

**VILLAGE OF NORTH PRAIRIE
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 10, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President G. Nickerson at 7:01 p.m. in the Village Board Room. Roll call was taken with the following members present:

President G. Nickerson

Trustees: F. Rewasiewicz, J. H. Taylor, A. Pellegrino, D. Stellpflug, D. Hall and K. Singh.

Clerk: R. Bagley

Others Present: Police Chief S. Tamez and Fire Chief P. Buchholtz

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by D. Hall, to approve the September 12, 2019 Village Board minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by G. Nickerson, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to open the meeting to Public Comments. Motion carried.

C. Wood, 409 Karin Drive, mentioned that the County tax rate for the Village will be down a couple of cents from last year. He is also mentioned that he is working on a proposal to keep Wanaki Golf Course open for another year.

Motion by G. Nickerson, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to close the Public Comment section of the meeting. Motion carried.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT: President G. Nickerson mentioned that the Municipality has some good articles in it this month. He plans to attend the meeting at the Kettle Moraine School District to hear the results from the Sustainability Study Group on possible scenarios for the District to move forward.

VILLAGE CLERK: Clerk R. Bagley provided the monthly financials to the Board. The funds for the LRIP program were received, along with the fourth quarter Gen. Transportation Aids.

PUBLIC SAFETY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE: The Committee met this evening at 6:00 p.m.

Fire Dept. Mergers/Consolidations/Options: G. Nickerson mentioned that there have been no further discussions with the Town and Village of Eagle regarding the Fire Dept. consolidation. The Town and Village of Eagle are busy with their current fire department agreement.

2019 DNR Forest Fire Protection Grant for the Fire Dept. Grant Number FFP-20F-162- Trustee F. Rewasiewicz mentioned the proposed 50/50 grant allows the Department to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE), tools/equipment and communication equipment for a total of \$9,991.81. The Village would be responsible for 50% of the purchases, or \$4,995.91 out of the 2019 budget.

Motion by G. Nickerson, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to open the meeting to the Fire Chief. Motion carried. Chief P. Buchholtz mentioned that the Village Fire Dept. would have to purchase the above mentioned equipment and then the Village will be reimbursed for the purchases.

Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by D. Hall, to accept the DNR Forest Fire Protection Grant Number FFP-20F-162 to purchase protective equipment, communication equipment and tools for a total of \$9,991.81, and the Village being reimbursed \$4,995.91 for the 50/50 grant in 2019 budget, as recommend by the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Purchase of three sets of turnout gear and computer upgrades/server in 2019- Trustee F. Rewasiewicz mentioned that three new sets of turnout gear is needed for new members and the Committee

decided to purchase the turnout gear and install the computer upgrades/new server in 2019 as the 2020 proposed budget is already tight.

Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to allow the Fire Dept. to purchase three sets of turnout gear and complete the computer upgrades / new server in 2019 for an approximate total of \$14,000.00, as recommended by Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee J. H. Taylor left the building at 7:15 p.m.

Purchase of two new computers for Police Dept.- Trustee F. Rewasiewicz mentioned that the Police Dept. needs two new PC computers for \$2,000.00 as the existing laptops cannot be upgraded to Windows 10.

Motion by F. Rewasiewicz, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to allow the purchase of two new PC's for the Police Dept. as part of the 2019 budget. Motion carried. Opposed: A. Pellegrino.

Trustee D. Hall asked where the 2019 budget stands as there appears to be a projected deficit. Later, it was clarified that \$154,479.00 was the portion of the General Fund to be used to balance the 2019 budget to assist with the purchase of new Fire remounted ambulance and tender. The chassis for the remounted ambulance was purchased at the end of 2018 through a budget amendment, so \$64,579.00 will not be utilized towards the purchase of the ambulance in 2019 and remains unspent.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, CIVIC PRIDE COMMITTEE: D. Stellpflug mentioned that the Committee is looking at planting trees this fall. Road Certification plans were submitted in a timely matter, and the WISLR updates are in the works. The Recycling Grant was submitted. DPW Director D. Molitor is on the LRIP Committee and will be meeting in November for the next two-year grant. The MLS State program will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Request by John's Disposal Service, Inc. to increase recycling fees for 2020- Trustee D. Stellpflug mentioned that phone calls and letters with John's Disposal were exchanged and it was decided to accept the \$1.16 increase per unit (7.9%) in recycling fees for 2020.

