

Regular Board Meeting

July 6, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Manthei. Trustees present: Brown, Hennessey, Leicht, and Schumacher. Excused: Lautz and Wee. Also present: Police Chief Charles Ashbeck, Coulee News Special Correspondent Tobias Mann, Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, Public Works Director Scott Halbrucker, Dave Hundt, and Village Administrator Teresa Schnitzler.

Public Comment

Dave Hundt addressed the Village Board with regard to the Contractor Supply property currently for sale by its owner. Mr. Hundt suggested the Village invest in the downtown by purchasing this property for future development and needed downtown parking. He stated B Place at the corner of Hamilton and Leonard will be opening next year, and the American Legion has building expansion plans, both of which will bring patrons to the downtown.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Schumacher to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2017, Regular Board meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Claims

Claims from the following funds were presented for payment:

<u>General Fund:</u>	\$51,823.83
<u>Water Utility:</u>	\$8,839.56
<u>Sewer Utility:</u>	\$10,326.83
<u>Storm Water Utility:</u>	\$435.14

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

Special Event Application

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve a Special Event Application submitted by Dave Hundt for a Labor Day Street Dance proposed for Sunday, September 3, 2017, from 5:00 p.m. to midnight on South Leonard Street from Memorial Drive to Elm Street. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Chicken Prohibition

Dave Hundt requested the Village Board reconsider its prohibition on keeping chickens in the Village. He stated West Salem is the only municipality in La Crosse County that does not allow residents to own chickens. Other municipalities allow six or eight hens with a permitting process and notification to surrounding neighbors.

Motion by Trustee Schumacher, seconded by Trustee Leicht to refer this matter to the Law Enforcement Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Village Board. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Intergovernmental Agreement for La Crosse County Household Hazardous Materials Program

The Board reviewed a draft Intergovernmental Agreement for La Crosse County Household Hazardous Materials Program. The terms of the proposed agreement are the same as the Agreement entered into in 2007, with the exception of municipal contribution amounts to the program. The Board felt this is a used and desired program for West Salem residents, and the proposed per capita per annum payments are reasonable for inclusion in the Village budget.

Motion by Trustee Schumacher, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve entering into the Intergovernmental Agreement. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Alcohol Beverage License Applications

Motion by Trustee Schumacher, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the issuance of alcohol beverage licenses to Jessica R. Crandell, Roxanne M. Ferris, Robin R. Hanson, Brittany J. McCrory, Sally J. McLendon, Samantha A. Morrison, and Timothy T. Wegner. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Trustee Leicht reported on the July 5, 2017, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to receive an update on a Public Works Department personnel change and to discuss starting hourly wages for new public works department employees. Scott Halbrucker informed the Committee employee Karl Fennigkoh has resigned his position and will be employed for \$7.39 per hour more with the La Crosse County Highway Department. Mr. Halbrucker stated the starting and present wages for the Public Works Department do not promote employee retainage or interest in taking employment with the Village. The Village of Bangor's starting hourly wage is between \$15 and \$17 per hour, depending on training, skills, and experience. Mr. Halbrucker presented starting wages for three other municipalities of similar population to West Salem:

City of Stanley – population 3,608 - \$17.60 per hour plus a 25¢ per hour increase for certifications obtained;

City of Milton – population 5,546 - \$19.25 per hour

Village of Wrightstown – population 2,855 - \$18.00 to \$20.00 per hour

Employee Matt Mingus has been employed with the Village for five years, and he is earning \$14.72 per hour with all water certifications achieved. Mr. Halbrucker would propose a starting hourly wage of \$14.00 to \$15.00 per hour and increase Matt Mingus to \$15.25 per hour. With the budgeted addition of two part time employees this summer, the full time public works employees are able to perform the regular duties of the department, and this arrangement is working very well. Mr. Halbrucker informed the Committee that within the next ten years, nearly all of the present employees will be retiring and consideration must be given now to employee retainage. The Committee recommended setting the starting hourly wage for public works employees at \$14.00 to \$15.00 per hour depending upon qualifications and to increase Matt Mingus' hourly wage to \$15.25 per hour and all wages will be reviewed for the 2018 budget.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Schumacher to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2017, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Schumacher to set the starting hourly wage for public works employees at \$14.00 to \$15.00 per hour depending upon qualifications and to increase Matt Mingus' hourly wage to \$15.25 per hour and all wages will be reviewed for the 2018 budget. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Schumacher to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Teresa L. Schnitzler, Village Administrator