

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2009

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, Village President
John Elrick, Trustee
Jason Leicht, Trustee
Steven Ransbottom, Trustee
Skip Smith, Trustee
Uriah Van Ooyen, Trustee
Janet Verstegen, Trustee

Roll Call of Officers and Department Heads

PRESENT: Charles Kell, Village Administrator
Mark Recker, Assistant Police Chief
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

Laurie Hansen, 823 Bluff Avenue, submitted a petition to President Fischer that 88 residents had signed stating they were opposed to the ordinance that does not allow parking on yards. Laurie Hanson addressed the Board and stated the reasons she is opposed to the new ordinance is because the Village had an ordinance in place that should have took care of the most severe situations and that residents moving into Little Chute are not moving into a covenanted community. Ms. Hansen also commented that the older houses in the community have driveways that don't accommodate more than one car and today's families have more than one driver. Comments were also made by Ms. Hansen about not being able to pave yards in concrete. She stated on the other side of the issue, residents have indicated they don't want to look at cars, boats, and campers in lawns but she feels that many families enjoy recreational activities and can't afford to store their belongings. Ms. Hansen stated that even if the cars or recreational items were placed on concrete, others would still have to look at the items. Ms. Hansen stated that she doesn't feel the ordinance can be enforced fairly if it is only enforced when a complaint is filed and also that the Police have better things to do with their time. President Fischer stated the Board will be reviewing the ordinance at a future meeting.

Approval of Minutes

*Regular Board Meeting Minutes – March 18, 2009
Committee of the Whole Minutes – March 25, 2009*

Moved by Trustee Verstegen, seconded by Trustee Smith to approve the Regular Board minutes of March 18, 2009 and the Committee of the Whole Minutes of March 25, 2009 as presented.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Report of Other Minutes – Other Informational Items

Fox Valley Metro Activity Report – February 2009

Joint Library Board Meeting Minutes – March 5, 2009

Board members noted receipt of the informational items.

Appointment to Sexual Offender Residency Board – Betty Senso

President Fischer stated he is recommending Betty Senso to fill the vacant position on the Board.

Moved by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Van Ooyen to approve the appointment of Betty Senso to the Sexual Offender Residency Board.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Discussion/Possible Action – Sump Pump/Storm Lateral Hookups

Discussion took place on the current policy that allows residents to hookup to storm inlets and also allows residents' to decide if their laterals are installed across their sidewalks or if they want to do the work on their own. The issue of neighborhood storm lateral connections in backyards was also discussed. The recommendation of the Public Works Department is to require all parcels to receive and pay for a storm lateral which would be installed across the sidewalk to the property line at the time of the Village's construction project on the street with exceptions in certain cases due to a 1995 Court of Appeals decision.

Operator's License:

Charlene Dawn Wilson

1225 E. Gunn Street #1

Appleton Express

Express

Moved by Trustee Van Ooyen, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to approve the Operator's License as presented.

Ayes 7, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Department and Officers Progress Reports

Assistant Chief Recker reported that April 1 was the Metro's 14th anniversary and also that on March 19th Officer Slotke, Officer Grumann, and Officer Stahmann were each awarded the Best Badge award by the District Attorney's office. Asst. Chief Recker also stated that the Department would like to move forward with submitting a COPS grant application and had spoke with both Village Administrators about the request. If awarded the grant, it would pay for a new officer's salary for three years and the estimated cost for three years for an officer is \$225,000. Part of the criteria of the grant program is that the officer is kept on for a fourth year. The COPs grant application will be put on next week's agenda for discussion and possible action. D. Haug reported that the topics of discussion at a recent Government Finance Officers conference concerned the difficult economic times and municipal budget issues and he is recommending that the budget process start earlier this year and staff will be bringing potential 2010 budget scenarios to the Board this spring. D. Haug informed the Board that the Water Commission will be reviewing the 2008 PSC Annual report along with the recommendation to move forward with a Simplified Rate Case Study as the utility is not earning its authorized rate of return. The Rate Case Study will be on next week's Board agenda for discussion and possible action if the Water Utility recommends approving the Study. C. Kell reported that the Mill Street Bridge is eligible for stimulus funds for removal but then it would be ineligible to receive federal dollars for rebuilding so he is recommending that the bridge removal project not be submitted for stimulus funding consideration. C. Kell stated that private sewer lateral replacements do not appear to be eligible for stimulus funding because the

work is done on private property. C. Kell also informed the Board that the Village could apply for stimulus funds for purchasing a fire truck and the process goes through the FEMA grant procedure so the information to apply to the grant program has been turned over to the Fire Department. C. Kell provided Board members with the information that will appear on the Village's website asking for citizens' input on single stream recycling containers. C. Kell informed the Board that the buyers of Jacks or Better have submitted applications for the Village's loan programs and staff will be reviewing the applications and then they will be brought before the Board for action to approve. C. Kell informed the Board that 13 applications were received for the Chief of Police position and the Police Commission will be meeting with the consultant on April 21st to review the applications and schedule interviews. J. Moes reported that 26 applications were received for the Library Director's position and eight candidates have been asked to submit applications and write essays and those will be reviewed and ranked and the full library board will be conducting interviews with top candidates. J. Moes also reported he is responding to home owners requesting assessment information and he also informed the Board of a local census committee meeting taking place on April 9th. T. Flick stated he would like to finalize the sale for the Department's van replacement and stated there were two options to select. Board members instructed T. Flick to purchase the vehicle from Kolosso in Appleton. T. Flick reported that for the 15th consecutive year, the Village has earned the Tree City USA designation. T. Flick stated that he has been contacted by a resident who expressed concerns about the deer population near Heesakker Park and the resident wants to know if the Board plans to take any action on the issue. Laurie Hansen, 823 Bluff Avenue, stated that approximately 20 residents had expressed complaints about deer to her while she was obtaining signatures to oppose the no parking ordinance. Staff commented on complaints they had received in the past and Trustee Van Ooyen reminded Board members that the issue was discussed at Quad Communities and the other communities indicated they would not be taking any action on the issue. Board members instructed T. Flick to contact the DNR to see what the options are for controlling the deer and report back to the Board. R. Van Gheem reported on the status of current projects and stated final work is being done on the Buchanan Bridge and the Department will be interviewing the top six candidates for the laborer position. R. Van Gheem also provided board members with a notice of a public informational meeting taking place on April 7 to discuss possible roadway and traffic improvements adjacent to Little Chute Elementary School. V. Schneider reported that she had updated the website to include recently passed ordinances and resolutions and new notification options for residents. V. Schneider also reported that the Village had received a \$600 incentive check from the Government Accountability Board for reporting procedures she conducted at last November's election. Attorney Koehler – no report.

Disbursement List

Motion by Trustee Van Ooyen, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the disbursement list as presented.

Ayes-7, Nay 0-Motion Carried

Call for Unfinished Business

President Fischer read a thank you card that was sent to the Board by Terry Huiting's family.

Items for Future Agenda

Trustee Ransbottom asked to have the review of the no parking on lawns ordinance on the agenda of a different meeting than May 13th as he is not able to attend the May 13th meeting. Board members agreed to put the ordinance review on the agenda of the April 22 meeting. Board members agreed to put the COPs grant application on next week's agenda for review and possible action and the storm lateral issue will be put on the Agenda of April 15th for further review and possible action.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Ransbottom, seconded by Trustee Van Ooyen to Adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Ayes - 7, Nay 0-Motion Carried

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

By: _____

Attest: _____
Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk

Charles Fischer, Village President