

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2007

The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Charles Fischer, Village President

Invocation

President Fischer called for a moment of silence.

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

President Fischer led members in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of Trustees

PRESENT: Charles Fischer, President
John Elrick, Trustee
Brian Joosten, Trustee
Steve Ransbottom, Trustee
Uriah Van Ooyen, Trustee
Janet Verstegen, Trustee
Judd Vanden Heuvel, Trustee

Roll Call of Officers and Department Heads

PRESENT: Charles Kell, Village Administrator
Mark Recker, Assistant Police Chief Fox Valley Metro
Dale Haug, Finance Director
Jim Moes, Community Development Director
Tom Flick, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Roy Van Gheem, Director of Public Works
Charles Koehler, Village Attorney
Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk

Public Appearance for Items Not on the Agenda

Attorney Dan Hoff, candidate for Outagamie County Branch 2 addressed the Board commenting on his professional experience, volunteer work, and qualifications for the position.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2007

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – November 28, 2007

Moved by Trustee Verstegen, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to approve the Regular Board minutes of November 21 and the Committee of the Whole minutes of November 28, 2007 as presented.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Report of Other Minutes – Other Informational Items

Fox Valley Metro Police Department Activity Report – September 2007

Board members noted receipt and review of the Report of Other Minutes and Informational Items.

Resolution:

French Pond Special Assessment – Hookup Fee

Moved by Trustee Verstegen, seconded by Trustee Vanden Heuvel, to Adopt Resolution No. 44, Series of 2007 Approving the Special Assessments and Hookup Fees for the construction of French Pond.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Presentation and Discussion of Resolution Committing Village Funding for the Little Chute Windmill Inc. Project

Board members reviewed the proposed resolution that Administrator Kell distributed. C. Kell stated that the resolution provides an analysis of the economic impact the windmill will have on the Village and the Fox Valley. C. Kell stated the resolution also describes the positive outcomes of placing the windmill at Island Park and resolves that the Village Board determines that it is in the best interest of the Village and its citizens and businesses based upon the findings and positive impacts identified to approve a one-time allocation of \$500,000 from the Village's undesignated fund balance to Little Chute Windmill, Inc. for the purpose of constructing the Windmill in Island Park. Trustee Ransbottom commented in support of the project. Trustee Joosten stated he did not support the resolution as he doesn't believe the marketing numbers have credibility. Mike Van Asten, Vice President of LC Windmill, Inc. commented on the in-depth marketing plan study that was required by the Convention & Visitors Bureau in order to receive the \$150,000 grant and stated the grant for the Windmill would not have been provided if they didn't believe in the tourism dollars that will be generated. C. Kell stated he performed an in-depth economic impact analysis based on the marketing study and other data. Trustee Joosten stated he did not believe that money should be granted from the Village's reserve fund for this project and stated the taxpayers should have input on the proposal at a public hearing. Trustee Joosten was informed by Administrator Kell that it is not known at this time how the infrastructure projects on Island Park would be paid for and stated that he believes if construction of the Windmill at the park with the joint collaboration of the navigational authority and the heritage parkway doesn't take place, the Village will likely lose federal grant dollars for the bridge replacement and the next opportunity to obtain those dollars may be in 5 to 7 years. Discussion continued. Robin Dekker, Executive Director of Little Chute Windmill, Inc. and Todd Vanderloop, Windmill Board member, provided information on the project and commented on the positive impact it will have on the community and the huge influence that a Village donation will have on moving the project forward. Todd Vanderloop also stated the Windmill Board will be making a decision on the proposal to locate the Windmill at Island Park but relocating to Island Park will not happen without Village financial support. D. Haug stated that using money from the reserve fund will not financially burden the Village and he had consulted with Village's financial advisor on the issue. Citizen Dennis Zornow, 704 Miller Lane, expressed his concern with traffic issues if the Windmill is placed at Island Park and stated he supports the Windmill project but not on Island Park. President Fischer stated he has become convinced that this is a very good village investment that will turn out extremely well. Trustee Versteegen stated she is in support of the Windmill and the location. Windmill Board members Mike Van Asten and Todd Vanderloop stated they did not have concerns with the Windmill being located on Island Park compared to downtown as visitors to the Windmill will have to travel through downtown and businesses will have the opportunity to attract the visitors into their stores. Trustee Van Ooyen stated that he supports the Windmill project but has heard from taxpayers that they don't want taxpayer money to go towards the Windmill and he doesn't support a Village contribution for that reason. Trustee Vanden Heuvel stated he sees this as a win-win for the Village as he believes it will increase economic development and because of tying projects together with the Navigational Authority, federal aid will likely be awarded to replace the bridge to the Park. Citizen Jim Killian, 401 Sanitorium Rd., commented on the public having an input on the Board giving money to the Windmill. Trustee Joosten stated he felt that a public hearing should be held on this issue. Trustee Versteegen stated a public hearing is not required for approving the resolution and the media will likely be reporting on the issue. Trustee Versteegen noted the resolution is not being voted on until next week and that gives the public time to provide comment on the issue.

Moved by Trustee Verstegen, seconded by Trustee Van Ooyen to place the resolution committing village funding to Little Chute Windmill, Inc. for the proposed construction of an authentic Dutch windmill in Island Park on next week's agenda for discussion and action.

Further Discussion: Trustee Joosten again questioned why a public hearing isn't being held on the issue. Trustee Verstegen stated that under State Statute a hearing is not required and the Board has an open policy so citizens can ask questions. Administrator Kell pointed out that only one citizen attended the Village's Budget hearing. Trustee Ransbottom stated the issue was addressed in June when the Board agreed to have the Administrator pursue talks with the interested parties so it isn't a new issue and he supports the resolution as it will also assist the Village with dollars for the bridge replacement.

Vote on the Motion – Ayes 6, Nay 1(Joosten) – Motion Carried

Action to Adopt Village of Little Chute Financial Policies and Guidelines

Moved by Trustee Vanden Heuvel, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to Adopt the Village of Little Chute Financial Policies and Guidelines as presented.

Ayes – 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Action to Approve Increase in Court Cost Fees

Moved by Trustee Ransbottom, seconded by Trustee Elrick to approve the increase in court cost fees from \$18.00 per citation to \$23.00 per citation in accordance with the 2005 ACT 54 Municipal Court fees, as presented by Judge Hammen.

Ayes – 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Review/Discussion/Possible Action to Adopt Policy for Special Assessments for Street Construction

It was noted the proposed policy change allows for assessment rates to be flat rates based on street width for concrete streets and the rate will be increased by 3% per year and the rates will be evaluated every 2-3 years for adequacy. Asphalt streets will continue to be assessed at a 70% - 30% split. Cemeteries will be assessed at the residential rate. Additions to the language for outside funding sources were added to the policy. *(A copy of the adopted policy is attached to the official minutes.)*

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to approve the revised policy for special assessments for street construction as presented in the proposal dated 11/14/07.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Operator's Licenses

Terri A. Davis 1610 Holland Road #102 Appleton Moasis

Moved by Trustee Van Ooyen, seconded by Trustee Verstegen to approve the operator's license as presented.

Ayes – 6, Nay -0, Abstained – 1(Vanden Heuvel) – Motion Carried

Department and Officers Progress Reports

Assistant Chief Mark Recker reported that the Department is busy investigating recent burglaries that have taken place in Kimberly and Little Chute as well as continuing investigation into the garage fires and going door-to-door to speak with citizens concerning the recent fires. D. Haug reported that the tax bills will tentatively be mailed next week and the TID compliance audit began this week. C. Kell informed the Board of the Advance Little Chute meeting that was taking place on Tuesday, December 11th with a presentation by the Future Neenah Executive Director and the Neenah EDC Director on their successful endeavors. C. Kell distributed a tax rate chart and informed Board members that the chart is included in the Village's newsletter. T. Flick reported that the terrace tree trimming project would be started on the northwest side of the Village

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and also planning has begun on the 2008 park projects. R. Van Gheem gave an update on the status of planning for the 2008 projects and stated the Department has been busy with snow removal.

V. Schneider informed the Board that the newsletter would be mailed to residents next week and reminded Board members that candidacy papers can now be filed and nomination papers can be circulated once the EB1 form is filed. V. Schneider stated the forms are available on the Village's website and that the notification of non-candidacy form is due by December 21. C. Koehler did not have a report but provided a positive opinion of the windmill project.

Disbursement List

Moved by Trustee Van Ooyen, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to approve the disbursement list as presented and to authorize the Finance Director to draw from the respective funds.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Call for Unfinished Business

None

Items for Future Agenda

C. Kell reminded the Board that the Comprehensive Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan Study will be presented at next week's meeting and that the storm water ordinances and a storm water management plan and joint facilities study proposal will be presented at the December 19th meeting. C. Kell stated that also being presented at the December 19th meeting will be the resolutions for the Resource One Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. C. Kell stated the application by Lappen Security for a revolving loan/micro loan has been reviewed by the Revolving Loan Committee and approval is being recommended and it will now proceed to the CDA for their review and approval and the final step will be to bring it before the Board for approval.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

All Ayes-Motion Carried Unanimously

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

By: _____

Charles Fischer, Village President

Attest: Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk