

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 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, T. Matheny, T. Flick, V. Schneider
Nick Vande Hey- McMahons, Interested Citizens and Media Reps

Public Appearance for Items not on the Agenda

No public appearances. C. Kell introduced the Village's new Finance Director, Teri Matheny.

Discussion of Employee Health Insurance Plan for 2012

C. Kell led a review of the health insurance options available through the State's Group Health Insurance program. C. Kell noted that the option selected by the Board would also apply to the Village's retired employees. C. Kell reviewed the costs associated with the current plan, the current plan with employees paying 10% to 12% toward the premiums in 2012, the deductible HMO option with no employee contributions, and the deductible HMO option with a 5% employee contribution. C. Kell also reviewed the cost savings to the Village of \$177,000 if the high deductible, no employee contribution is selected and a savings of \$224,000 if the high deductible and 5% employee contribution plan is selected. C. Kell noted that the deductible in the HMO plan for 2012 is \$500 for single and \$1,000 for a family. Discussion took place on requiring higher employee contributions to premium costs for the HMO deductible plan. It was noted that retirees that were hired prior to 1980 were provided with Village paid health insurance premiums and this provision was provided for in the personnel manual at the time. C. Kell noted that the represented employees, with the exception of the police, will not be able to negotiate their health insurance contribution costs after their current contract expires at the end of 2013. C. Kell noted that the Board could decide on a percentage amount for employee contributions towards the cost of the plan in the future but a decision on the type of plan the Village is selecting needs to be made by October 1 and this is done by resolution. Board members indicated agreement to go with the HMO deductible plan and it will be presented as a resolution for approval at next week's meeting. President Vanden Berg stated the details of requiring employee contributions towards the premium cost can be worked out at a future meeting.

Review/Discussion of Village Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities Plan

Board members and staff reviewed the current bike plan and discussed ways to accommodate bikes and residents with parking needs. Trustee Peerenboom commented on the white lines painted on the roadways in Kaukauna and he believes the pavement lines can signify something and to him as a driver the lines signify where a bike should be. Trustee Mahlik agreed with the Public Works Director that the painted lines are irrelevant if cars can park in this area as it defeats the purpose of the line and it poses a visual problem. R. Van Gheem suggested that the street be defined with a bike lane, a bike route, or bike accommodations but they shouldn't be mixed. Trustee Hietpas stated that the advantage of putting a line down is to allow the Village to advertise that they have bike routes in the Village limits and then if they are switched to a bike lane in the future, signage will just need to be added. R. Van Gheem stated this can be done without paint as a white line without anything else is an edge line for cars to drive along. Trustee Peerenboom stated the current bike plan has bike lanes and bike routes that go to nothing and this is happening on Main Street. Trustee Mahlik commented on saving money now by not putting in the lines but add them in the future when they become bike lanes and just put up bike route signs now. Trustee Peerenboom commented on the use of sharrows (an area marked to be shared by cars and bicycles) which are listed on our plan for the overpasses because they are narrow. Trustee Peerenboom stated he spoke with Mr. Walsh from Fox Cities Greenway and he strongly suggested that the Village look at doing those, particularly on Rosehill Rd. Trustee Peerenboom stated they are placed along the side of the parking lane and Madison, Sheboygan, and other cities are trying this and he suggested trying this on a road

in the Village to see if this would work. Discussion took place on this suggestion. Nick Vande Hey commented that they had been involved to some degree in the project in Sheboygan with the sharrows and it is effective visually but it was tough for people to get used to because the arrows are in the travel lane of the road. Mr. Vande Hey suggested that if the Village does decide to go this way, they should educate the public to help people understand what it means to go from a bike lane to sharrows. Board members agreed that it would be beneficial to have Mr. Walsh present the various options to the Board at a future meeting and T. Flick will contact Fox Cities Greenways to get the presentation scheduled.

Unfinished Business

T. Flick informed the Board that the process for cleanup of brush from the storm damage has changed and they now have two or three crews picking up the brush with loaders and tractors and it is being hauled to a site in the Village and they will rent a tub grinder later in the year to chip the brush. T. Flick stated it will take over two weeks to get everything picked up in the Village. Trustee Frassetto extended a thank you to everyone involved with running the Kermis Festival and those that attended and she further commented that it was a wonderful and successful event. Trustee Frassetto stated next year's Kermis will be held on September 15. C. Kell commented that the U.S. Ventures land closing is coming up quickly and he asked if the Board wants to do a simultaneous closing as it will save the Village some money. Trustees commented that the properties are not yet vacant and they understand the renters were given until October 1 to vacate the property and the renters are not happy with having to move out of the properties. C. Kell stated that he understood that the closing will not take place unless the properties are vacated. President Vanden Berg stated that normally the offer to purchase gives the buyer a right to a pre-closing inspection. C. Kell stated that with the information provided tonight, the Village should probably not do a simultaneous closing with U.S. Ventures. Clerk Schneider reminded Board members that the early bird deadline for the League Conference registration is next Tuesday.

Items for Future Agenda

Trustee Hietpas asked for a report on the occupancy and vacancy status in the Village's industrial parks. C. Kell asked Board members to review the discipline and grievance policy procedure that he handed out as it needs to be approved next week because it needs to be in place by October 1. C. Kell stated the Village Attorney may be making a few revisions to the language but the changes will be minor and he will review the document with the Board next week. C. Kell also informed the Board that Mr. David Toonen, owner of Elm Grove Apartments on Elm Drive, wants to appear before the Board next week as he is objecting to having to put in sidewalk on Elm Drive and he wants the Board to hear his arguments. C. Kell stated that he will also have the bids for the directional signage program on next week's agenda for action. Trustee Berken questioned what happened with the fire department's agreement and C. Kell stated he did write to the League's insurance representative about the Board's concerns but he has not yet received a letter from the representative stating they would guarantee coverage. C. Kell stated he did meet with the local insurance agents and they felt that the League's insurance representative will write the letter so they are going to follow up with the League.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Frassetto, seconded by Trustee Smith to Adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:47 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