

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2011

Call to Order

President Vanden Berg called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: President Vanden Berg, Trustee Berken, Trustee Frassetto, Trustee Hietpas, Trustee Mahlik, Trustee Peerenboom, Trustee Smith

ALSO PRESENT: C. Kell, R. Van Gheem, E. Misselt, T. Matheny, T. Flick, B. Carpenter, G. Brouillard, J. Elrick, V. Schneider
Interested Citizens and Media Reps

Public Appearance for Items not on the Agenda

None

Review/Discussion – Amending Village Code Section 12 Municipal Court – Article III Municipal Judge – Section 59 Election, term

As explained in the Clerk's IFC, the Village Code needs to be amended to adopt the current State Statutes regarding the term change from two years to four years for the municipal judge position. Board members agreed to put the ordinance amendment on next week's agenda for action.

Discussion – 2012 Budget

C. Kell and T. Matheny presented 2012 budget information and led a discussion that focused on the 2012 CIP projects and the projects being slotted through 2016 with the goal being for the Board to decide on the projects being recommended for 2012. The 5-year CIP will be discussed in further detail at a future meeting. C. Kell reviewed the responses he had received regarding comparing the Village's sanitation fees with those of other communities. The Village is proposing a charge for residential customers of \$7.65 per month for a 65-gallon container which is a \$.50 increase. The fee for commercial customers is being proposed to increase by \$100. C. Kell noted that the fee has not been raised since it was implemented three years ago and the Village has been absorbing the increased fuel costs and labor costs. C. Kell stated the proposed increase is in-line with other communities and it would be more costly to go with a private contractor. C. Kell stated sanitation is a \$400,000 program and the Village cannot afford to put it back on the tax roll and that is the reason it was moved into a fee structure a few years ago. C. Kell stated the proposed fee covers the cost of the program and allows for \$25,000 to be put into the fleet fund for equipment replacement. Discussion took place on the need to build the fleet fund to replace equipment. T. Matheny reviewed the bond issuance projects slated for 2011-2013 and the timeline for completing the projects noting that a decision has to be made very soon on the Village Hall remodeling project. T. Matheny also reviewed the 2012 projects requiring tax levy or designated fund balance and she suggested that a policy be considered for moving forward for allocating dollars for facilities, equipment, and fleet replacement. Discussion took place on delaying the roof replacement at the library and applying that tax levy amount to the equipment replacement fund. B. Carpenter cautioned that if the roof fails there could be damage to collection materials or computers that would need to be replaced. G. Brouillard reviewed the issues with the roof and the options for roof replacement or temporary repair and estimated the temporary repair cost would be \$2,500. Discussion continued on budget topics that included the Village Hall remodeling project, the federal mandated requirement for replacing the emergency radios, snow storage site options, park projects, and moving projects if the snow site and fire department garage site are taken out of the 2012 budget. C. Kell reiterated that there is \$11 million in needed municipal facilities upgrades that have not been addressed for a long time and he stressed the need to start addressing the facilities as these projects cannot continue to be put off. T. Matheny also pointed out that the Fire Department has requested a pumper truck replacement and that has been pushed out to 2014 and she has not allocated any 2012 tax dollars being allocated to the fund. Trustee Frassetto stated she would like to

see McKinley Ave. addressed soon and not hold off until 2014 for reconstruction. Staff explained that the project has been held up due to a potential plant expansion and R. Van Gheem agreed that the street needs to be upgraded but previous Boards have decided to delay the project. Trustee Peerenboom stated he would like staff to check and see if the fleet fund could be allocated back on to the levy and he commented that the reason he gets stuck on the sanitation fee is because that is being used to replace all the vehicles/trucks in the Village and he feels the same about the building funds as he sees a need to build up these accounts. C. Kell stated there is the option for the Board to raise taxes up to \$.81/\$1,000 and these items could be put back in the levy. Trustee Peerenboom stated his plan is to cut some of the spending proposals and not raise taxes. Staff noted again that all the operating budgets were presented with a zero increase except for the mandatory expenditures some departments needed to make this year and if the Board wants to look at cutting then the individual department budgets will need to be reviewed. Discussion took place on the possible road projects that could be slotted into 2012 and the possible need and options for a snow storage site. C. Kell stated that the utility budgets will be presented next week and there are no proposed increases in the rates and he commented that decisions will have to be made on the budget next week so it is ready to be presented to the public at the November 30 hearing. J. Moes stated that the manufactured assessed value has not yet been made available to any municipalities but he doesn't expect the number for the Village to differ more than a percent or two either way than was projected. Trustee Berken requested a report on the salaries of all full-time village employees. T. Matheny commented that many salaries are spread out into a number of budgets.

Unfinished Business

Trustee Hietpas questioned if the Parks, Rec., Forestry Director was also receiving emails from people opposing the deer culling program and if the Board should be doing anything with these emails. T. Flick stated that over the years he has had only a handful of complaints about the culling from Village residents and he feels that the majority of residents do not have a problem with the deer culling program. Staff suggested that the issue be addressed only if concerns are being brought up by Village residents.

Items for Future Agenda

None

Moved by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Mahlik to enter into closed session. (7:43p.m.)

Ayes 7, Nays 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Staff and the Village Clerk were dismissed from the meeting at this time.

Closed Session: 19.85(1)(e) Wis. Stats. Deliberations or negotiations on the purchase of public properties, investing of public funds or conducting other specific public business when competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

1) Proposal by Keith Gonnering, Gonnering Realty regarding possible purchase of public lands

2) Sale of Industrial Park Property for an Industrial Development Project

Moved by Trustee Mahlik, seconded by Trustee Peerenboom to exit closed session and return to open session. (8:32p.m.)

Ayes 7, Nays 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Return to Open Session – Possible Action on Closed Session Items

No action was taken.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Mahlik, seconded by Trustee Frassetto to Adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Ayes 7, Nays 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

By: Michael R. Vanden Berg, Village President

Attest: Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk