

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2009

Call to Order

President Fischer called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: President Fischer, Trustee Elrick, Trustee Leicht, Trustee Ransbottom, Trustee Smith, Trustee Verstegen

ABSENT: Trustee Van Deurzen

ALSO PRESENT: C. Kell, J. Moes, R. Van Gheem, V. Schneider

Public Appearance for Items not on the Agenda

None

Discussion/Possible Action Regarding Appeal of the DNR's Denial of the Heesakker Park Pond Project

C. Kell asked for the Board to provide direction to staff on whether an appeal to the denial of the pond should be filed with the DNR. C. Kell noted that an appeal could possibly cost the Village another \$10,000 to \$20,000 and the Village has already spent over \$40,000 on the pond. Discussion took place and Board members agreed that staff should not proceed with an appeal but a letter should be sent to the DNR with copies to local legislators, all the way up to the Governor. The letter should state in a firm manner the Village's displeasure with their decision and the overall procedures and processes the DNR is using for mandates and review of projects for storm water management and they need to provide clear and concise direction to municipalities regarding storm water regulations.

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to Direct Staff to Send a Letter to the DNR Expressing the Village's Displeasure with the Ruling on the Heesakker Pond.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Review/Possible Action – Citizen Appointments to the Design Review Board

Discussion took place on revising the ordinance to allow for alternates for citizen members. J. Moes stated that ordinance revisions would need to be presented to the Plan Commission first for their recommendation.

Moved by Trustee Ransbottom, seconded by Trustee Verstegen to Approve the Appointments to the Design Review Board Consisting of the Village Administrator, Chairperson, Village Board Member – John Elrick, Citizen Members; Steve Reynebeau, Rob Peterson, Hollie Hammen, Diane De Bruin, and Steven Mofle.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Discussion – Creating Ordinance Restricting the Razing of Buildings in the Village

Trustee Elrick stated that he is bringing this issue forward for discussion at the request of a constituent that is concerned with the number of homes that have been taken down which have left the land setting undeveloped. The concern is that properties are being removed from the tax roll and nothing is being added back to the tax roll. C. Kell provided Board members with information from other communities that have requirements for demolition of residences and commercial buildings. Discussion took place on the cost of services to properties with developments compared to vacant land. No action was taken to move forward with creating an ordinance.

Approval of 2010 Meeting Schedule

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Smith to Approve the 2010 Meeting Schedule as Presented.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

Discussion – Joint Library Funding and Representation Issues

Trustee Leicht stated he is bringing up the issue for discussion to review if the agreement is fair for the two communities that share the one library and instead of a 60/40 cost sharing split maybe a 50/50 split should be considered. J. Moes stated that the agreement was put in place 15 years ago and it may be time for a review as he has found State Statutes that require provisions for board membership based on population and that the agreement also needs to include a procedure of the distribution of the library's assets and liabilities if the joint library is dissolved. President Fischer stated he will meet with staff and Little Chute and Kimberly representatives to discuss possible revising the Joint Library Agreement and the Board will be kept updated on the issue.

Discussion – Future Design of VandenBroek and Depot Streets

R. Van Gheem started the discussion by stating the documents provided were not meant for design recommendations but were presented as a visual for discussion purposes. Discussion took place on the idea of aligning Depot and VandenBroek Streets and extending Lincoln Avenue to take traffic pressure off other areas in the Village. R. Van Gheem reported that he has not had an official notice from the DOT put a verbal response from them was that they would not assist with costs for reconstructing the intersection. Trustee Verstegen stated she would rather see this project done sooner than later and not at the same time that E. Main Street is reconstructed. Trustee Verstegen also had concerns with how the corner of VandenBroek where the Village has removed structures is going to look until the intersection is redone. Trustee Smith commented on his concerns with adjusting the budget for this project as it may cause other public works projects to be pushed back. Board members noted that the project was not planned for the 2010 budget so 2011 may be the earliest to consider the projects. R. Van Gheem stated the intersection project is not a small project and it will have significant costs. Board members discussed having staff move forward with preliminary designs for VandenBroek and Depot Streets, including the extension of Lincoln Avenue and the future of Pine Street.

Unfinished Business

None

Items for Future Agenda

Board members agreed with President Fischer's recommendation to place on next week's agenda an item to take action on having staff move forward with preliminary design plans for extending Lincoln Avenue, aligning Depot and VandenBroek Streets, and to include recommendations for Pine Street.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Ayes-6, Nay-0, Motion Carried

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

By: Charles Fischer, Village President

Attest: Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk