

FREDONIA VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

December 3, 2009

The regular village board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Short. Present: Joe Short, Jill Bertram, Fritz Buchholtz, Don Dohrwardt, Scott Ehaney, Mark Edbauer, Sr., and Chuck Lopicola. Also present: Cathy Jones, Laurie Pree, Mark Jaeger, Allen Neumann, and Jo Ann Wagner. Arriving later: Linda Short.

Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Lopicola, seconded by Buchholtz to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2009 village board meeting. Discussion followed on changing the first word in the last sentence under "Report from Director of Public Works on Operations of Village" from *Block* to *Brick*. Split face block is being added to the Public Works building. Although *brick* would indicate a more decorative masonry finish, the consensus of the board was to keep the text as *Block*. Motion carried to approve the minutes as presented.

Approve Payment of Bills

With the additional list presented, the General Fund, Water and Sewer bills, with the exception of reimbursements for Fritz Buchholtz and Joe Short, were approved for payment on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Lopicola, and carried. The reimbursements for Fritz Buchholtz and Joe Short were approved on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Lopicola, and carried with Buchholtz and Short abstaining. (Linda Short arrived)

Open Session for Citizen Comments

Cathy Jones presented a photo to the village board taken November 27th, after 1.4 inches of rain on November 25th. Jones stated that on December 1 water standing by her driveway was ¾" deep as was the water on the east side of the puddle. Neumann presented aerial maps of Meadowbrook Drive. He noted that if this street was being approved by the village board at this time geological studies would be required, ground water table elevations would be established, along with basement floor elevations set two feet above the groundwater table, state of the art storm sewer, easements for storm water outlets, and vertical curves on the roadway. Neumann stated that the elevations on Meadowbrook Drive indicate a catch basin could be added but would only have about one foot of ground cover which will not prevent freezing in the winter. Neumann stated that a reasonable plan at a reasonable cost with reasonable results is needed. Total re-design and reconstruction of the street would cost about \$660,000. To add a catch basin and pipe would cost about \$6,000, to add an overlay from about 50' west of the edge of the current area to the east end of Meadowbrook Drive would cost about \$20,000 which would eliminate water in one spot, directional boring with addition of a catch basin and 200 feet of storm sewer would cost about \$20,000 and would also be relatively shallow. Discussion followed on where the money would come from, if anything should be done

this year since the road would not be able to be patched, how to enhance the low area to accept more water, if concrete could be used to patch area, other areas in the village with water problems, and if Rural Water should be contacted to conduct a leak survey in area.

Unfinished Business – Policy for Delinquent Utility Bills

The Public Service Commission regulations and village ordinances regarding disconnection for nonpayment of delinquent utility bills were reviewed. It was noted that delinquent utility bills are added to the tax roll for collection. When the county collects the delinquent amounts, they are paid to the village. If someone files bankruptcy, these amounts cannot be added to the tax roll and generally are uncollectible. After discussion, a **MOTION** was made by Lopicola, seconded by Buchholtz, to continue as in the past adding delinquent utility amounts to the tax roll and not disconnecting service. Motion carried.

Report from Fire Chief on Operations of Village

The report from the Fire Chief was reviewed.

Report from Village Marshal on Operations of Village

The report from the Village Marshal was reviewed. Dohrwardt questioned the logic of the replacement schedule for squads. This was referred to the Public Safety Committee for review.

Report from Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager

The report from the Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager was reviewed. Dohrwardt requested I/I information on a monthly or quarterly basis. Short asked that peak flow for the month also be reported. Lopicola asked for rainfall for the month. Dohrwardt stated that he wants to document that I/I has been improved by the projects completed. Buntrock will be asked to provide additional information to document how I/I improved after the wastewater projects.

Report from Director of Public Works on Operations of Village

The report from the Director of Public Works was reviewed. Neumann reported that progress is being made on the new shop building. The overhead doors should arrive next week. Vandalism has been done at the shop. Installation of security cameras was discussed. Additional police surveillance has been requested. The water main break on Fredonia Avenue was repaired on Monday. Bertram questioned if it caused any damage to the road. Neumann stated that there was a cavity below the hole in the watermain. Slurry was added and hot mix applied to patch the street. Neumann has requested proposals from both companies for variable drive frequency motors at both well houses.

Compensation for Certification Obtained for WWTP

Neumann reported that two employees wrote and passed tests for wastewater subclasses. Jason Nelsen passed two tests and Wade Auer passed one test. Fifteen cents per hour is awarded for each subclass passed. Neumann recommended the Nelsen receive 15 cents per hour for each subclass passed and that Auer receive 15 cents for the subclass just

passed and also for the subclass previously passed that he was never compensated for. Previously, to be paid for a subclass, an employee needed to pass two water subclasses to qualify for a 25 cent per hour increase and seven wastewater subclasses to qualify for a 50 cent per hour increase. Auer passed his exam at that point in time. Since then policy has been changed to award an increase at the time each subclass is passed. A **MOTION** was made by Dohrwardt, seconded by Ehaney, to approve compensation for all four subclasses passed (two for Nelsen and two for Auer) in the current amount of 15 cents per hour per subclass at the start of the next pay period. After lengthy discussion the motion carried with Ehaney, Edbauer, Buchholtz, and Dohrwardt voting aye, and Short, Bertram, and Lapicola voting nay.

Report from Clerk-Treasurer on Operations of Village

The report from the Clerk-Treasurer was reviewed. Tax bills will be mailed on Friday.

2010 Village Rummage Sale

The Fredonia Lioness Lions Club is interested in sponsoring the village wide rummage sale. Linda Short asked if the food sales could still be at the Fredonia Government Center. Edbauer stated they would need to follow the Rules and Regulations for the FGC. A **MOTION** was made by Buchholtz, seconded by Lapicola, to allow the Fredonia Lion/Lioness Club to sponsor the village wide rummage sale. Motion carried with Short abstaining.

Fredonia Government Center Commission – November 24, 2009 Meeting

The report from the Fredonia Government Center Commission was postponed until the next meeting.

Finance Committee – December 3, 2009 Meeting

Lapicola reported that the Finance Committee met at 6:30 p.m. today. The two proposals for assessment services were reviewed. The Committee recommended that because of Grota Appraisals knowledge of local markets, public service and high standards the assessment contract for 2010 and 2011 be awarded to Grota Appraisals contingent upon the \$5,200 annual fee and an electronic version provided to the village each year.

Assessor Contract for 2010

The assessor contract for 2010 and 2010 was awarded to Grota Appraisals contingent upon the agreed upon \$5,200 annual fee and the requirement for Grota Appraisals to supply the village with an electronic version of the information on a **MOTION** by Lapicola, seconded by Ehaney, and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Lapicola, and carried.