

**VILLAGE OF NORTH PRAIRIE  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 14, 2021**

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

President G. Nickerson

Trustees: F. Rewasiewicz, J. H. Taylor, C. Wood, D. Stellpflug, D. Hall and K. Singh.

Clerk: R. Bagley

Others Present: Police Chief S. Tamez.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by C. Wood, to approve the December 10, 2020 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.** No comments.

**Motion by G. Nickerson, seconded by D. Stellpflug, to close the public comment section. Motion carried.**

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT:** No new items to mention.

**Proclamation Commemorating School Choice Week-** Proclamation recognizing School Choice Week from January 24-30, 2021.

**Motion by D. Hall, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, to approve the Proclamation Commemorating School Choice Week from January 24<sup>th</sup> through January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.**

**2020 Budget Amendment-** A used 2015 Ram truck and snow plow was purchased at the end of December, 2020, to serve as an additional snow plow truck and a DPW truck to move park equipment during the summer months. Also, the Fire Dept./DPW building located at 108 N Oakridge Dr. is having the roof repaired to eliminate leaks with 2/3's of the payment made in 2020.

**Motion by D. Hall, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to approve amending the 2020 Budget in Capital Outlays by \$81,668 for the purchase of the 2015 Ram truck and the roof repairs. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Updates to the Official Zoning Map-** A draft ordinance was prepared to approve the revisions and updates to the Official Zoning Map for the Village. The last update was in 2012. The Village Clerk explained that all zoning changes were completed with Village Ordinances, with most rezoning to residential. The Jester Attachment along Dable Road is now part of the Village Map with A-T zoning and R-1 for the two homes. The Environmental Corridor and Isolated Natural Areas were updated from the 2015 SEWRPC delineations. A Public Hearing is required to adopt the proposed zoning map changes.

**Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by D. Hall, to update the Official Zoning Map and publish a Class 2 notice for the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing will be on Thursday, February 11, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fire Dept. Merger Intermunicipal Agreement and proposed funding-** Village President G. Nickerson mentioned the Town of Eagle, Village of Eagle and Village of North Prairie representatives met on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and reviewed a funding formula proposal for a joint Fire Dept. using straight percentages only. It will make everything easier to calculate rather than using run volume, population, etc. would be out of consideration The Town of Eagle would fund 41.00%, the Village of

Eagle funding at 22.00% and the Village of North Prairie funding at 37.00%. The discussions began with the 3-year average of equalized values of improved parcels, and then negotiated and changed the percentages to make it equitable for all municipalities involved. The Village of North Prairie will still maintain our Fire Station, and Town and Village of Eagle will maintain their Fire Station, however, both stations will be part of the Fire District. A clause will be included in the Addendum to provide for any scenarios which would significantly shift the anticipated funding plan.

Trustee F. Rewasiewicz mentioned that this is a better plan for the Village of North Prairie as the payroll split is gone, no buy-in feature, and no sharing of savings between municipalities. The plan can be adjusted in 5 years, if necessary.

President G. Nickerson stated that all options were evaluated and this plan seemed to be the best option for purchasing capital equipment, as well as having the employees going to paid-on-call. Everyone is hoping to add some contracts in the future.

Trustee D. Hall asked some great questions regarding liability, insurance, and break-up fees. All of these issues will be discussed at a later time. Each Fire Department will maintain insurance on their own equipment for the first ten years and anything purchased as a merged district will become part of the District. The percentages will only cover the day-to-day operations and the cost of capital items. Trustee D. Hall expects the Village to have greater savings. The next meeting for the Joint Fire Study Group will be on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion by J. H. Taylor, seconded by F. Rewasiewicz, for the Village of North Prairie to accept the negotiated percentages for the Joint Merged Fire District with percentages of 37% for the Village of North Prairie, 22% for the Village of Eagle and 41% for the Town of Eagle for the share of operational costs of the proposed Fire District as of January 14, 2021.**

Discussion: Trustee C. Wood has been involved with consolidated Fire Dept.'s for many years and believes that this is necessary for the future survival of local fire departments.

**Motion carried. Opposed: Trustee D. Hall**

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT:** The Village is preparing for the February 16, 2021 primary election. The new iPads were distributed with a brief tutorial to get started.

**PUBLIC SAFETY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE AND REPORTS:** The Committee will be setting up a meeting tonight.

**Dept. Mergers/Consolidations/Options:** See above regarding the Fire Dept. merger funding discussion.

**PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE AND REPORTS:** Trustee D. Stellpflug mentioned that the Committee found and purchased the 2015 Ram truck at the end of December and received the truck on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The Committee will prepare the old car for sale.

**PERSONNEL & POLICY COMMITTEE-** Trustee C. Wood stated the Committee met prior to this meeting. The Committee reviewed the final revisions to the Village of North Prairie COVID-19 Map and approved the form. The discussion of security cameras for the Village Hall is still a work-in-progress. Future items are a Fit for Duty Policy and the butterfly gardens in the Village.

**FINANCE, FEE AND INSURANCE 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 15893-15901 to German Auto House, LLC, US Cellular, TIAA Commercial, Insurance, Roofed Right America, WE**

Energies, Spectrum Internet and Sun Life paid at the end of December for \$100,101.70, January payroll checks from 15915-15957 for a total of \$31,681.57, Accounts Payables for December and January tax refunds, Citizens Loan payment and January Tax Payouts checks 15902-15914 for a total of \$1,287,119.04, and all regular invoices for December and January checks 15958-16014 for a total of \$67,341.86, as recommended by the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by D. Hall, seconded by J. H. Taylor, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rhoda Bagley,  
Village Clerk/Treasurer