

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF AUGUST 28, 2013

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 Frassetto, Trustee Hietpas, Trustee Joosten, Trustee Peerenboom, Trustee Van Lankvelt

EXCUSED: Trustee Smith,

ALSO PRESENT: R. Hermus, B. Carpenter, G. Brouillard, J. Moes, E. Misselt, T. Flick, R. Van Gheem, T. Matheny, S. Berkers, Interested Citizens, Media Reps

Public Appearance for Items not on the Agenda

None

Discussion-Design Review Board

J. Moes presented the Design Review Manual and Ordinance. Trustee Joosten requested that J. Moes give a synopsis of the issues that Salon Indulgence had regarding their sign and that it was not "Dutch enough". J. Moes stated that the sign was approved as is although there was discussion among review members regarding the colors of the sign. J. Moes stated that the size and shape of the sign is within the requirements of the review board. Trustee Joosten stated that a business should decide their own identity and not be defined by a review board. J. Moes stated that the board decided in 2009 that they wanted the downtown area of the village to have a European look and created the Design Review Board to carry that out. Trustee Van Lankvelt stated that some sort of uniformity should be required if a Dutch motif is what the village board wants and noted the same types of covenants in subdivisions. Discussion regarding chain business signage occurred. President Vanden Berg stated that he sits on the Design Review Board and feels that the board works very well with business owners and are aware of economic limitations that owners may have. Trustee Peerenboom stated that unless a business owner voices a problem with the Design Review Board requirements it should stay in place. R. Hermus noted that potential business owners would appreciate the review board requirements as to keep the downtown area looking a certain way. Trustee Frassetto stated that she was in favor of the review board but her only request would be to let small business owners have the same ability to use their own brand for signage as national chains are allowed. J. Moes noted that the creation of the Village of Little Chute's Design Review Manual was based upon the manual from Pella, Iowa and also from designs that have the "old world look" but still meet the needs of businesses. J. Moes noted that the Design Review Board has an appeal process and if a business owner feels the review board is being too strict they can appeal to the Plan Commission. President Vanden Berg questioned board members on their opinion on dissolving the Design Review Board and all members except Trustee Joosten were in favor of keeping Design Review Board intact. President Vanden Berg asked J. Moes if he would bring the sign issue to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Discussion-Deer Culling Program

T. Flick reported on the history of the Deer Culling Program and that he has had no issues with the program other than a few phone calls from people that are not in favor of the program. T. Flick stated that the program is maintaining the deer herd and therefore keeping damages from the herd to a minimum. T. Flick reported on the number of deer culled over the years the program has been in place. T. Flick recommended changing the culling program to 2 weeks with 14 permits being issued and 7 hunters being allowed to hunt per week. T. Flick stated there have been a few complaints from hunters that were confronted by disgruntled residents. The consensus of the board is to keep the culling program in place with the changes that T. Flick recommended and bring back to the board for final approval.

Presentation/Discussion- 2014-2018 Capital Improvement Plan

T. Matheny presented a Power Point Presentation of the CIP for 2014-2018. T. Matheny went over the 5 year plan costs and noted this year's plan was 1 million higher than last years. T. Matheny reported that in the CIP there is still a substantial amount of cost for fleet replacement and that she is trying to get it back on a ten year replacement schedule. T. Matheny noted that in the 2013 CIP the Fire Department requested refurbishing its Aerial Ladder Truck and this year they are asking for total replacement. T. Matheny reported that at the end of 2012 the village had 17.8 million dollars in general obligation debt, 6.2 million in revenue bonds that are specific to the utilities, the villages legal debt limit was 53% and the village has paid off 2.1 million of general obligation debt. T. Matheny reported on the Security Gate replacement for the library and noted that the library will no longer be in the CIP and that projects will be part of the operating budget. T. Matheny reported on the property revaluation in the CIP and that she made a \$40,000 adjustment from the previous year CIP, because the bid came in less than expected. T. Matheny reported on the need for accounting software for her department at a cost of \$50,000 and noted that it has not been updated since 2000. Chief Misselt reported that his department is on a 3 car one year and 2 the next year replacement schedule for the squad fleet and also that the evidentiary system needs updating. G.

Brouillard reported on the Village Hall parking lot replacement and the need for a tractor for snow blowing and mowing. Trustee Van Lankvelt questioned the need of the tractor for Building Services. G. Brouillard responded that his department works in conjunction with the Parks Department and Public Works for snow removal and mowing and that it would be more efficient to have a tractor for his department for the Village Hall, Library, and Safety Center snow removal. T. Flick reported on the Doyle Park shelter and that it would not be built until after Cheesefest. T. Flick reported on the Comprehensive Park Plan and that it needs to be updated every 5 years per the DNR. T. Flick reported on the fleet needs for the Parks Department. T. Flick reported on the village's pool and the option of sandblasting and repainting the pool. T. Flick stated to the board that it is not advised to paint a pool in the spring therefore it should be done this fall and that he would need an advance from the general fund. T. Flick stated that with painting the pool and the current condition of the facilities it is possible to hold off on pool replacement for five years but a longtime plan for the Aquatic Facility needs to be in place. Discussion regarding the possibility of putting the pool on a referendum in the future occurred. R. Van Gheem reported on the complete replacement of road and sanitation for Riverside Drive. Trustee Frassetto questioned if terrace would be added with the reconstruction of Riverside Drive and R. Van Gheem stated that it was unlikely because of the ravines and the contours of the road. Discussion regarding the condition of Mc Kinley Street and the variables that would affect that project occurred. R. Van Gheem reported on the need for a crack sealer for the village. Trustee Frassetto questioned the village's vested interest in the shared crack sealer. R. Van Gheem stated that he is looking into those options. R. Van Gheem reported on the options for repairing the drainage system of Well #1 in Doyle Park. R. Van Gheem reported on the electric power upgrade at Doyle Pool/Well #1 and the need to separate the two to save on utility costs. R. Van Gheem reported on the Paradise Valley Stream Bank erosion and the need to stabilize the bank for the current sanitary sewer pipes. Trustee Frassetto questioned the cost of the repairs of the stream bank versus moving the utilities and R. Van Gheem stated that moving the utilities would be more costly. R. Van Gheem reported on the Storm Water Transport/Treatment projects. T. Matheny reported that she will see how the storm water utility finishes out the year before bonding for the Industrial Park East project. T. Matheny informed the board that the Fire Chief would report on his CIP plan at a later date. T. Flick asked the board if he could have a decision from the board as to whether or not the pool can be painted this fall. It was decided that the pool painting item would be put on next week's agenda for approval.

Unfinished Business

R. Hermus informed the board that he was contacted regarding possible dates for the Tri-Community budget meeting and asked the board if they preferred October 15, or October 22. R. Hermus informed board members that he spoke with the Clerk, Vicki Schneider and that she will work 4 hours per day when she returns to work next week and likely return to full time in November 2013.

Items for Future Agenda

None

Adjourn

Moved by Trustee Frassetto, seconded by Trustee Van Lankvelt to Adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Ayes 7, Nays 0 – Motion

Carried

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

By: Michael R. Vanden Berg, Village President

Attest: Sandy Berkers, Village Deputy Clerk