

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oakfield Village Board
Oakfield Community Center
130 N. Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065
Wednesday, April 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Dan Redman.

Roll call found the following trustees present: Al Kamenski, John Cedar, Chris Cook, Julie Franke, Jody Marcoe, and Jim Eckberg. Also in attendance: Sam Kaufman, Bob Simon, Linda Alsum-O'Donovan, Joe Ciesielczyk and Miriam Thomas.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: Al Kamenski, seconded by John Cedar, to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 9, 2022 regular board meeting and approve them as written. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comments: Joe Ciesielczyk asked the board why snow isn't removed from the walkway in Acorn Park and also requested to have the board look into the possibility of a dog park.

FFA Request: A group is doing a school project and looking for a spot to put a community box where people can take and leave what they need. They would like to put a box in the community center and have asked about it being in the entryway by the front doors. Dan will follow up with the request.

Sam Kaufman: Sam informed the board he will be on the June 9th ballot for Fond du Lac County Executive. The interim County Executive is Erin Gerred. Sam will finish out former County Executive Allen Buechel's term until 2025.

County sales tax revenue is up \$200,000.00 already this year.

Library: Library director Linda Alsum-O'Donovan told the board the Winnefox Library System is switching from Spectrum to BadgerNet for internet services. The library pays for their internet service through the annual fees paid to Winnefox. Frontier is contracted to install the equipment for BadgerNet but the building needs a few changes before they will install. The village needs to hire an electrician to install some conduit and electrical components and will then be reimbursed by Winnefox. The clerk will contact Dan Immel to see if he is able to complete the work.

Fire Department: Chief Ron Engel wasn't available but the board discussed some changes to the proposed rental agreement. It will be discussed again at the May meeting.

Public Safety: Jody Marcoe gave an update. Every police department in the state is getting grant money from the American Rescue Plan funds. Oakfield's portion is \$7,000.00. Renee is working with Miriam to make sure the correct paperwork is in place to receive the funds.

A concern was brought up with cars parking too close to the crosswalks by the middle/high school on Church Street. There should be no parking designated ten feet from the crosswalk according to state statute. It will be taken care of.

Several people have expressed interest in working part time in Oakfield and Renee is following up with them.

The Bike Rodeo is scheduled for May 24th and the police department is again partnering with the library for this event.

Parks update: Ball diamonds were rolled this week in preparation for the season. New doors were ordered for above the restroom building and will be installed soon. The Recreation Association is also planning on cleaning out old equipment/supplies from the storage area.

The Rec Dept. is also looking to purchase a new scoreboard to replace the manual one by the east softball diamond. Some electrical work is needed to complete this project. Gary Collien has been talking with Dan Immel about what needs to be done.

Dan Immel will be updating the electrical service at the park to accommodate special events like Celebrate Oakfield.

Wood chips will be ordered for this year.

The playground equipment should be installed this spring.

The family of Ronald Wachendorf would like to place a memorial bench near the ball diamonds. The family will be submitting photos of what they have in mind. Julie said they were thinking along the first base line of the hardball diamond under the trees.

The Redman memorial flagpole is in need of repair. Dan Redman will look into this.

Public Works:

Water: Municipal Well is coming on April 25th to replace the Elm Street booster pump. At the beginning of May, they will start setting up the portable water tanks for the water tower inspection. Miriam will email the property owner to be sure it is still ok to set up the tanks like the last inspection.

Last month during some of the bad weather two of the generators tried to start up and the water operator was able to take care of the problem remotely with the new system. The Waupun Street booster variable frequency drives should be installed soon.

Sewer: The new polymer pump is installed and working. The Village is due for a wet test per the DNR this year. It is schedule for April 25th.

Sewer lateral project: Properties started being repaired two weeks ago and there are about a dozen homes completed already. M&E will be here for another couple weeks, leave for another project and then return.

M&E Change Order: The change order for the continuation of the sewer lateral replacement project was presented to the board.

Motion: Jim Eckberg, seconded by Jody Marcoe, to approve Change Order No.1 & the Notice to Proceed. Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution 2022-01: Sending out notices and following up on notifications has become very time consuming over the last couple years. Many municipalities have gone away from disconnecting water for non-payment and instead just utilize the ability to apply arrears to the tax roll annually as allowed by state statute. The clerk is proposing the village change to this process. Nothing needs to change with the water utility's tariff with the Public Service Commission but a resolution will clarify the process.

Motion: Al Kamenski, seconded by Chris Cook, to approve Resolution 2022-01, regarding the delinquent disconnection policy. Motion carried 7-0. A copy of this resolution can be viewed at the clerk's office during regular business hours.

DNR loans for County D project: The loans for the project are almost finalized but the board needs to decide whether to include the village's ten percent cost for the road in the loans. Previously the board had inquired about getting a State Trust Fund Loan for the road portion of the project since the Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water loans will be covering the infrastructure portions. Per MSA the road portion can be included. The DNR loan carries a 1.65% interest rate.

Motion: Al Kamenski, seconded by John Cedar, to include the road portion of the project with the DNR loans. Motion carried 7-0.

County Y project: Fond du Lac County received approval for a County Y/Main Street project for the 2023-2026 cycle. Funding would be similar to the East Church Street project with federal funds covering 80% of the project and Fond du Lac County and the Village splitting the remaining 20%. Infrastructure will be 100% village cost.

Human Resources:

Trustee pay: The committee has been working on a policy to allow trustees to receive additional hourly pay for duties outside trustee duties such as helping out with public works tasks or in the office at a rate of no higher than the current public works assistant director wage. Trustees would receive any eligible payment monthly. State statute allows for this as long as trustees don't make more than \$15,000.00 annually. A policy should be ready for review by the May meeting. Authorizing a stipend for extra time incurred for trustee duties outside of regular board and committee meetings is being worked on as well. This change in pay wouldn't take effect until positions are re-elected.

The committee is also working on succession planning for departments.

New Business:

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

Motion: Jim Eckberg, seconded by Al Kamenski, to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Thomas, Clerk/Treasurer