

Regular Board Meeting

April 3, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Manthei. Trustees present: Engel, Hanson, Harold, Hoffman, and Wehrs. Excused: Jim Leicht. Also present: Dennis Abbott, Matt Perincho, and Teresa Schnitzler.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Engel, seconded by Trustee Harold to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2007, Regular Board meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Claims

Claims from the following funds were presented for payment:

<u>General Fund:</u>	\$127,468.52
<u>Water Utility:</u>	\$11,007.59
<u>Sewer Utility:</u>	\$22,713.58

Motion by Trustee Hoffman, seconded by Trustee Engel to approve the payment of all claims as listed. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Utilities Committee

Trustee Engel reported on the March 26, 2007, Utilities Committee meeting. Preliminary cost share estimates prepared in September of 2006 for utility service from Silky LLC to West Salem set forth the Village's project costs to "upscale" the services for future development west of the Village. The estimated project costs attributed to the Village were \$26,487.63. The cost share was based on West Salem providing the incremental cost difference between a 6-inch and 8-inch watermain and the incremental cost difference between a 2-inch and a 3-inch pressure sewer main. Since the preparation of the cost share estimates, Developer Pat Drugg has decided to increase the number of housing units to a 52-unit multi-housing development. With this change, the low-pressure sewer system is not as practical for the larger number of units. A standard duplex submersible lift station and forcemain would provide more capacity for current and future development and would require less maintenance. The lift station capacity would be 80 gpm and would connect to the Village through a 4-inch forcemain. The lift station would have capacity for the proposed development plus another 40 or more residential units. Cost share for the lift station is based upon 75 percent developer and 25 percent Village. The new cost estimates for the Village are \$78,792.85. The Village 2007 budget for this project is the original September 2006 projected cost share of \$26,487.63. The Committee recommended staying with the \$26,487.63 originally budgeted for the project.

Terry Hanson presented calculations received from the City of La Crosse computing water usage and the storage capacities in the City during peak, high usage periods. It appears the City of La Crosse oftentimes experiences average water usages over its

storage capacity. The Committee directed Mr. Peterson to contact the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to inquire why other municipalities exceed water storage capacity and have not been required to construct additional water storage facilities. The Committee discussed the preferred location of the water storage facility. The project will require approximately 1.4 acres of land on the east side of the La Crosse County cemetery. Annexation into the Village will be required as well. The Committee recommended a letter be sent to La Crosse County to make a request to purchase 1.4 acres of land from the County. Motion approved.

The Committee reviewed findings and calculations prepared by Village Engineer Dave Sauer comparing a booster station/ground storage facility to an elevated storage option. The report concludes proceeding with an elevated water reservoir as 20-year overall operating and maintenance expenses are lower. The Committee recommended the Village proceed with the design of an elevated storage reservoir with a bid option of a steel tank and the other bid option for a composite fiberglass tank.

Public Works Director Wade Peterson reported La Crosse County had submitted cost estimates last fall for construction of an alternate entrance to the La Crosse County Highway facility. The Village's cost share in this project would be assessed back to the benefited property owners. Since then, La Crosse County has changed its original plans, which adds additional footage to the design. The project would lengthen curb and gutter to the owners of Dahl Ford. The Committee agreed the Village will be consistent in its policy of all developers paying all costs of construction and directed a letter be sent to La Crosse County stating the Village will not financially participate with the road changes.

Diana Engel informed the Committee the Village of West Salem has agreed to participate in a joint stormwater grant application and joint public education effort with eight other La Crosse County municipalities. In addition, the Village will enter into a stormwater management public education and outreach cooperative agreement with the same eight municipalities.

Motion by Trustee Engel, seconded by Trustee Hoffman to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2007, Utilities Committee meeting. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Joint Finance and Personnel and Law Enforcement Committee Meeting

Terry Hanson addressed the joint committees with his concerns regarding the lack of an agenda item on the Notice of Meeting. In addition, Mr. Hanson questioned discussions regarding a potential offer of employment to one of the police chief candidates. The Committees convened in closed session for consideration of employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility as authorized by Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(c). In open session, the Committees unanimously recommended hiring Charles E. Ashbeck as Police Chief at an annual salary of \$50,000 with a start date of May 1, 2007, and considerations given for vacation time, sick time, and moving expenses.

