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## FREDONIA VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Fredonia Government Center - Board Room  
242 Fredonia Avenue, Fredonia, Wisconsin

1. President Gehrke called the meeting to order at 7:00PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Trustees present: President Gehrke, Trustee Paape, Trustee Haas, Trustee Abegglen, Trustee Dohrwardt, Trustee Bartz, and Trustee Meyle.  
Staff Present: Administrator Jenkins, Treasurer Depies, and Clerk Johnson.
3. **Public Comment:** *President Gehrke shared a photo of the repair to the water main break on N. Milwaukee St. He stated there had already been breaks in this area and there are likely more issues to come in the future. He urged the Board to consider this infrastructure when contemplating utility rates. President Gehrke highlighted Utility Foreman Brandon Heinen's dedication. He worked until 1:00AM to ensure the safety of Village drinking water during the break.*
4. **Motion to Approve Minutes of September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Village Board Meeting and General Fund, Water and Sewer Invoices** made by Trustee Abegglen.  
Seconded by Trustee Dohrwardt.  
Passed by unanimous voice vote.
5. Presentations
  - a) **2023 Village Beautification Award:** *Trustee Bartz presented resident Jean Fechter with the Village's Beautification Award, in recognition of the pride she takes in making her home beautiful. She thanked Ms. Fechter for helping the Village to look nice.*
  - b) **2024 Budget Presentation:** *Administrator Jenkins gave an overview of the proposed 2024 Operating Budget. He specifically highlighted the challenges in categorizing ambulance calls for reporting paramedic level calls. It was decided the cleanest way to balance these funds while still understanding the total cost of these operations was to roll the paramedic fund into the fire fund.*  
*Trustee Dohrwardt asked if the water and sewer amounts for reserves take into account the expected and unexpected water main breaks. Administrator Jenkins said this was in excess of budgeted amounts to repair breaks. Trustee Haas asked if the Village has received payment from the County for the EMS program yet. Treasurer Depies responded they have not received a check to date. Trustee Meyle asked how the \$.29 tax decrease was*

derived. Administrator Jenkins defined how mill rates are determined. Trustee Paape asked when the generator was budgeted for at the WWTP. Administrator Jenkins responded in 2025. Trustee Paape stated that an up-to 5% merit-based increase was not appropriate. Administrator Jenkins responded the increase had been discussed and approved by the Finance Committee. Trustee Paape asked if there were different rates for an EMS call vs. a paramedic level call, since the Village will now have paramedics on every call. Treasurer Depies stated that the Fire Department contracts out the billing of ambulance calls to Life Quest, and she was unsure how they bill for different types of calls. Trustee Dohrwardt stated the Village could instruct Life Quest on how to bill for calls. He also pointed out the Board's success in keeping the mill rate consistent over several years.

6. Report on Village Committees by:

- a) **Planning Commission:** President Gehrke stated this was the first meeting of the Planning Commission since taking over the responsibilities of the ARC Board. It was a quick meeting to review plans submitted by Corsitechnic to change out siding and altering the roofline. The Committee voted to approve the alterations. Trustee Bartz asked if there had been feedback from the committee members about the dissolution of the ARC Board. President Gehrke stated there were some concerns, but it is a diverse board excited for the challenge. Trustee Dohrwardt said there was not a lot on this specific case, but warned of the complexity of new builds. He stated he didn't think the Village applied covenants for the exteriors of new builds in the TID 3.
- b) **Finance Committee:** Trustee Haas reviewed the Finance Committee meeting, stating that the salary increases were contentious but there was good discussion and a good resolution that he stands by. He added that they removed a proposed sewer rate increase, but may revisit it next year. Trustee Paape asked where the 5% increase came from. Trustee Haas stated that 2.5% was an up-front cost of living increase and up to an additional 2.5% merit based increase to begin in July 1st. Trustee Paape stated the Village gave out large raises last year. Treasurer Depies reminded the Board that the raises were given to DPW staff to bring them up to market rate. Trustee Dohrwardt made a Point of Order that this topic was not an action item on the agenda and could not be discussed at this time.

7. Items for Discussion and/or Action

- a) **Motion to Approve Ordinance 2023-11: Pertaining to the Monthly Permitting Option for Food Trucks with Language Changes** made by Trustee Haas.  
Seconded by Trustee Abegglen.  
Trustee Dohrwardt pointed out an extraneous "for" in the language of the ordinance. Clerk Johnson stated she would remove it.  
Passed by unanimous voice vote.
- b) **Motion to Enter into Closed Session Pursuant to State Statute 19.85(1)(c) Considering Employment, Promotion, Compensation or Performance Evaluation Data of Any Public Employee Over Which the Governmental Body Has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility (Village Administrator)** made by Trustee Haas.  
Seconded by Trustee Bartz.  
Passed by unanimous roll call vote.  
President Gehrke: Aye  
Trustee Meyle: Aye  
Trustee Bartz: Aye  
Trustee Dohrwardt: Aye  
Trustee Abegglen: Aye  
Trustee Haas: Aye  
Trustee Paape Aye

**Motion to move into open session** made by Trustee Dohrwardt.

Seconded by Trustee Haas.

Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

President Gehrke: Aye

Trustee Meyle: Aye

Trustee Bartz: Aye

Trustee Dohrwardt: Aye

Trustee Abegglen: Aye

Trustee Haas: Aye

Trustee Paape Aye

8. **Correspondence:** *President Gehrke stated a disc golf tournament was scheduled on October 28<sup>th</sup> and the disc golf course would be closed to the public. Trustee Bartz mentioned that a local disc golfer contacted her to compliment the Village's course. Trustee Dohrwardt trees should be planted on the course. President Gehrke asked Administration to follow up on the pay-for-play.*

9. **Items for Future Consideration by Village Board:** None

10. **Motion to adjourn** made by Trustee Dohrwardt.

Seconded by Trustee Meyle.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle T. Johnson  
Village Clerk