. These loans are available for low interest rates.

Water: Air Tech was on site to check the furnace at Well #5 today. The generators will be serviced in December for general maintenance and load testing.

Sewer: MCO is in the process of winterizing the treatment plant.

Lateral project: After an unexpected increase in costs on the recent bid for this year's fall sewer lateral project the board would like to wait until spring to offer the next phase to all residents who still need repairs done. The contractor would now prefer spring well and has promised they will not change the prices if the village waits until spring to do the work. Once more specific info is known letters will be sent to property owners who had already signed up to have their repairs taken care of this fall.

Outstanding lateral payment: After more discussion regarding the circumstances behind one of the sewer lateral repairs done in conjunction with the North Main Street project in 2019 some members of the board wanted to change the amount billed to the remaining property owner.

Motion: Julie Franke, seconded by Al Kamenski, to adjust the sewer lateral bill to reflect replacing only one lateral since no written evidence exists of all three being repaired as the daily reports show and to have the bill reflect a due date of no later than the end of the current year. Motion carried 5-1. The clerk will adjust the bill and send out to the property owner.

Sewer rate increase: As part of the submittal done by MSA Professional Services on behalf of the village for the Clean Water loan, it was recommended that sewer rates be increased by at least 3% annually to keep up with changing costs and to stay ahead of upcoming projects.

Motion: Julie Franke, seconded by Jody Marcoe, to approve a 3% sewer rate increase effective January 1, 2022.

Human Resources update: The board moved into closed session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss wage increases for 2022. Regular session resumed at 8:26 p.m.

New Business:

Monthly check approval: The monthly approval sheet was passed around and signed.

2022 Budget: The budget hearing is scheduled for November 17th at 6:00 p.m. New budget sheets will be distributed at the meeting.

Capital Improvements: A spreadsheet with capital projects was reviewed and board members were asked to review it and let the clerk know if anything should be added/updated so the items can be transferred to a spreadsheet to show how saving for payments/projects could be spread out over several years to be able to more easily afford to purchase/pursue the items on the list.

County Sales tax: The Fond du Lac County board has voted on how to distribute revenues generated annually from the 0.5% county sales tax. All municipalities will receive a base amount of \$10,000.00 and then a calculation based on

equalized value will be used to determine the rest. Oakfield will be receiving \$15,959.00 in 2022. The board will need to vote on how to use the funds per the county's resolution.

Associated Appraisal contracts: Separate contracts were received for renewing the annual assessment duties and a 2022 village-wide revaluation from Associated Appraisal as discussed at the October board meeting.

Motion: Jody Marcoe, seconded by Julie Franke, to approve the contract for an exterior only revaluation in the village in 2022 with Associated Appraisal. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion: Julie Franke, seconded by Al Kamenski, to approve the contract for continuing services with Associated Appraisal through 2026. Motion carried 6-0. Copies of both contracts are available for viewing at the village office during regular business hours.

Faxing capabilities: Miriam brought up removing the fax line as part of the new phone system upgrade. Once everything is changed over it will be an extra \$29.99 to keep the fax line. It isn't used very often and the new monthly fee won't be anywhere near what is collected in fax fees every month. Most things can be scanned and emailed now. The board had no objections to removing the line.

Motion: Al Kamenski, seconded by Jody Marcoe, to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Thomas, Clerk/Treasurer