Motion by Trustee Hoffman, seconded by Trustee Wehrs to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2007, Joint Finance and Personnel and Law Enforcement Committee meeting. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Police Chief Recommendation

Motion by Trustee Hoffman, seconded by Trustee Wehrs to officially offer Charles E. Ashbeck the position as police chief as stated in the minutes of the March 26, 2007, Joint Committees meeting. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Trustee Harold reported on the March 27, 2007, Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed concept plans for the West Salem Community Shelter as prepared by the West Salem Hockey Association and present a recommendation to the Village Board. The Recreation Committee reviewed the concept plans on March 5, the plans were presented to the Village Board on March 20, and the Village Board referred the plans to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for review and recommendation. The Recreation Committee had several questions with regard to the planned addition, and Mr. Hesselberg and Mr. Berghefer addressed those questions with the Committee. The concept plans involve adding four changing rooms, a bathroom, a referee locker room, and a zamboni storage room. The floors in the changing rooms will be heated, and the Hockey Association has agreed to assume the additional electrical costs for the heated floors. The costs of construction are estimated to be between \$40,000 and \$70,000, depending upon in-kind donations of materials and labor. The Hockey Association has raised the funds needed to begin this project in 2007. The Village requirements and fulfillment of the grant utilized to construct the original Community Shelter building and the affect of the new construction on the designated campground area were addressed. The posts and grills will be relocated and installed on the west side of the present building. A unisex, handicap accessible restroom will be constructed. The new restroom along with the present restrooms will be adequate to serve the number of changing rooms being added to the building. Windows will be installed in the changing rooms in order to enhance and balance the overall appearance of the building. There are presently four security cameras in place inside the facility, and the cameras are monitored. The zamboni room addition will benefit both the Hockey Association and the Village. The zamboni will be safely located near the ice so as not to endanger the public when driving the zamboni from its present location in the recreation storage building across the parking lot and also prevent damage to the ice from the transportation of dirt from the parking lot to the ice. The vacated zamboni storage area in the recreation building would now be available for other uses by the Village. The Recreation Committee inquired whether the walls between the changing rooms could be more of a temporary partition so the walls could be removed for small gym use or large meeting area use. The Hockey Association believes temporary partition walls will not hold up to routine wear and tear and physical use. The Committee recommended the West Salem Hockey Association move forward with their plans for remodeling and constructing an addition to the West Salem Community Shelter. The Committee wishes to extend its appreciation to the West Salem Hockey Association for its commitment to the community and its work to enhance the West Salem Community Shelter building.

Motion by Trustee Harold, seconded by Trustee Engel to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2007, Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Law Enforcement Committee

Trustee Wehrs reported on the March 27, 2007, Law Enforcement Committee meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to consider proposals received from the West Salem Professional Police Union. The Committee met with the Police Union in closed session for consideration of employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility as authorized by Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(c). In open session, the Committee agreed to draft a written summary of the agreements made between the Village and the Union at this meeting. The Committee and the Union will meet again the week of April 9.

Motion by Trustee Wehrs, seconded by Trustee Harold to approve the Law Enforcement Committee meeting minutes of March 27, 2007. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Boundary Agreement Joint Committee Appointments

President Manthei referred the Board to a February 2, 2007, letter to the City of Onalaska, Town of Hamilton, and Village of West Salem from the Community Development Department of La Crosse County. La Crosse County has offered its services and resources to the three municipalities for the creation of a boundary agreement. The County has suggested a joint committee be formed to begin work on boundary issues. President Manthei recommended to the Board that West Salem School Superintendent Nancy Burns, Village Board Trustee Diana Engel, and himself be appointed to this joint committee.

Motion by Trustee Wehrs, seconded by Trustee Hoffman to appoint Nancy Burns, Diana Engel, and Dennis Manthei to the boundary agreement joint committee. Roll call vote: Hanson – nay; remainder of Board – aye. Motion approved.

Operator's License

Motion by Trustee Engel, seconded by Trustee Harold to approve an operator's license for Bridget K. Olson. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Motion by Trustee Hoffman, seconded by Trustee Engel to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Teresa L. Schnitzler, Village Administrator