

**VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH, WISCONSIN
BOARD PROCEEDINGS
3/7/2016**

Pres. Gerald DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room located in Village Hall.

Members Present: Trustee Dick Hines; Rick Sweig; Neil Gulbranson; Curt Wandmacher; Kenny Manfred; Michael J. Steele

Staff Present: Clerk/Treas.; Peggy Nelson, PWD/Zoning Adm.; Greg Engeset, Chief of Police; Eric Ladwig, Library Director; Tiffany Meyer

Others Present: Attorney; Lars Loberg, P. C. Herald; Sarah Young, Karen Meyer, Russ Korpela, Dale Auckland, Kathy Sears, Merlin Blaisdell, Raynee Farrell, Jay Oricchio, Julie Jensen, Jim Larson, Jared Murphy

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MSC Hines/Gulbranson to accept minutes of 2/1/16 as submitted. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

MSC Steele/Sweig to approve payment of vouchers submitted for audit to date. Unanimous.

#30119-30134, 30173-30198, 30225-30238, auto and P-card payments

General Fund -	\$1,195,959.94
Capital Fund -	10,000.00
Water Fund -	18,552.31
Sewer Fund -	35,129.66

Public comment on non-agenda items:

None

Merlin Blaisdell & Kathy Sears, on behalf of the P.C. Hunger Prevention Council representing the P.C. Food Pantry:

Merlin addressed the board with a request that the Village look at extending their lease until Sept. 2017. Their lease expires on 8/31/16 at which time they were informed by the Village that they would need to relocate the Food Pantry due to the Village needing the additional space. They have not been able to secure lease space elsewhere that would be feasible, looking at more room for freezer units, 1400 sq. ft. needed, only one space has been found which is the Hines building in East End, however they cannot afford another \$600 more in rent than they are paying now. Pres. DeWolfe informed Merlin that the Village needs the additional space now occupied by the Food Pantry. Merlin informed the board that they are scheduled to meet with the P.C. Building Committee Tuesday to request space to locate the Food Pantry in the vacated County Annex Building when the jail moves to their new facility. If approved the move could not take place until the summer of 2017, this would then eliminate the need to move twice, the Food Pantry must be located in Ellsworth due to the high usage in the area, within walking distance for many, although it does serve Pierce County, other communities have their own Food Pantries. Merlin asked that the board think it through, they will need to know by June one way or the other. Pres. DeWolfe informed Merlin that the board would consider their request and that they should keep the board informed as they meet with the County, what the outcome is.

Russ Korpela, Ellsworth Area Chamber – Connect Communities Program:

Russ gave an update on a program that the Chamber is submitting in an application for called Connect Communities thru WEDC, a run-off of the Main Street Program, which would give the Chamber access to resources, technical assistance and networking opportunities to local leaders in revitalizing their downtown commercial districts. For an additional fee they could have an artist come in and do drawings for a building owner to show a makeover of the building making it historic looking, original look. Application is due in on April 15th, \$200 fee, looking at a good chance of getting approved. There will be no obligation to the Village up front, future projects may come before the Village Board at which time they can take action. He will keep the board informed. Program goes hand in hand with the Regional Business Fund Façade Loan Program.

Russ Korpela, 2016 Cheese Curd Festival update:

Russ informed the board that this year's festival is getting a makeover, retool from future years, some changes this year and in 2017. Looking to focus more on the higher end, looking at the River Falls Bacon Bash event, which impresses and frustrates him, River Falls has no real affiliation with bacon, except that people love bacon. Ellsworth has an authentic connection to cheese curds, as we are the capital of cheese curds, and would like to see all businesses get involved in promoting the town's claim to fame, businesses could have signs posted detailing cheese, history of cheese curds, offering various cheese curd food dishes, etc. The festival will be condensed down to a 2 day event, Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25. A Cheese Curd Central station will be an addition offering hand dipped cheese curds, variety of flavors and dips, and fresh curds. Professional food trucks will be invited to participate in the event. Bands will include a Beatles Tribute Band, Rubber Soul and Def Leopard/Bon Jovi. Parade will be on Saturday, due to construction on County Rd V, adjustments had to be made for this year on the route, parade will start on N. Grant St., near fairgrounds, travel south and make a left turn onto W. Summit Ave., travel east, turning right on N. Terrace Ave., traveling south taking a left onto E. Wall St. east to Railroad Ave. and/or Morse St. for dismantle.

