

**FREDONIA VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**Fredonia Government Center**  
**242 Fredonia Avenue, Fredonia, WI**  
**March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012**

An informational meeting on the Fredonia Avenue project including estimated costs for burying the utilities was held from 6:30 p.m.

The regular village board meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by President Lapicola. Present: Chuck Lapicola, Jill Bertram, Fritz Buchholtz, Don Dohrwardt, Mark Edbauer, Sr., and Scott Ehaney. Also present: Al Bruhn, Lisa Dohrwardt, Joe Short, Kendall Thistle, Mark Jaeger, Gary Buntrock, Mike Davel, Tom Sheppard and Sandi Tretow.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approve Minutes**

Minutes of the February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 village board meeting were approved as presented on a **MOTION** by Edbauer, seconded by Dohrwardt, and carried with Buchholtz and Ehaney abstaining.

### **Approve Payment of Bills**

With the additional list presented, the General Fund, Water and Sewer bills were approved for payment on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Ehaney, and carried.

### **Open Session for Citizen Comments and Questions**

Kendall Thistle was questioning who is responsible for the Village Green property north and west of his property. Lapicola thought that the bank still owns it. Thistle was concerned because he thought the Village was going to be mowing the tall weeds last fall. It appeared that about half of it may have been mowed, but the other half was not. He is concerned about the tall weeds and attraction of vermin. Lapicola stated the Northern Ozaukee School District owns some of the land, and Thistle should contact them as he is a school board member. Lapicola noted the Village did mow part of the area last fall that was mow-able. Also, Thistle should contact the Town of Fredonia if any of the unsightly property is located in the township. Thistle left.

### **Report on Operations of Village by:**

- Village President:
  - 1) Lapicola reported that he received a letter from the DNR stating the park plan has been tentatively approved to apply for grants.
  - 2) Lapicola sent an application requesting three summer youth help from Workforce Development. This is a work and learn program for youth that is available from Workforce Development and would be at no cost to the Village.
- Work Leader
  - 1) Sheppard reported on the water main break that occurred this morning on North Wilson Street. It was repaired and the water turned back on with no problems.
  - 2) Sheppard stated the front tires on the '01 Dodge need to be replaced. A **MOTION** to replace the two front tires on the '01 Dodge by Dohrwardt, seconded by Ehaney, and carried.
  - 3) Sheppard said the pole saw needs to be replaced. He had it in for repair, and since it is 10 years old, the cost to repair is prohibitive versus the price of a new saw. The consensus of the board was to wait until the new Director of Public Works is on board, and he can look into it.
  - 4) Sheppard stated the tree at Stoney Creek Park has been taken down but the stump remains. He received quotes ranging from \$325 - \$350 to have the stump ground and removed. The consensus of the board was to leave the stump for now as it is cut low and not posing an immediate problem.

- 5) Temporary public works employee – length of employment. There was no discussion.
- Fire Chief – there was no report received.
- Village Marshal
  - 1) The 2011 Annual Report was reviewed. Lopicola complimented Davel on the detailed report. Davel noted the hours worked are based on availability as all of the officers work full time at other municipalities. Davel stated the 2003 squad car is getting high in miles and will need to be replaced towards the end of 2013. There was discussion about the vans parked in the municipal parking lot by Fredonia Avenue and Fillmore Street. Davel will check on them again. Dohrwardt questioned if the correct terminology for our police officers is marshals. The Public Safety Committee will need to investigate. Davel left.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager. The Wastewater Treatment Plant turned 29 years old today. Buntrock reviewed his report highlighting the inventory completed and replacing the radio antenna at the Oakwood Forest lift station. Buntrock stated that he met with a contractor to review options on replacing the 29 year old mip panel with a new touch screen.
- Clerk-Treasurer. The report from the Clerk-Treasurer was reviewed. .

### Increase in Sewer Rates

Lopicola proposed a sewer rate increase of 6% to reduce the existing deficiency in the current rates. The board compared a 3% increase to a 6% increase and determined for the sewer utility to be revenue neutral and still allow necessary projects, a 6% rate increase is necessary. Bertram expressed concern that although 6% may not be a large increase, it adds up when one considers that cable, phone, electric etc. are increasing prices too. Discussion followed. A **MOTION** to increase the sewer fixed charge and consumption by 6% effective June 29, 2012 by Dohrwardt, seconded by Buchholtz. Motion carried with Bertram opposed.

### Survey questions to be added to April newsletter

Lopicola presented a list of three survey questions to be mailed along with the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter water and sewer bills and newsletter in April. The questions are:

- *Should the Village of Fredonia build a bicycle/walking trail connecting the parks trail which ends on Wheeler Avenue with a location on Fredonia Avenue either by the Regal Drive intersection or by the Highland Drive intersection? Grant monies would be used primarily for any land acquisition, engineering and construction costs?*
- *Should the Village of Fredonia attempt to purchase 5-10 acres of land between Meadowbrook Drive and the developed lots on Saint Rose Avenue for adding to Fireman's Park (maybe in 5-10 years) when a small addition is built on the fire department building and more parking is needed? The land is primarily shown in the flood plain on topographic maps and not suitable for building purposes currently. It would need to be purchased with grant monies, if and when they become available.*
- *Should a dog park be created somewhere in the park system in the Village of Fredonia?*

Lopicola asked for input from the board on these questions. He noted that only one resident asked about a dog park. Bertram stated the board wages have not increased in eight or nine years and would like opinions from the residents if they feel an increase would be warranted. Joe Short had commented that it was more like twelve years since the board members received an increase in pay. The consensus of the board was to remove the dog park question from the survey and formulate a question about an increase to the Village board's wages. These questions will need to be presented to the board at the next meeting to be finalized and printed in time to be mailed with the April water and sewer bills.

### Correspondence:

- A. Public Service Commission notice regarding investigation of Payment in Lieu of Taxes Calculation for municipal utilities.
- B. League of WI Municipalities New Officials Workshops brochure.
- C. League of WI Municipalities Regional Dinner Meetings brochure.
- D. Starting Point of Ozaukee regarding Wisconsin Act 97 which allows Class "A" or "Class A" license holders to sell alcohol at 6:00 a.m. Dohrwardt noted that Village ordinance 7-2-15(b) does not allow sales until 8:00 a.m. and takes precedence over Wisconsin Act 97. If a request would be submitted to change the hours, the board will need to review it.

**Per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) the Village Board Will Convene into Closed Session to consider employee compensation and benefits(Bruhn, L. Dohrwardt, Short, Jaeger, Buntrock and Sheppard left).**

**MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Edbauer to convene into closed session per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) to consider employee compensation and benefits. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

**Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene into Open Session**

**MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Edbauer to adjourn closed session and reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

**2012 Wages and Benefits**

A **MOTION** was made by Buchholtz, seconded by Ehaney, to authorize 2012 wages including fire chief, EMS and building inspectors as discussed in closed session. This increase would be retroactive to January 1, 2012. Motion carried with Bertram opposed.

A **MOTION** was made by Buchholtz, seconded by Edbauer to provide the Village's employee insurance benefits to Roger Strohm effective the day after his current insurance ends as discussed in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

**Items for Future Consideration by Village Board**

None

**Adjournment**

A **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:54 p.m. was made by Buchholtz, seconded by Dohrwardt, and carried.