

**VILLAGE OF NORTH PRAIRIE  
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 14, 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. Jump 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 F. Rewasiewicz, to approve the February 14, 2019 Village Board and Public Hearing minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by G. Nickerson, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to open the meeting to Public comments. Motion carried.**

**Motion by G. Nickerson, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to allow Chief S. Tamez to comment. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief S. Tamez mentioned that Trustee J. H. Taylor asked if the Police Dept. could provide a drug take-back program for the community. Chief Tamez has researched a Drug Take-Back Program for the community and has decided to host two events. One event will be held on one day in April and one event will be held on one day in October. The Sheriff's Dept. will provide the collection containers and will pick them up after each event.

**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 no movement has been made regarding discussions for the Fire Dept. merger/consolidation with the Town of Eagle and the Village of Eagle as members are waiting until after the April 2, 2019 election. The League is requesting opinions and information from Board members regarding the current levy limits and the effects on each municipality.

**Proposed 2018 Budget Amendment-** President G. Nickerson stated the findings from the 2018 audit provided an increase in capital expenditures due to unbudgeted capital items. The pavilion was built in Veteran's Park for \$18,554.00, and the new ambulance chassis with the used Stryker power load which was budgeted in 2019 for \$65,437.00 was prepaid in 2018 due to the earlier availability of the items.

**Motion by D. Stellpflug, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, to approve the 2018 Budget Amendment for \$83,991.00 as presented, based on the construction of the pavilion and prepayment for the ambulance chassis and Stryker power load in 2018, and upon publication with 15 days. Due to having the ambulance chassis and Stryker power load budgeted in 2019, the 2019 budget will show a surplus of \$65,437.00 at this point. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**VILLAGE CLERK:** Clerk R. Bagley mentioned that after the 2018 budget amendment, the net result for 2018 is (\$12,280.00) reduction in the General Fund.

**Operator's License-** Clerk R. Bagley indicated that an operator's license request was received from Sunny K Darling to work at Sport's Page Bar & Grill.

**Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, to approve the operator's license request from Sunny K Darling upon meeting all licensing requirements. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC SAFETY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Trustee F. Rewasiewicz mentioned the Committee met at 6:00 p.m. prior to this meeting. The Fire Dept. reported that after equipment testing, a crack was found in the mounting bracket of ladder truck. The Committee decided this was a normal vehicle maintenance issue and will be taken out of the Vehicle Expense budget line.

**Fire Dept. Mergers/Consolidations/Options:** G. Nickerson indicated that there are no updates and hopefully the discussions will continue after the April 2, 2019 election.

**Purchase and/or repairs of Fire Dept. breathing apparatus equipment-** Trustee F. Rewasiewicz stated that the Fire Dept. has a number of MSA SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) tanks which will be expiring at the end of 2019. While training with 5-Alarm, the Fire Chief purchased 17 demo tanks at a reduced cost of \$10,115.00, with a savings of \$7,000. This was not a budgeted item for 2019.

**Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to open the meeting to Fire Chief P. Buchholtz. Motion carried.**

Chief Buchholtz mentioned that out of 68 tanks, 36 tanks will be expiring in 2019.

Trustee F. Rewasiewicz continued with the Committee discussing that the Fire Chief should not have made the purchase without prior approval from the Committee and/or Village Board. The Committee did not know how to handle the situation and brought the issue to the Board.

Trustee J. H. Taylor suggested that the options should be:

1. Send the tanks back.
2. Use the General Fund and create a 2019 Budget Amendment, or
3. Find the funds in the 2019 Fire Dept. budget and cut from regular line items.

The Fire Dept. needs 38 operable tanks. At the moment, the F. D. has 32 operable tanks, which includes the new 17 just purchased. Budget for 6 tanks in 2020 to maintain full inventory? The Fire Dept. has applied for a grant to purchase additional SCBA tanks.

Trustee A. Pellegrino asked at budget time if there were any funds needed to replace expiring tanks and nothing was mentioned. Chief Buchholtz stated that the expiring tanks were included on the annual report and were not specifically requested at budget time.

Trustee K. Singh mentioned that Dept. heads have a limit on what can be spent without Committee or Board approval.

Trustee D. Jump stated that it does not make sense to send the tanks back, only to buy them back at the end of the year at a much higher cost.

Trustee J. H. Taylor suggested the lesson would be best learned by trying to cut \$10,115.00 out of the current Fire Dept. budget by prioritizing the needs of the department. A Pellegrino would like the Fire Chief to come back next month with budget adjustments, showing where the \$10,115.00 will be cut.

**Motion by A. Pellegrino, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, to allow the purchase of the 17 SCBA cylinders for \$10,115.00 from 5-Alarm in 2019 out of the operating Fire Dept. budget, however, the Fire Chief will come back to the April Board meeting and provide an itemized list of where the Fire Dept. will make the appropriate reductions of \$10,115.00 in the current 2019 operating budget.**

Discussion: Police Chief S. Tamez stated that it will be extremely difficult to make those adjustments in one month. He should have more time.

A. Pellegrino suggested that a concrete plan early on will be more constructive.

**Roll Call Vote: Trustees F. Rewasiewicz, yes; J. H. Taylor, yes; A. Pellegrino, yes; D. Stellpflug, yes; D. Jump, yes; K. Singh, yes; and President G. Nickerson, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fire Dept. overhead door repairs-** Trustee F. Rewasiewicz stated the Committee discussed the repairs for the damaged overhead Fire Dept. door.

**Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to approve the quote of \$598.00 from Geis Building Products, Inc. to make the necessary repairs to the garage door, as recommended by the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, CIVIC PRIDE COMMITTEE:** D. Stellpflug stated the Committee met on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The Village did not receive any sealed bids for the two DPW items posted for sale. The Committee is looking for donations or grants to add a drinking fountain in Veteran's Park. The Village will be sending a donation for \$585.00 to the Historical Society for the Centennial celebration. The Village is also paying for the Centennial banners for the Village as a budgeted item for 2019. The ad for the 2019 Road Program will be going out for bids shortly.

**2019 Fertilizer and Weed Control Agreement-** This agreement is identical to 2018.

**Motion by D. Stellpflug, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to approve the 2019 Weed Control quote from Envirocon Landscape, Inc. for \$1,724.00 for one application of Broadleaf Weed Killer and Fertilizer to the Village Parks, Village Hall and Fire Dept., subject to Broadlands Park being included at the same price, as recommended by Committee.**

Discussion: Trustee F. Rewasiewicz noticed that Broadlands Park was not included on the quote.

Trustee Stellpflug will obtain a revised agreement with no change in the price as the Broadlands Park was included last year. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE:** Trustee A. Pellegrino mentioned the Committee has not met.

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

**Monthly Bills and Payroll-**

**Motion by F. Rewasiewicz, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to approve checks 13808-13814 to County and Schools tax payout, late Feb. invoices and WE Energies paid at the end of February for \$438,792.17, March payroll checks from 13816-13845 for a total of \$24,245.31, and Accounts Payables checks for February and March 13815,13846-13890 for a total of \$99,617.07, as recommended by the Committee. This includes the loan payment to BCPL for \$49,375.24. Motion carried unanimously.**

**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 8:16 p.m. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rhoda Bagley, Village Clerk/Treasurer