

**Village Board
MEETING MINUTES**

October 11, 2012

VILLAGE BOARD PRESENT: T. Mills, P. Clouthier, D. Cattoi, B. Jaeck, L. Kawa-Pelish, D. Voss

VILLAGE BOARD ABSENT: E. Steiner

Staff: V. Rudychev

Also Present: Citizens

I. Call to Order / Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by B. Jaeck and roll call was conducted by V. Rudychev.

V. Rudychev swore in new President, T. Mills. T. Mills thanked all of the residents for recognizing that the needs of the Village needed to be adjusted. He added that he will be using Committees to address the needs and to move the Village forward. T. Mills spoke of the need for transparency and keeping all informed of what was going on in the Village. He stated that the Village needs to operate as one entity and not be split. Further, T. Mills spoke of how County Board member Rusty Clark is an invaluable resource for the community and he happens to be the Vice Chairman for the Board.

II. Public Comment and Input

C. Hansen, 3517 S Elmwood Drive, stated that she will be taking on the task of organizing all of the Village records which are in storage. She requested that if there was anyone who wished to volunteer their time to help with this endeavor that they let her know.

S. Klabo, 3438 Elmtree Court stated that she is concerned about the traffic on her cul-du-sac due to two large pine trees belonging to her neighbors. She feels that getting out of it is dangerous and wondered if there is anything that could be done.

III. Consent Agenda

1. Accounts Payable – October 2012

D. Voss moved to approve the October 2012 payables and L. Pelish seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

IV. New Business

1. Reports

a. Racine County Sheriff Monthly Report

Sheriff explained that there had been an increase in burglaries, but that the Sheriff's Department has a suspect in custody. He stated that none of them occurred in Elmwood Park, but a few occurred in Mount Pleasant, which were very close to Elmwood Park. He stated that the Village of Elmwood Park has been invoiced \$206.32 for work performed in September.

b. Clerk/Treasurer

V. Rudychev informed the Board that the Budget would be addressed at the next meeting due to some paperwork that needed to be addressed with the state in regards to the levy.

c. Trustees

T. Mills informed the Board that the gas rate for the Village would be changing from F1 to F2 due to increase in the consumption of gas by the Village. He stated that the rate would now be \$2.42 per 100 cubic feet, which is an increase of 1.6%. He stated that there was a question in regards to the alarms being put in. He stated that the

cost would be about \$2,200 in addition to the \$700 deposit which was put down, but that would cover all five buildings. He also added that there is a concern about the fact that animal control would no longer be done by Country Side Humane Society and would be completed by the Wisconsin Humane Society, which will not be providing the Village a humane officer.

D. Cattoi stated that he is pleased that N. Haas has stepped up to help him with the communication in the Community.

P. Clouthier explained that Waste Management would be going to new natural gas vehicles as of the first of the year. For residents, this means that new garbage and recycling carts will be issued which will be used with the new vehicles. He stated that the new carts would be distributed to the residents at no cost in mid to late November. He added that although the carts can be used immediately upon receipt that residents would have to use them as of January 1, 2013. L. Pelish questioned what people who live in alleys would have to do. P. Clouthier explained that the new trucks would still go down the alley. He added that if the carts are not set up properly that Waste Management will not pick them up and cautioned residents to follow the rules about collection. He stated that if people wished to have more than one cart they would have to pay additional funds.

B. Jaeck stated he had two issues to address. B. Jaeck moved to rescind the public hearing date for the Lathrop Property located at 3128 Lathrop Avenue and P. Clouthier seconded. Motion carried (5-0). B. Jaeck moved to reaffirm the current residential land use for the Heinrich property. P. Clouthier seconded. D. Voss questioned why something that is already in place needs to be reaffirmed. T. Mills stated that the Village must reaffirm that the land cannot be used for any other purpose than residential by a developer. B. Jaeck added that it was strongly suggested by planners he had spoken to and would be done to remove an ambiguity about the property. Motion carried (5-0).

L. Pelish stated she had no report as snow was on the agenda separately.

D. Voss stated there was a new road project on Taylor Avenue, but the State would not be allotting funds for it until 2014. He added that the Village would ensure that no construction equipment was kept in the parking lot of the 3554 Taylor Avenue property since the property had recently been repaved. D. Voss also mentioned that he was still working on getting quotes to have the tennis courts redone. He stated that in his preliminary research it would cost between \$3,680 to \$7,750.

