

VILLAGE OF SIREN - VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY JANUARY 12, 2023

MINUTES

The Regular Village Board meeting held on January 12, 2023, was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Village President Dave Alden.

Members Present: Dave Alden, Rick Engstrom, Janet Hunter, Rudy Mothes, Jim Pearson, Sara Reimann-Hill, Steve Young

Others Present: Ann Peterson, Clerk/Treasurer; Greg Marsten, Burnett County Sentinel; Brady Mangen, Siren Police Officer; Ann & Edwin Johnson; Ray & Angela Robbins; Paul Cornelison, Siren Fire Chief; Brian Pardun, Siren Covenant Church; Jim Jaskolka, Public Works Director; Eric Barclay, MSA; Bill Cooper; Northwestern Wisconsin Electric Cooperative; Sarah Radomsky, Inter County Leader

President Alden called for Public Comments. None were offered.

A motion was made by Steve Young and seconded by Sara Reimann-Hill to approve the agenda with the change of removing the Site Plan Approval from the agenda as it has not been submitted. Motion carried without negative vote.

A motion was made by Rick Engstrom and seconded by Janet Hunter to approve the Regular Village Board meeting minutes of December 8, 2022. Motion carried without negative vote.

A motion was made by Janet Hunter and seconded by Sara Reimann-Hill to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$210,997.05 general vouchers and checks cut since the last regularly scheduled board meeting in the amount of \$73,815.48 for a grand total of \$284,812.53. Motion carried without negative vote.

President Alden gave the President's Report. Village President thanked the Board for all their work during 2022. Prior Trustee Todd Schultz has been diagnosed with a form of leukemia. There will be a benefit for him on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at the Siren School.

Clerk/Treasurer Peterson gave the Clerk's Report. The auditors will be here next week and there will be a Primary Election on February 21<sup>st</sup> to narrow the field of candidates for State Supreme Court Justice.

Officer Mangen gave the December Police Report and the 2022 Year End Report. December DMV totals were \$339. The Department has been very busy and it appears to be continuing into the new year. Officer Pardun has completed his training and is close to being able to work shifts on his own.

OLD BUSINESS

The Family Dollar/Dollar Tree Site Plan Approval has not submitted an updated site plan including storm water plans so this item will be tabled until a later meeting.

Discussion/Action with Ray & Angela Robbins

- a. Fence – Ray Robbins indicated that he would like to have a fence along the property line and the brush dump and along the property line with the Industrial Park. They are asking the Village cost-share for these two fences. President Alden suggested that the Robbins get quotes on the cost for the fences and to

bring that back to the Village for further discussion.

- b. Electrical Transformer – The electric transformer is in the wrong area of the site plan as it is located on the water/sewer easement and is close to the fire hydrant. Bill Cooper from Northwestern Wisconsin Electrical Company is aware of the issue and said NWECC will move the transformer in the spring. The existing site plan does not have a location specified for the transformer so Ray & Angela Robbins are leaving it up to NWECC to determine proper placement for the transformer.
- c. Ownership of Roads in Apartment Complex – Ray & Angela Robbins would like the Village to take ownership of the main road through their complex. The Village would then be responsible for maintenance of the road and to also cover half of the cost of construction of that road. The Board discussed having this issue brought to the Streets & Utilities Committee for further discussion. The Board would like to have a copy of the site plan showing the roads.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/Action with Siren Covenant Church on 2021 Sidewalk Assessment  
Brian Pardun, Pastor of the Siren Covenant Church, and the Board discussed the Church's portion of the sidewalk assessment. State Law does state that tax-exempt properties are obligated to pay special assessments. The Church's opinion is that as a tax-exempt property they are therefore exempt from special assessments since the sidewalk doesn't directly benefit the property. The sidewalk is on the back side of their building and does not come directly into their building, therefore they are not required to pay the assessment. According to the lawyer that the Covenant Church spoke with they are not responsible for lighting, sidewalks, stormwater under their 501(3)C classification. The Board indicated that they would send this issue to the Village's attorney for further clarification.
- b. Discussion/Action on appointing alternate to Burnett County Steering Committee on Comprehensive Plan for Trustee Jim Pearson. The Board discussed having Steve Young fill in as the alternate and Trustee Young was agreeable to this appointment. A motion was made by Dave Alden and seconded by Sara Reimann-Hill to appoint Steve Young as the Burnett County Steering Committee Alternate. Motion carried without negative vote.

The meeting schedule was set as follows:

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| a. Committee of the Whole:                 | To be set if needed                   |
| b. Board of Appeals & Planning Commission: | To be set if needed                   |
| c. Tourism:                                | January 18 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. |
| d. Ball Park Committee:                    | April 10 <sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.   |
| e. Public Safety Committee:                | January 13 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. |

A motion was made by Dave Alden and seconded by Sara Reimann-Hill to adjourn the Village Board Meeting at 2:37 p.m. Motion carried without negative vote.

Submitted by Ann L Peterson  
Village Clerk/Treasurer