

VILLAGE OF SIREN - VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2022

MINUTES

The Regular Village Board meeting held on November 10, 2022, was called to order at 2:01 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; Jim Jaskolka, Public Works Director; Trevor Thiex, Siren Police Chief; Sarah Radomsky, Inter County Leader; Edwin Johnson; Teresa Anderson, MSA, Doug and Cindy Mattson and son

President Alden called for Public Comments. Teresa Anderson from MSA informed the Board that the permit to connect Molly Engstrom Drive to State Road 70 is in process and work should be able to commence next spring. Doug Mattson, a Village resident, informed the Board that he is a member of the Burnett County Citizen Patrol, so he is keeping an eye on the Village. He also inquired if the Village had recycling facilities within our Village. There are not however the Midtown Transfer Station does and that is located just north of the Village. He also brought up a pick-up that is parked in the alley by Bethany Lutheran Church that makes it difficult for traffic to pass and there appear to be conflicting signs about the alley being open for snowmobiles and ATVs. He has notified the Police Department of this issue. Chief Thiex indicated the Department would follow up.

A motion was made by Steve Young and seconded by Jim Pearson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried without negative vote.

A motion was made by Steve Young and seconded by Rick Engstrom to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Village Board meeting of October 6, 2022
- Committee of the Whole meeting of October 19, 2022

Motion carried without negative vote.

A motion was made by Janet Hunter and seconded by Rick Engstrom to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$176,418.98 general vouchers and checks cut since the last regularly scheduled board meeting in the amount of \$36,622.14 for a grand total of \$213,041.12. Motion carried without negative vote.

President Alden gave the President's Report. He has touched basis with the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin Tribe, and they are working on the former Fourwinds Grocery Store to turn it into an Event Center. Dave has reached out to Mohawk about the status of their project in the Industrial Park however he did not hear back from them.

Clerk/Treasurer Peterson gave the Clerk's Report. She will be assisting the Burnett County Clerk's Office on November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> with the audit of the voting equipment that was used throughout the County during Tuesday's election. Doug Crane has submitted to the Village one full scale copy of the current plat for the Tewalt Road Development. He has submitted a letter outlining the next steps needed for the project which will include a stormwater analysis and report, sending the plat for review to the Department of Administration and the Department of Transportation which will involve a fee of \$1335.

Chief Thiex gave the October Police Report. October DMV totals were \$627. October was a busy month especially at the Siren School. Officer Pardun has 3 weeks left of class before he graduates. The camera system is waiting on the installation company to come back to do the final installation and connection.

OLD BUSINESS

Family Dollar/Dollar Tree Site Plan Approval

The proposed site plan has been adjusted to have two defined entrances off Works Progress Street with no entrance off State Road 35/70. They do not want to have drive-over curb but have two defined entrance/exits. The Village may need to put up No-Parking signs between those two driveways. The Board discussed the stormwater plan for the site plan and inquiring about the amount of green space that will be part of the landscaping. The Board asked Clerk/Treasurer Peterson to reach out to the Developer to find out these answers and the issue will be brought back to a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. A motion was made by Jim Pearson and seconded by Steve Young to approve a 3% wage increase for all Village employees for 2023. Motion carried without negative vote.
- b. A motion was made by Jim Pearson and seconded by Steve Young to approve the 2023 General Fund Budget. President Alden called for a roll call vote:

Alden	aye	Pearson	aye
Engstrom	aye	Reimann-Hill	aye
Hunter	aye	Young	aye
Mothes	aye		

Motion carried.
- c. A motion was made by Jim Pearson and seconded by Steve Young to authorize MSA to do the Phosphorous Reduction Annual Report which is due March 31, 2023. Public Works Director Jaskolka reported to the Board on the requirement within our WPDES permit. Motion carried without negative vote.
- d. A motion was made by Jim Pearson and seconded by Steve Young to approve continuing with the Village's current Health Insurance Policy through Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield. The Village discussed moving to a higher deductible plan and then helping with the deductibles. The Board would like to review options mid-year of 2023 for 2024 coverage. Motion carried without negative vote.
- e. A motion was made by Dave Alden and seconded by Rick Engstrom to offer the Public Works Position to Travis DeMarre at a starting wage of \$20.00 per hour. Motion carried without negative vote.

The meeting schedule was set as follows:

- a. Committee of the Whole: To be set if needed.
- b. Board of Appeals & Planning Commission: To be set if needed.
- c. Tourism: November 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- d. Ball Park Committee: January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Jim Pearson and seconded by Rick Engstrom to adjourn the Village Board Meeting at 2:39 p.m. Motion carried without negative vote.

Submitted by Ann L Peterson  
Village Clerk/Treasurer