Adopt Resolution #2016-02 Budget amendment transferring Library Impact Fees to 2016 Budget for Library Building/Space Architectural fees:

MSC Sweig/Manfred to adopt. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:**Plan Commission: 3/2/16** Trustee Rick Sweig

-324 E. Wall St. rezone property from R-1 to R-2 **MS Wandmacher/Manfred to rezone property. Motion carried with Sweig opposed.**

-Adopt Ordinance #650 **MS Wandmacher/Gulbranson to adopt. Motion carried with Sweig opposed.**

Street & Sidewalk:

Trustee Wandmacher gave a report on a meeting he attended along with Steele, Gulbranson and PWD Engeset in Cumberland on 2/23/16 presented by Wisconsin Asphalt Pavement Association. Main point of the seminar was to promote the Transportation Department Assoc. of WI (TDA) "Just Fix It campaign". Transportation funding problems will not be solved in Madison without a push from the rest of us, funding will be \$650 million short this year. Gas tax and vehicle registration will not cover the shortage. They would like communities to contact their local state elected officials and also post pictures of road and street conditions on the TDA website.

Salary & Labor: 2/11/16 Chairperson Neil Gulbranson

-Approve 2016-17 Police Union Contract; 2% wage increase for 2016 & 2017. Effective May 1, 2016, employees classified as Sergeant will receive .85 per hour above the top patrol rate, .15 per hour over the current .70 per hour wage differential. **MSC Steele/Hines to approve and give the committee the authority to sign the new contract for 1/1/16-12/31/17. Unanimous.**

Public Safety: 3/7/16 Chairperson Neil Gulbranson

-Ordinance to regulate and restrict residency of sexual offenders in the Village of Ellsworth. **MSC Gulbranson/Hines to give Chief Ladwig the authority to work with Attorney Loberg to create an ordinance if needed since the new state law was created and signed. Unanimous.**

Health, License, Welfare: 3/7/16 Chairperson Rick Sweig

-Snowball's Bar & Ellsworth Funsters - Street Dance License and Street Use Permit application for E. Wall Street, 8/20 - 8/21, 2016, 5:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. **MSC Sweig/Manfred to approve as submitted. Unanimous.**

-Broz Bar & Ellsworth Hubber's Baseball Team - Street Dance License and Street Use Permit application for E. Wall Street, 8/27 - 8/28, 2016, 4:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. **MSC Manfred/Sweig to approve as submitted allowing 20 years of age and younger on the premise. Unanimous.**

-American Legion Post #204 – Street Use Permit application for the Memorial Day Parade. **MSC Sweig/Gulbranson to approve. Unanimous.**

-CAP Operations Inc., dba Holiday #50 – Class "A" Retailer's License and Cigarette License. **MSC Manfred/Steele to approve license 3/28/16-6/30/16. Unanimous.**

Downtown Façade Loan Committee: 2/29/16 Chairperson Curt Wandmacher

Approved a loan application for Spine Pro Chiropractic, 330 W. Main St.

Department Head Reports:**Chief of Police:** submitted a written report

-Approve part-time officer hiring. **MSC Wandmacher/Sweig to authorize Chief Ladwig to hire 2 part-time officers. Unanimous.**

-Accept resignation of Part-time Officer Cooper Walker. **MSC Sweig/Wandmacher to accept. Unanimous.**

-Rec'd a \$4000 State Grant for equipment for participation in Traffic Safety Enforcement.

-Rec'd a \$5000 State Grant for wages for participation in traffic safety for seatbelt enforcement.

Public Works Director/Zoning Administrator: submitted a written report

-Started sweeping streets today, earlier than normal

-Grove St. water tower painting, cleaning & repairs/additions, \$150,000 - \$220,000.

-Civil matter between property owners of building that was questioned in East End.

-Annual Cross Connection inspections showed 14 sump pumps going into the sanitary sewer, approx. 1/3 of them have been resolved and will be doing follow-up inspections/enforcement on the remaining.

-Recommended looking at over weight restrictions on Village streets come future years.

-Added, to the meeting attended in Cumberland 2/23, that they would like you to use blacktop that is now good for temperatures 10 below and colder.

Clerk-Treas.: No report

-Set a Health, License, Welfare Committee meeting for 4/4, 6:30 p.m. to review/approve license applications.

Library Director: submitted a written report

Library Board 2/23/16, Building/Space Committee 2/15/16 (Minutes on file in Village Clerk's Office)

-Statistics indicate people are using the Library's digital services more than ever.

-2 new laptops ordered to replace older ones at the Library.

-Wireless connectivity issues were due to a faulty access point which has been replaced.

-New programs have been well rec'd, nearly filled to capacity.

-2015 Annual Report approved by Library Board.

-National Library Week April 11th.

ADJOURNMENT:

MSC Steele/Hines to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Nelson-Clerk