

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oakfield Village Board
Oakfield Community Center
130 N. Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065
Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Dan Redman.

Roll call found the following trustees present: Chris Cook, John Cedar, Julie Franke, Jody Marcoe and Jim Eckberg. Also in attendance: Joe Ciesielczyk, Renee Schuster, Matt Castillo, Shane Dennis, and Bradley Winger

Motion: Julie Franke, seconded by John Cedar, to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 13, 2024 regular board meeting and approve them as written. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comments: Joe Ciesielczyk inquired about a sidewalk being put in as part of the Belle Reynolds property development. The board confirmed it would be something that would be part of the discussion when the project moves farther along.

Jim Eckberg mentioned there is a section of sidewalk missing on the northeast corner of the First and Hubbard intersection and it should be paved to the road instead of stopping.

Bradley Winger asked if the village might be able to help residents when there are big storms resulting in increased damage like the snowstorm last week. The board stated the village does not own a chipper and typically does not assist with private property damage due to liability and lack of manpower. The village garage is available for self-hauling within dimension limits.

Jon Venhuizen: Jon updated the board on recent activity within the county. A park in Rosendale was sold due to lack of use. Funds from the sale of the park will be redistributed to help with the cost of expansion at other parks in the county. The Emergency Management/dispatch director position has been split into two separate jobs again after the resignation of former director Amy Haase.

The county recently did a survey of deputies to population ratios resulting in 1.38 sheriff deputies per 1,000 people which is very understaffed. The county has hired three deputies, should be hiring two in the near future and hope to hire three more by the end of the year.

A wage study for county employees was approved after surveying twenty-two similar counties. Many wages were adjusted to reflect averages found from the study.

The county fair stage will be torn down after this year's fair. National Exchange Bank bought the naming rights for the stage.

Public Works:

Water: No problems with the water system currently. Tony has begun changing out meters as part of the four-year meter replacement plan.

Sewer: High flows have been coming in to the treatment plant with the melting snow and rain but no bypassing has been needed. The Public Works Committee will be looking at the quote for patching the worst spots in the manholes and mains as indicated by Speedy Clean. There was another small elevation of BODs at the plant and samplers will be installed this spring to try to locate where the problem is entering the system.

Dan indicated again that the sewer ordinance will be looked at and adjusted to be more specific as far as fines and allowable limits. A more in-depth description of industrial use is needed also.

WWTP update: The 30% plans were received from MSA this week and Dan explained the site plan that was handed out to board members. Nothing should change structure-wise from this plan as the project moves forward.

Main Street project update: 30% plans for the Main Street project have been received also. The project is estimated to cost \$3.65 million, which includes water and sewer, but is approximately \$500,000.00 over the federal funding that was requested by the county. Per Tom Janke at the Fond du Lac County Highway Commission, this shouldn't be a problem and occurs frequently with federal road projects. Dan went over the street parking plans for the length of the project. Some parking will be eliminated in short lengths of the project as the acquisition of real estate was kept to a minimum if possible. One issue needing to be addressed is the inability to reinstall anything on Alliant's poles so something will need to be figured out for hanging the village's banners, flags and Christmas decorations. Alliant no longer allows anything to be attached to their poles. Chris mentioned there may be funding available through Main Street Downtown Improvement grants and a cost will be obtained for installing village-owned poles so they can be used for the decorations, banners and flags. There is also an issue with the storm water that drains across from Hubbard Street to the creek behind Oakfield Elevator. The size of the drainage culvert will not be adequate for the road improvements and the storm sewer isn't in good condition. The direction of storm water is typically not changed as a part of a road project as it is too much of a hassle. This may or may not be an extra cost as part of the project. More information should be provided in the near future.

There is a meeting scheduled with the state on April 25th. The project is scheduled to be bid out this fall.

Public Safety: Chief Schuster reported that there have been some felony arrests in the village but assured the board the public is in no danger. She has been dealing with truancy at the school. A neighborhood watch group is being set up and the initial meeting is April 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the library. Department of Justice audits were fixed and are now compliant. The bodycams were ordered and should be arriving soon.

New Business:

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

Ordinance 2024-1; Public Notice requirements: An updated ordinance for methods required for post agendas and notices to include the website and eliminating the postings at the bank was drafted after last month's discussion.

Motion: Jody Marcoe, seconded by Jim Eckberg, to approve Ordinance 2024-1. Motion carried 6-0. A copy of the ordinance can be viewed during regular business hours and will be updated on the village website.

TIF money: Miriam confirmed that the money available in the TID accounts will cover the cost of repaving First Street and Elm Street this year. Dan has talked to the county about the paving and is waiting to hear on a start date.

Motion: Jody Marcoe, seconded by Jim Eckberg, to adjourn the board meeting at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Thomas, Clerk/Treasurer