

**VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Fredonia Government Center
242 Fredonia Avenue, Fredonia, WI
February 5, 2015**

The regular village board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Chuck Lapicola. Present: Chuck Lapicola, Jill Bertram, Fritz Buchholtz, Don Dohrwardt, Lisa Dohrwardt, Scott Ehaney and John Long. Also present: Wendi Unger from Baker Tilly, Ken Watry, Neil Wagner, Mark Jaeger, Mike Davel, Roger Strohm and Sandi Tretow.

Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the January 22, 2015 village board meeting, the additional list of bills from the January 22, 2015 board meeting, and the General Fund, Water and Sewer bills with the additional list were approved on a **MOTION** by Don Dohrwardt, seconded by Lisa Dohrwardt, and carried.

Open Session for Citizen Comments and Questions

None.

Request from Ken Watry to relocate culvert located by Post Office

Ken Watry wishes to enlarge the property that he owns east of 155 Fredonia Avenue, so that he may possibly sell it someday. He feels that moving the culvert when Fredonia Avenue is reconstructed this year would be a good time to relocate the culvert. Moving the culvert would place any possible erosion to a more desirable location on his property. Lapicola stated the village cannot be moving culverts and drainages. After discussion, the consensus of the board is to table discussion for now.

Approve change of date for Fredonia Lion's Club Chicken Roast from February 22 to March 1 at Fireman's Park

A **MOTION** to approve the change of date from February 22, 2015 to March 1, 2015 by Don Dohrwardt, seconded by Ehaney, and carried.

Unfinished Business

OUTSIDE STORAGE AT 755 TOWER DRIVE: A meeting notice was mailed to the property owner to attend this village board meeting, but was unable due to a funeral. The village president will draft a letter to send to the property owner asking him to attend the February 19, 2015 village board meeting. A time frame will need to be provided to the village board of when the property will get cleaned up. This topic will be placed on the February 19, 2015 agenda.

LEAGUE OF WISCONSIN MUNICIPALITIES PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY- Don Dohrwardt stated it is important to stand by the League of Wisconsin Municipalities views, but the priorities of the village must also be represented. Lapicola will review the draft resolution from the League, make any changes and present at the next village board meeting.

Report from Village President

Lapicola stated that he contacted the individual with the potential land for sale by the industrial park, and it was just a rumor. Lapicola, Don Dohrwardt and Strohm met with Dixon Engineering along with the cellular company representatives who rent space on the tower on January 29th to make sure the costs that are passed on to the tenants will be paid. There is no information yet as to how the costs would be divided amongst the cellular utility carriers, but Lapicola and Don Dohrwardt are comfortable with signing the contract with Dixon. Lapicola asked for each board members opinion. Ehaney asked if references were checked. Long asked if there would be an interruption of service. Lapicola stated the lapses would be momentary. The contract was already approved to be signed at the December 18, 2014 board meeting. Lapicola will sign the contract tomorrow.

Report from Fire Chief

The report from the Fire Chief was reviewed. A new member joined the fire department in January who is already FF1 and EMT trained.

Report from Village Marshal

The report from the Village Marshal was reviewed.

Report from Director of Public Works

Strohm stated the village crew has been busy with snow plowing and equipment maintenance. Snow plowing has been improving as the new employees are gaining experience.

Report from Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Strohm stated the plant is operating normally.

Report from Clerk-Treasurer on Operations of Village

The report from the Clerk-Treasurer was reviewed.

Public Safety Committee – January 29, 2015 meeting

The minutes from the public safety committee were reviewed. Ehaney stated that Roger Strohm will be investigating swipe style and keypad style locks for the doors at the village office and report back to the committee. The committee is looking into additional security at municipal buildings. Options include hard locks, lighting, surveillance cameras, fencing, and intrusion alarms. Strohm will investigate and report back to the committee.

Officer Doug Wilde will be retiring from the Grafton Police Department this year, but would still like to work for Fredonia. Davel suggests having set hours Monday-Friday. This would be a benefit to the village since the community would know when they could contact the police with set hours. The public safety committee will discuss this matter further.

Utilities Committee – February 5, 2015 meeting

APPROVAL OF DRAFT WATER RATE STUDY FROM BAKER TILLY. Wendi Unger from Baker Tilly presented a draft water rate study. The Fredonia Avenue water main project and upcoming water tower maintenance contract are the main catalysts that determined the need to increase rates beyond the three percent simplified rate increases that has occurred in the past. The last water rate study done in the village was 1983. The proposed rate increase would be 86% for water. Strohm investigated, and the village currently has the lowest water rates in the county and second lowest in the state. After an 86% rate increase, the village would be tied for 48th **lowest** in the state out of 358. Unger stated the increase could be implemented over time, but ultimately the Public Service Commission decides. Plus, spreading the increase over two years would be more costly due to loss of revenues and administrative costs. A **MOTION** to give the Director of Public Works authority to submit the water rate study as prepared by Don Dohrwardt, seconded by Long, and carried unanimously.

APPROVE 3% SEWER RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2015: A 3% sewer rate increase was included and approved in the 2015 budget. A **MOTION** to approve a 3% sewer rate increase effective March 31, 2015 by Ehaney, seconded by Lisa Dohrwardt, and carried.

Correspondence – Grota Appraisals January 2015 newsletter

The correspondence was reviewed.

Items for Future Consideration by village board

Bertram stated that amongst the complaints about the condition of Fredonia Avenue, she read on Facebook comments regarding the American Flag flying at the Fredonia Government Center was in poor condition. Tretow stated the Flag was replaced last week with a new one.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m. on a **MOTION** by Ehaney, seconded by Bertram, and carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandi Tretow
Clerk-Treasurer