

## Regular Board Meeting

January 15, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Manthei. Trustees present: Engel, Hanson, Harold, Hoffman, and Leicht. Wehrs arrived later as noted below. Also present: Ray Ebert, Wade Peterson, Charles Ashbeck, Tom Faella, Lester Hanson, Rich Norman, and Teresa Schnitzler.

### Minutes

Motion by Trustee Engel, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2008, Regular Board meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

### Claims

Claims from the following funds were presented for payment:

General Fund: \$1,255,427.55

Water Utility: \$8,248.90

Sewer Utility: \$12,634.46

Motion by Trustee Hoffman, seconded by Trustee Engel approve the payment of all claims as listed. Roll call vote: Hanson – nay; remainder of Board – aye. Motion approved.

Trustee Wehrs arrived at 7:34 p.m.

### La Crosse Area Planning Commission Study of Expanded Transit

Tom Faella, Director of La Crosse Area Planning Committee, appeared before the Board to discuss a La Crosse County Board proposal of a fixed route transit service to West Salem. The La Crosse County Board is considering establishment of a fixed route transit service to serve West Salem's business park, Sprint, and Lakeview Health Care Center. The La Crosse Area Planning Committee has been asked to put together a study and proposal by June of 2008 for a fixed route transit service. The LAPC is seeking input from the Village Board on what may be the best type of transit service, what the options are, what are some issues involved in such a program, and what are the costs. Administration, management, route, and reviewing duplication of services are all considerations the LAPC will study. The LAPC will conduct public participation meetings once a mapped plan of recommended service has been developed, which plan will include public input and analysis. Village Board comments included West Salem's participation in the shared ride program must be considered, cost-sharing proposals, and assurance that other major employers would be included in the study and service.

### Economic Development Advisory Committee

Trustee Harold reported on the January 7, 2008 Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting. The Committee was informed the Village Board approved applying

for the DOT enhancement program for 2008. Committee member John Lautz prepared a detailed analysis of the data used to critique the previous application. The Committee noted the Pathways project is not included in the first draft of the Comprehensive Smart Growth Plan, and Mrs. Harold will discuss this with Dennis Manthei.

Motion by Trustee Harold, seconded by Trustee Wehrs to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2008, Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

#### Utilities Committee

Trustee Engel reported on the January 10, 2008, Utilities Committee meeting. In addition to the Committee members, also present were Public Works Director Wade Peterson, Village Engineer Dave Sauer of Foth Infrastructure, Joseph Murray and Joel Pittelman of Springsted Incorporated, Village President Dennis Manthei, La Crosse County Community Development Specialist Brian Fukuda, and Village Administrator Teresa Schnitzler. Joseph Murray outlined Springsted's proposal to the Village for financing construction of a water reservoir and iron and manganese filtration on Wells 2 and 3 for a total estimated cost of \$3,379,693. Mr. Murray discussed the Village's existing water and sewer revenue bonding status, present water utility rates, and other water utility revenue funding sources. In addition, a significant portion of both projects is attributable to the Village's TIF created for the Lakeview Business Park with La Crosse County. In addition to pursuing general obligation bonds, the Village has also notified the State of Wisconsin of its intent to apply for a low-interest Safe Drinking Water Fund Loan. Dave Sauer presented water utility rate increase information based on future growth and users. The Committee recommended the Village authorize a water utility rate study as part of an application for a water utility rate increase effective in 2008. After discussion, the Committee also recommended the Village authorize Springsted to work with staff to issue approximately \$3.5 million in three-year General Obligation Promissory Notes with a one-year call provision. Debt service payments will be structured to minimize the debt service payments in 2009 and 2010, defraying principal until 2011. The 2009 and 2010 debt service payments will be paid from the County's TID reservoir contributions to the Village in 2008, 2009, and 2010 which will abate in whole or in part the Village's need to levy taxes. The promissory notes will be called in 2009 or 2010 with either the Village's receipt of a Safe Drinking Water Fund Loan or another debt issue.

Motion by Trustee Engel, seconded by Trustee Harold to approve the Utilities Committee meeting minutes through the first recommendation by the Committee, that being the authorization of a water utility rate study, and excluding the recommendation to issue general obligation promissory notes. Roll call vote: Hanson – nay; remainder of Board – aye. Motion approved.

#### Celebrate West Salem Participation

Trustee Harold suggested the Village participate in the West Salem Business Association Celebrate West Salem event scheduled for Sunday, April 6. Trustee Harold felt the Village could promote its recreation department, feature Village parks, its police department, and promote interest in election to the Village Board. The cost is \$20 for civic and non-profit organizations.

Motion by Trustee Harold, seconded by Trustee Engel that the Village have one or two booths and participate in the Celebrate West Salem event. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Office Assistant Update

Teresa Schnitzler informed the Board Lu Reamer has been hired as a part time office assistant in the Administration Office. Mrs. Reamer's first day of employment was Monday, January 14, and the proposed hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in order to have the office open during the lunch hour.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Engel to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Teresa L. Schnitzler, Village Administrator