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AGENDA

FREDONIA VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 2nd, 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 Abegglen, Trustee Dohrwardt, Trustee Bartz, Trustee Meyle
Trustees Absent: Trustee Haas
Staff Present: Administrator Jenkins, Director Paulus, Treasurer Depies, Clerk Johnson, Chief Weyker
3. **Public Comments:** No public comments were made.
4. **President Gehrke Opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2024 Budget: Village of Fredonia General Fund, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Fire Department, TID No. 3, Water and Sewer Utilities.**
No public comment was made.
5. **Motion to Close Public Hearing** made by Trustee Dohrwardt.
Seconded by Trustee Bartz.
Passed by 6-0 voice vote, Trustee Haas not present.
6. **Consent Agenda:** *Trustee Meyle asked that the following comments be added to the October 19th, 2023 minutes: "after discussing with Trustee Haas, overall this budget was fair, they did a fairly good job compared to budgets past, and that future decreases should be sought in the property taxes." Clerk Johnson stated that she would review the recording and make the requested amendments.*

Trustee Haas arrived 7:11 PM.

Motion to Approve Minutes of October 19th, 2023 Village Board Meeting as Amended

and General Fund, Water and Sewer Invoices made by Trustee Abegglen.

Seconded by Trustee Meyle.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

7. Report on Village Committees by:

- a) **Joint Fire/EMS Committee:** *Trustee Haas shared that the committee met and continued discussion on combining fire departments. He stated that everyone seemed to be in a good spot, but positive discussions continue. Members are thrilled with the EMS funding and hiring continues. He went on to say that departments reviewed the contract, they are open to communicating and that they are taking it one step at a time. Trustee Dohrwardt said this endeavor is mostly focused on ambulance service and when they get to the point of adding on fire activities these discussions could continue. He would hate to see the project fall apart because members began discussing fire trucks and building expenses too soon. He said the committee should focus on ambulance service and improving level of care and response time. Trustee Haas agreed.*

8. Items for Discussion and/or Action

- a) **Motion to Approve Resolution 2023-N Adopting Village of Fredonia 2024 Levy** made by Trustee Haas.

Seconded by Trustee Bartz.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

- b) **Motion to Approve the Village of Fredonia 2024 Annual Budget** made by Trustee Meyle.

Seconded by Trustee Haas.

Administrator Jenkins stated that the water rate increase had been properly noticed and submitted to the PSC for approval. Trustee Bartz asked if any members of the public had reached out to staff regarding the budget. Clerk Johnson responded that no one from the public had asked any questions. Trustee Abegglen had concerns about the \$100k earmarked for the splash pad. He reminded the Board that remaining funds must be raised through public donation and other sources by January 2025, or the \$100K would be used for other projects. He asked for clarification on information given at the splash pad kick-off meeting the previous evening, which introduced splitting the fundraising efforts into two phases. He asked if it was the intention to begin construction if "phase one" fundraising goals were met, or if the total amount must be raised before ground is broken. President Gehrke stated that the two phase fundraising plan came from the vendor, CRS, after the Board conditionally approved the \$100K, and that he had instructed staff to add this topic to the next meeting's agenda. He went on to say that because the \$100K is part of the budget, it was appropriate to discuss these concerns. He outlined what CRS proposed, with phase one to include the pad and utilities and phase two to include the water features. Trustee Paape feels that the \$100K was not proper use of ARPA funds. He stated that the "splash pad is a pipe dream" and that if it was included in the budget he would not vote for it. Trustee Dohrwardt stated that the two phase fundraising was a new concept, but makes it utterly more possible to get the project done in the approved time frame. He said the base of the pad and utilities could be completed and that as corporate donations come in, the Village can be ready to add phase two features. He approved of the two phase plan. Trustee Abegglen expressed concern that phase one would be completed and corporate donors may not come through for the upright features. He asked the Board if they were content with the possibility of only having the concrete pad. President Gehrke highlighted other communities that were fundraising in a similar manner, including Thiensville. Trustee

Bartz was concerned about breaking ground having only met the fundraising goal in phase one. She stated that a pad would be good, but it should be grand. She would hate to have a grand opening with just a concrete pad with no features. Trustee Bartz feels the Board should adhere to the original agreement. President Gehrke asked what would happen if they fell short of the total fundraising goals by \$15K. Would the project be tanked? Trustee Haas gave an overview of the process of allocating ARPA funds to this project. He reinforced the original agreement of meeting fundraising goals by January 31st, 2025 and if the total amount was not raised, the \$100K would go into the road maintenance fund of that year. He stated that a deal is a deal. Administrator Jenkins asked the Board to consider the definition of a splash pad. He stated that phase one gets the Village a splash pad. Trustee Abegglen said that the Board had \$283K in mind when considering what a splash pad meant. He went on to say that he was in favor of the splash pad, but he agreed that a deal is a deal. President Gehrke suggested, since ground won't be broken in 2024, taking the \$100K out of the 2024 Operating Budget and keeping those funds in reserves for the project in 2025. He clarified that CRS's original presentation showed a fully finished splash pad, including upright features for \$283K. Subsequent conversations with CRS lead to the two phase plan, which may have better opportunities to attract corporate donors by offering specific features they can purchase. Trustee Dohrwardt stated that the Board has the year to monitor how funds come in and make judgments along the way. He recommended leaving the money earmarked in the budget. Trustee Haas agreed but asked that resolution that clearly defines the project's goal posts be brought forth at a future meeting. Trustee Meyle added that if the funds aren't raised, the project wouldn't move forward, and that the Board would be monitoring progress.