2. Convene into closed session per WI §19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session: Village Attorney

D. Cattoi moved to convene into closed session per WI §19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and P. Clouthier seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

3. Reconvene into open session to consider any motions

P. Clouthier moved to retain Pruitt, Ekes, and Geary as the Village's legal counsel. B. Jaeck seconded. T. Mills explained that they are local attorneys who handle cases in neighboring

municipalities. He also added that the firm would not require a retainer but would bill at an hourly rate of \$150.00. Motion carried (5-0).

4. Taylor Homes Preliminary Findings

B. Jaeck introduced the members of his working group. He stated that the group had discussed every way in which the Taylor Homes property could be made profitable. He stated that in order for the property to host events, the Village would need an event planner. He added that the Boy Scouts, who used to use Building #3, still have their things in the building and the Village needs to work on getting those items out so that the space could be used for something else. B. Jaeck went over the list of other items discussed by the Committee. L. Peterson stated that all of the members did a walk around of the entire property. He stated that when you get close to the buildings the condition of the windows is pathetic. He stated that every time the repair of the property is brought up that the argument against it is keeping the tax rate low. He stated that though there is not a lot of good weather left this year the Village could work to save the wood on the windows and paint the windows next year.

D. Voss mentioned that October 26th is make a difference day and mentioned that the Village could solicit volunteers for this project at Taylor Homes on that day. C. Daceno Jr., stated that EPA issues need to be looked into before the Village can ask volunteers to help. He added that with how old the buildings are there is a good chance there is lead in the paint and certain things have to be done for lead abatement.

L. Peterson stated that the Board had not allocated funds to this project and now it was up to the Board to decide what to do and how to fund it.

P. Clouthier stated that he had looked into the loan that his currently out on the property. He stated that the Village could secure a loan for a lower rate but the Village does not have the funds to get into these things as you need money to get money.

B. Jaeck felt it was best to table this manner till next year and put it on the Board agenda early next year to address. T. Mills assured the residents that J. Neumiller would be working on getting the buildings winterized as best as he could by State Code.

B. Jaeck advocated for giving J. Neumiller a bigger monthly allowance to address issues with the buildings. He added that the Village could look into an outside service for grass mowing and landscaping services to free up some of J. Neumiller's time.

A resident brought up the point that the Village used to have a Director of Finance and no longer does and should potentially look into replacing that position. B. Jaeck stated that there were a lot of good ideas and they need to be addressed and looked at early next year in order for the Village to move forward on the project.

5. Balancing New Developments Profits and Loses

B. Jaeck stated that he wished to postpone this item until the next Plan Commission meeting and address it then.

6. Snow Plowing Bids

T. Mills explained that the Village had received a bid from Mike's Landscaping and Snow Removal Services. He stated that Mike's had previously done the work for the Village and although he personally did not see his performance he had heard from residents that it went well. L. Pelish explained that she had received a bid from L&L Concrete who had also previously

done the work for the Village. L. Pelish requested some time to compare the quotes and get them down to apples to apples comparison. T. Mills stated that would be fine and the Board would return to the item.

L. Pelish stated that she had reviewed both proposals and felt that both companies do a good job and the cost is fairly close with Mike's coming in slightly lower. She added that although the Board should not micromanage the snow removal process, they should set some guidelines for the company to follow. T. Mills felt that guidelines should be provided and would be followed if they were provided to the vendor. L. Pelish stated that one issue that needed to be address is when to send the plows out. T. Mills stated that he felt if there was two inches of snow that the plows should go out.

B. Jaeck moved to issue this year's snow removal contract to Mike's Landscaping and Snow Removal Service. P. Clouthier seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

7. Appointment of Plan Commission Member

T. Mills explained that there is an opening on the Plan Commission due to the resignation of G. Pelish. P. Clouthier explained that L. Peterson has applied for the position. D. Voss asked if this was a new vacancy. T. Mills answered yes.

B. Jaeck moved to appoint L. Peterson to the Plan Commission and D. Cattoi seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

8. Building Department – Permits/Inspections/Misc

T. Mills explained that R. Nolen, who is the Village's Building Inspector, does not issue building permits, but only performs inspections. He stated that until the issue is resolved and the Village has someone in who can issue the permits that homeowners have been advised to have someone check the work to make sure it is up to code. P. Clouthier asked if R. Nolen would no longer be the building inspector for the Village. T. Mills stated he would be the inspector, but would not issue permits.

T. Mills felt it was best to table this matter and let the Board decide what to do and how to handle this issue once more facts are presented to them. He stated that there had been some discussions regarding having the City do the inspections. P. Clouthier stated that the Village needed someone to take the applications and then deliver them to the Clerk. D. Voss stated either way he just wants to make sure we are doing it right.

9. Adjournment

P. Clouthier moved to adjourn and D. Cattoi seconded. Motion carried (5-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.