

**Village Board Regular Meeting
Village Hall, 110 Oak Street E,
Monday, February 10, 2020**

President: Becky Amundson; Trustees: Todd Miller, Patty Swenson, Bob Jorgenson, Allan Lahti, Doug Gustafson, Brad Harlander

1. Call to Order by President Becky Amundson at 7:00 pm. At the Village Hall.

Roll Call: Becky Present Brad Present Todd Present Patty Present Bob Absent Allan Present Doug Absent

Becky announced that Public Comment would be moved up before the Public Hearing so those wishing to speak could leave before hearing if they would like. See # 7 for minutes.

2. Motion to Convene Public Hearing

Motion to Convene Public Hearing by B Harlander 2nd A Lahti Vote: Carried

3. Final Land Treatment Optimization Plan – MSA

Dave Werzbaum from MSA was present and Andrew Skog, Pat Morrow and Allie LoBue from MSA were present via Skype. Discussed project background and possible solutions to fix disposal problems. There are currently only 3 seepage cells that can be used. The optimization plan includes a recommendation for a Spray Irrigation system and possibly relining one of the unused seepage cells to act as an effluent storage pond. The plan also includes other necessary wastewater and sewer upgrades. Funding was discussed and includes grants and village funds, using the DNR Clean Water Fund Program and a sewer rate increase. MSA also presented a schedule for the proposed project. A Lahti asked about the irrigation system in the winter. Andrew Skog, MSA, stated that the system is not run in the winter. Dave, MSA, asked how often the irrigation system would run and A Lahti asked about the hours needed for maintenance of the system. Andrew, MSA, stated they estimate the system would run once a week and ultimately it should reduce the workload and time spent by the public works department. B. Struck agreed with this statement. T. Miller questioned the schedule for the project, stated it is pretty tight. MSA answered that it may take longer but it is still an advantage to get it started this year for the funding. B. Harlander asked if there was any chance the allowed phosphorous limits would change for groundwater discharge, making spray irrigation obsolete. MSA stated that there are currently no talks about the requirement changing within the DNR and they can see no reason for that happening.

4. Motion to Close Public Hearing

Motion to close public hear by B Harlander 2nd T Miller Vote: Carried

Motion to recommend submittal of the draft facility plan to the DNR upon closure of the time period for public comment by A Lahti 2nd B Harlander Vote: Carried

5. Agenda Approval

Motion to approve agenda by B Harlander 2nd P Swenson Vote: Carried

6. Correction and Approval of January 13th, 2020 Minutes:

Motion to approve December 9th minutes by T Miller 2nd A Lahti Vote: Carried

7. Public Comments (Open to any citizen who wishes to address the board. Each person, or topic, will be allotted 3 minutes. Please not there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action can be taken until specific notice of the proposed action is given. Please state your name and place of residence.)

Terry Hauer, new executive director of the Polk County EDC was present to introduce himself and report on some of the things they have been working on. The EDC will start a Workforce Initiative to try to encourage people to stay in the county to work. William Johnson commented on the televising that has been going on in the village as part of the sewer project. He suggested posting a video that shows how the process works and how tree roots and debris affect the process and let the public see why a sewer upgrade is necessary.

***** NOTE: OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY AGENDA ITEM *****

8. Request for advance approval of street closure and open container exemption.

Ryan Shelton, Skol Bar, was at the January meeting asking for advance approval for two events he holds in August and October, this will help him with planning. Exact dates and details will be presented closer to the events.

Motion to approve road closure and open container exemption by T Miller 2nd B Harlander Vote: Carried

9. Committee and Department Head Reports

a) Public Works – Bill Struck: Visu-Sewer has been in town cleaning and televising all sewer lines and conducting manhole inspections. They have encountered some obstructions but nothing that wasn't expected. Lan Tank has been contracted to rehab the water tower, this includes painting and upgrading to meet DNR requirements. The work is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2020. Cross connection letters have been sent to the commercial and industrial customers and Bill wants to thank business owners for their cooperation. Crew is continually working on snow removal and maintenance. Board members thanks them for their good work.

b) Park Board – Rebecca Harlander: Winter season has been busy. Trails are being groomed and it has been a good ski season. Thanks William, and the Polk County Tourism group, for going to shows and promotion the trails. Skating rink ice is pretty good. Park Board will begin meeting in March.

c) Library – Kris Surbaugh: The library numbers are up from the holidays, they had 18 new patrons and 3325 check outs and renewals in January! February is Love My Library month. They have received many notes of encouragement and thanks. The Library Board received quotes to do some insulation work to fix the problem of ice dams over the back entrance.

d) Law Enforcement – Tamara Larson: January was a busy month with over 100 calls for service. The new officers are doing well and there have been many good comments/compliments. Graphics are on the new squad and the Luck school shop class will make the K9 partition for the squad. Working on new CrimeStar software installation and training. They have created a Frederic Public Safety Auxiliary and the group will help with fundraisers for the K9 unit. There will be intergovernmental agreements with neighboring municipalities.

e) Treasurer - Jennifer Phernetton: Collected \$789,000 in property tax payments and the February settlement information has been sent to the county. Letters were sent to 5 delinquent personal property accounts, they total less than \$1,000. YE 2019 has been balanced for Parks and the Police Department Outlay account. The General fund is at 99% for 2019. CDBG road project is final and we have received the last payment.

f) Ambulance Report – Todd Miller: They had their quarterly meeting on January 22nd. The meeting was a reorganization meeting. They have a new ambulance director from Amery Ambulance and Rae is also helping one day a week with the billing. Payroll and other financial work will be done by Carlson SV.

g) Public Works – Allan Lahti: There were two requests for sewer credits due to broken pipes. Committee discussed 2020 projects to include – street lights on Wisconsin Avenue, Water Tower Rehab and roads. The street sweeper is out of commission and B Struck is working with repair shop on options.

8. Approval of Check Register:

Motion to approve Check Register as presented by T Miller 2nd B Harlander Vote: Carried

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:09 pm by T Miller 2nd P Swenson Vote: Carried