

FREDONIA VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

July 5, 2007

The regular village board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Short. Present: Joe Short, Larry Waskiewicz, Larry Palm, Don Dohrwardt, Bruce Laabs, Fritz Buchholtz and Jill Bertram. Also Present: Mark Jaeger, Brian Schommer, Kyle Steffen, Allen Neumann, and Doris Dommer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes Approved

The minutes of the June 21, 2007 Village Board meeting were approved on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Laabs, and carried, with Waskiewicz and Palm abstaining.

Operator's Licenses

Operator Licenses for Ashley Sommer and Annette Teska were approved on a **MOTION** by Palm, seconded by Dohrwardt and carried.

Approve Bills to be Paid

With the additional list of bills presented, the General Fund, Water and Sewer bills were approved for payment on a **MOTION** by Palm, seconded by Laabs and carried with Dohrwardt abstaining. (Bertram arrived)

Review of Ambulance Rates/Rate Increase

Ambulance Captain Kyle Steffen and Fire Chief Brian Schommer were in attendance to discuss a possible increase of ambulance rates. Steffen stated that it has been approximately four years since the village has done a rate review. Life Quest, the company that does the billing for Northern Ozaukee Ambulance, has been recommending for the last two years that NOA raise its ambulance rates. Steffen explained that at that time they decided to wait until they achieved the IV Tech status. They have just completed their first year as an IV Intermediate Service Provider and are now recommending to the Village Board to increase their ambulance rates. Life Quest has prepared a rate survey of surrounding area ambulance service charges, a recommendation of rates and a financial impact summary reflecting how these changes may increase NOA's revenue. The survey shows that for the most part our rates are below the average of comparable services provided in our area. Short questioned what percentage Life Quest charges NOA. Steffen stated that they start at 20% and then increases as the accounts age. He also noted that they usually write off 10-15 accounts per year. Waskiewicz suggested that we use the highest rate charged by the surrounding ambulance services in each of the categories. Schommer noted that the highest charges are for the City of Mequon. Waskiewicz questioned if we provide the same level of service as Mequon. Schommer replied that NOA does provide the same level of service as Mequon. Dohrwardt feels that a rate increase is justifiable because they haven't been increased in quite some time. Steffen stated that we should be considering rate increases every 1 ½ to 2 years. Laabs questioned if the total revenue collected covers the operating costs and if it justifies an increase. Steffen stated that in addition to the operating revenue, NOA also receives state aid for operational costs. However, when they service Medicare patients they only receive the rates set by the government. Steffen added that they also want to be in a financial position to be able to purchase a new ambulance every ten years. Schommer commented that they are currently down 30 calls from this time last year. A **MOTION** was made by Palm to approve the increase in ambulance rates as recommended by Life Quest and endorsed by the Fire Chief and Ambulance Captain, seconded by Laabs, and carried.

Report from Parks Committee – June 28th Meeting

Laabs stated that the Parks Committee met and discussed the Celebrate Fredonia events in detail. The committee also created a list of priorities for future park improvements. This list includes a second soccer field, the parking area for the Marie Krause Park along with the street paving of Wenzel Avenue in that area, improvements at Stoney Creek Park including painting, replacing the glass block windows in the restroom area, making necessary improvements to the play structure and creating a skate park plan.

Report from Joint Building Committee – July 2, 2007 Meeting

The Joint Building Committee met and recommended to the village board to approve awarding the shared hall project to Smies Architects. A **MOTION** was made by Dohrwardt to concur with the Joint Building Committee to award the shared hall project to Smies Architects, seconded by Palm and carried.

Report from Director of Public Works – Martin Drive Update

Neumann reported that Phase One of Martin Drive will consist of rough grading, constructing the bridge and channel relocation to bring the creek under the bridge, water mains, hydrants, storm sceptors, sewer pipes, storm sewers and the retaining walls. Phase Two will consist of gravel, fine grading, curb and gutter and asphalt. Neumann referred to Subdivision Ordinance Sec. 14-1-70 (m)(1) which states that unless necessitated by exceptional topography subject to the approval of the Village Board, the maximum centerline grade of any street or public way shall not exceed 8% for arterial streets. He stated that the grade for Martin Street will be 8.1% which can not be changed and will therefore need village board approval. Neumann stated that the retaining walls are going to require more work and additional costs than originally anticipated. There will be a short retaining wall on the south side of Martin Street and a large retaining wall on the north side of Martin Street along Mayer's property. He referred to Zoning Ordinance 13-1-160(g) which states that retaining walls may be permitted anywhere on the lot, provided, however, that no individual wall shall exceed six feet in height, and a terrace of at least three feet in width shall be provided between any series of such walls. He stated that on the north side there is a difference of 20 feet between the road grade and the top of wall and will require a series of three walls at a length of 280 feet. Neumann has staked the slope intercepts on Mayer's lawn and has tried to devise alternatives for the retaining wall. The third tier will be outside of the existing right of way and will require either a permanent easement, an acquisition of the right of way or an alternative design that would eliminate this scenario. Dohrwardt questioned if a single wall would be better than a 3-tier wall. He does not want our ordinance to prevent the village from doing the most feasible, safe, and appropriate solution. Neumann stated that he will obtain advice from an engineer or landscaper who is experienced in retaining walls and then confer with the homeowner, the village engineer and the village board. Waskiewicz suggested that we contact the Village of Grafton and ask them for information on who built the retaining wall by the Home Depot building which is a solid one-tier brick wall. Neumann noted that the estimate for the project came in at \$972,070 for Phase One and \$211,123 for Phase Two for a total of \$1,266,193. There is \$650,000 in the General Fund Budget and \$115,000 in the Water Utility Budget for the project. He will be requesting authorization at the next board meeting to go out for bids on Phase One of the project.

Branch Chipper – Request for Proposals

Neumann stated that they have tested three brush chippers and will test one more next Monday. The money to purchase a brush chipper is budgeted for 2007. He has created a Bid Specification sheet for a new chipper and would like to solicit bids to be due by July 19, 2007. The bid will include an allowance for trade-in of our 1996 Gravely chipper. A **MOTION** to solicit bids on a new brush chipper with the specifications requested by Neumann, was made by Laabs, seconded by Palm, and carried.

Report from Clerk-Treasurer

The report from the Clerk-Treasurer was reviewed.

Correspondence

Correspondence received and reviewed include:

- Letter from state regarding gypsy moth management
- Letter from Penflex (LOSA program) regarding Madison office
- Memo from Ozaukee County regarding upcoming local government programs

Closed Session

Per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e) the village board convened into closed session to discuss possible purchase of land for a stormwater detention pond on a **MOTION** by Palm, seconded by Bruce and carried on a roll call vote.

Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene into Open Session

The closed session adjourned and the meeting reconvened into open session on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Palm and carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Land Purchase for Stormwater Detention Pond – 603 S. Milwaukee Street

A **MOTION** was made by Dohrwardt to proceed with the purchase of 3.8 acres of land at 603 S. Milwaukee Street as discussed in closed session, seconded by Buchholtz, and carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. on a **MOTION** by Laabs, seconded by Palm, and carried.