Motion by D. Stellpflug, seconded by K. Singh, to approve the 7.9% per unit increase in recycling fees in 2020, as recommended by Committee. Motion carried.

Contract for Snow & Ice Control with Prairie Village Water Trust- Trustee D. Stellpflug explained that this is the seasonal contract as the Village plows the two driveways for the Water Trust and bills them at the current rate for materials used, as recommended by Committee.

Motion by D. Stellpflug, seconded by K. Singh, to approve the annual snow/ice removal contract, as presented and recommended by Committee. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE: Trustee A. Pellegrino will be scheduling a Personnel & Policy Committee meeting on Monday, November 4th at 6:30 p.m.

FINANCE AND FEE COMMITTEE: F. Rewasiewicz mentioned the Committee met prior to this meeting.

Monthly Bills and Payroll-

Motion by F. Rewasiewicz, seconded by D. Hall, to approve end of the month checks 14449-14453 to TIAA Commercial, U. S. Cellular, WE Energies, and Sun Life paid at the end of September for \$3,055.23, October payroll checks from 14454-14502 for a total of \$36,761.82, and Accounts Payables for September and October checks 14503-14553 for a total of \$66,195.22, as recommended by the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Agreement for Maintenance Assessment Services from Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc.- Trustee F. Rewasiewicz mentioned our contract is up for renewal and Associated Appraisal is proposing a \$100 increase each year from 2020-2023 – 4-year contract. The Committee is not recommending an Interim Market Update or full Revaluation in 2020 as 2019 will be the first year out of compliance.

Motion by F. Rewasiewicz, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to approve the Agreement for maintenance Assessment Services from Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc. to provide assessment services with a \$100 increase each year from 2020-2023. The Committee is not recommending an Interim Market Update or full Revaluation at this time. Motion carried.

Review of proposed 2020 Budget for publication and Public Hearing on November 14, 2019-

Motion by F. Rewasiewicz, seconded by K. Singh, to move the proposed 2020 budget as drafted to publication and Public Hearing on November 14, 2019.

Trustee D. Hall attended one budget meeting, but would like the Board to consider a 5% raise for the two full-time employees in the Village. The majority of the time the Village places unspent budgeted funds in the General Fund. She calculates that the increase would result in adding \$2,700 in wages to the proposed budget. She would truly like to look at the budget to come up with \$2,700 in cuts to apply to wages. Employee reviews are completed but not applied to wage increases and she would like to eliminate “across the board” increases. A. Pellegrino agreed and stated that something has to be done to create a policy for wage increases and the budgeting process overall needs to change. Trustee F. Rewasiewicz recommended wage increases should be based on merit.

Motion by D. Hall, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, to suspend the rules for the Police Chief. Motion carried. Chief S. Tamez stated that he has to fight for his own raise, even after great reviews. He should not be classified as “part-time” personnel. The new hires for the Police Dept. are generally hired fully trained with years of experience.

D. Hall is recommending the Dept. Head or Committee determines % of wage increase for the personnel as the Board is not informed regarding the personnel regarding certifications, generating revenue, etc. Members agreed that Dept. Heads should be classified with the full-time personnel.

K. Singh requested that the budget remain as is, and work on new policies and budgeting procedures next year.

After a lengthy discussion, D. Hall would like to see a 5% increase for full-time and Dept. Heads, 3% regular part-time. A. Pellegrino would like to see the line-items remain unchanged. Fire Dept. personnel? It is difficult to compare to other departments part-time staff. President G. Nickerson suggested that each year should be consistent. K. Singh stated that increases are already included and the proposed budget should remain the same.

Motion by D. Hall, to include in the proposed 2020 budget 5% wage increases for full-time personnel, 3% increases for part-time personnel and remove the \$12,000 capital budget for flooring from 2020 budget. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

A. Pellegrino suggested utilizing a portion of the capital project fund to provide raises and not complete the flooring in 2020.

Original motion carried. Opposed: D. Hall and A. Pellegrino.

REPORTS: Building Inspector, Fire, Police and Department of Public Works reports were filed for the record.

Motion by A. Pellegrino, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhoda Bagley, Village Clerk/Treasurer