On a new topic, Trustee Dohrwardt stated that the debt service goes into the debt service budget, and that if the Village didn't remove debt as the Village borrows money, the burden will fall to the tax payer. He reinforced that there are consequences to borrowing.

Passed by unanimous vote.

c) Motion to Approve Fire Protection Services Agreement between the Village of Saukville and the Village of Fredonia fire Department made by Trustee Haas.

Seconded by Trustee Abegglen.

Chief Weyker explained the services outlined in the agreement, adding this is the second year this contract has been managed by the Village of Saukville. The Village responds to an average of five calls per year and would be compensated \$24,000. Chief Weyker stated that this agreement doesn't stress department resources. President Gehrke asked if Chief Weyker felt \$24,000 was adequate. He responded that it was sufficient and that other communities saw a decrease in compensation. Trustee Dohrwardt asked if this was the second single year contract. Chief Weyker responded that it was, and that there had been changes two years ago when the Village of Saukville took over the previous 3 year model from Newburg.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

d) Motion to Approve Purchase of a 2019 VX Vacuum Excavator Not To Exceed \$65,000 made by Trustee Abegglen.

Seconded by Trustee Haas.

Director Paulus explained that the Village previously had a vac trailer that would have cost more to repair than it was worth. They sold that trailer and, because more DPW work has been done in-house, there is money left in the 2023 Outside Services- Sewer budget. Director Paulus asked to purchase a used vacuum excavator utilizing those unspent funds. He stated that the used vacuum excavator he found sells new for over \$100K, and only has 500 hours on it. Trustee Abegglen did a cost-benefit analysis on the potential purchase

which came out in the positive. Trustee Paape said that the Village should keep the Outside Services- Sewer budget the same to maintain equipment and continue the good work the DPW is doing.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

e) Motion to Approve HydroCorp Contract – Residential and Commercial/Industrial

made by Trustee Dohrwardt.

Seconded by Trustee Meyle.

Director Paulus explained the function of cross connection inspections in keeping drinking water safe, and the Village's obligation to inspect 10% of cross connections every year. He acknowledged residents' hesitance to let strangers in for inspections. President Gehrke asked if the Village had contracted with Hyrdocorp in the past. Director Paulus responded that these contracts would be two year renewals. He added that perhaps DPW staff could take on the residential component, with proper training, in the future, but that the commercial inspection process would be too complicated to do in-house. He stated that staff could take on residential re-inspections. Administrator Jenkins stated that they had done calculations and determined the Village would only save around \$1,000 if staff took on this work.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

g) Motion to Approve Preventive Maintenance & Technical Service Agreement with Energenecs made by Trustee Haas.

Seconded by Trustee Abegglen.

Director Paulus explained that Energenecs supports the SCADA system, and this contract prepays services at this year's rates. He said that every time they come out to do an inspection or fix a crash or error, the Village is charged through the contract. Any remaining funds left at the end of the contract would be moved to the next years' service agreement.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

h) Motion to Approve Purchase of 2024 Parks Department Lawnmowers, Not to Exceed \$28,000 made by Trustee Abegglen.

Seconded by Trustee Bartz.

Director Paulus explained the deficiencies in the mower scheduled to be replaced. He said prices on the new mower went up yesterday, but he secured lower pricing pending Board approval. The Village would not be invoiced until 2024. Trustee Paape asked if it was diesel mower. Director Paulus responded that it was gas, and highlighted the savings. Trustee Abegglen reaffirmed this was a planned expense.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

i) Motion to Approve Purchase of 2024 Public Works Skid Steer, Not to Exceed \$60,000

made by Trustee Dohrwardt.

Seconded by Trustee Abegglen.

Director Paulus explained the various uses of the skid steer. He stated that he doesn't need to buy brand new, and wanted to make a practical purchase. He said that a new skid steer runs \$74,000. Director Paulus found a used one that includes forks and a bucket. Trustee Paape asked if preventative maintenance on all of the DPW's equipment could be performed in house. Director Paulus responded yes. Trustee Abegglen added that the DPW crew was doing a lot of road preparation and Trustee Dohrwardt reminded the Board that leaf pick up took up staff time as well. President Gehrke stated he felt this was a necessary purchase, after watching crews working without one at water main breaks. Trustee Abegglen stated that this was a planned purchase. Trustee Paape asked if Director

Paulus planned to use salt brine. He responded that he planned to use it and the truck was prepared.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

- j) **Motion to Adjourn into Closed Session Pursuant to WI State Statute 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." (Offer To Purchase)** made by Trustee Haas.

Seconded by Trustee Abegglen.

Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

President Gehrke: Aye

Trustee Paape: Aye

Trustee Haas: Aye

Trustee Abegglen: Aye

Trustee Dohrwardt: Aye

Trustee Bartz: Aye

Trustee Meyle: Aye

- k) **Motion to Adjourn into Open Session** made by Trustee Abegglen.

Seconded by Trustee Haas.

Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

President Gehrke: Aye

Trustee Paape: Aye

Trustee Haas: Aye

Trustee Abegglen: Aye

Trustee Dohrwardt: Aye

Trustee Bartz: Aye

Trustee Meyle: Aye

Motion to Approve Offer to Purchase and Preliminary Developer's Agreement with Marcus and Scott Paulsen at \$18,000 Per Acre with a \$4,000 Grading Credit made by Trustee Haas.

Seconded by Trustee Meyle.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

9. Correspondence: None

10. **Items for Future Consideration by Village Board:** President Gehrke recommended reading the article in the LWM magazine about ATVs and roadways.

11. **Motion to Adjourn** made by Trustee Dohrwardt.

Seconded by Trustee Abegglen.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05PM.