

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 2020

Call to Order: President Vanden Berg called the Regular Board Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call of Trustees

PRESENT: Michael Vanden Berg, President
Larry Van Lankvelt, Trustee
Skip Smith, Trustee
Bill Peerenboom, Trustee
Brian Van Lankveldt, Trustee
Don Van Deurzen, Trustee
James Hietpas, Trustee

Roll call of Officers and Department Heads

PRESENT: James Fenlon, Village Administrator
Adam Breest, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Dave Kittel, Community Development Director
Lisa Remiker-DeWall, Finance Director
Kent Taylor, Director of Public Works
Tyler Claringbole, Village Attorney
Steve Thiry, Library Director
EXCUSED: Laurie Decker, Village Clerk
Dan Meister, Fox Valley Metro Police Chief
Chris Murawski, Village Engineer

Public Appearance for Items Not on the Agenda

None

Consent Agenda

Items on the Consent Agenda are routine in nature and require one motion to approve all items listed. Prior to voting on the Consent Agenda, items may be removed at the request of any Board Member or member of the public. Any removed items will be considered immediately following the motion to approve the other items.

1. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of November 11, 2020 and Regular Board Meeting of November 18, 2020
2. Disbursement List

Moved by Trustee L. Van Lankvelt, seconded by Trustee B. Van Lankveldt to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented

Ayes 7, Nays 0 – Motion Carried

Discussion—Outagamie County Landfill Odor

Administrator Fenlon gave a brief overview for Mr. Bruce Jansen, 950 W. Florida Avenue, Little Chute addressing concerns with the increased odor from the Outagamie County Landfill. Mr. Jansen then addressed the board with his concerns and felt the last 2-3 years odors have increased. Mr. Jansen has contacted the county and felt they are not concerned; he also contacted the DNR and they advised the testing is showing they are complying. Mr. Jansen is hoping that the Village of Little Chute can enforce the ordinances that are in place and also hoping to get a community action committee put together. Trustee Smith advised Mr. Jansen that he has further information on working with the DNR and the time of testing is a factor and would support as much pressure as we can get to make changes. Mr. Jansen advised that he has been involved with the DNR and they are not very helpful and only do testing every two years and no testing is done outside of the landfill. Administrator Fenlon advised if you google odors at landfills you will see that the complaints have increased over all the States as more than just garbage is now going into landfills. Trustee Peerenboom had questions on the compliance report of July 2020 and how was it fixed by September of 2020 and wondered what power the Board has if the DNR is not willing to help. Mr. Jansen advised that there are plenty of ordinances in the county, state and even village

level but no one is enforcing these. Trustee B. Van Lankveldt asked who oversees the landfill; Mr. Jansen advised that is done by the DNR. Mr. Jansen made an open records request to the county landfill of any complaints they have had and also the testing reports going back ten years and it has been three weeks and has not received anything. Mr. Jansen also advised that he has been working on this for 3 months and is not getting anywhere, today he contacted the Attorney General's office but has not heard back from them. Mr. Jansen is asking for help in getting more people involved or maybe posting something on our website; Administrator Fenlon advised that some communities establish hot lines, also that the Village could be a resource by using social media or maybe involving the press. Mr. Jansen is asking if it would be possible as a Village to petition the DNR to do more testing. Administrator Fenlon suggested a plan for a follow up discussion shortly after the first of the year and also to put out information for people to contact the Village with concerns and we would put them in touch with Mr. Jansen. Administrator Fenlon also advised that he did invite the County Board Chair, County Executive and Director Van Straten to this Board meeting but did not hear back. Administrator Fenlon will do some more research with other communities that have dealt with this problem and also suggested giving out Mr. Jansen's contact information to the media that we work with.

Discussion—Financial Policies

Director Remiker-DeWall gave an overview of a Fund Balance and Reserve Policy that will come before the Board for adoption at the December 16th Board meeting. Trustee Hietpas asked our current Moody's rating; Director Remiker-DeWall advised it is double A three rating. Administrator Fenlon advised that the rating has not changed in the last 3-4 years. The Trustees thanked Director Remiker-DeWall for all her work on getting this policy together.

Discussion—Amending Ordinance for Cat Licenses

Administrator Fenlon advised that staff and Fox Valley Metro are recommending amending Chapter 6 Animals, Section 6.2 Dog and Cat Licenses be amended to remove cats and have licensing for dogs only. Dog licenses are required by State Statutes, cat licenses are not required.

Discussion—Covid-19 Updates

Administrator Fenlon advised that he has asked department heads to have staff work from home when possible to limit exposure and be able to keep the Village Hall open.

Department and Officers Progress Reports

Departments and Officers provided progress reports to the Board

Call for Unfinished Business

None

Items for Future Agenda

Lights at County Highway N and Florida Ave
Push buttons for walk on N and 00

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Peerenboom, seconded by Trustee L. Van Lankvelt to Adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Ayes 7, Nays 0 – Motion Carried

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

Attest: Laurie Decker
Laurie Decker, Village Clerk

By: Michael R. Vanden Berg
Michael R. Vanden Berg, Village President

Handwritten signature or scribble