

Village of Frederic Regular Meeting Minutes February 12, 2018

The Regular meeting of the Village Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Hansford.

Roll Call: George Hansford, Todd Miller, Julie Thomas, Allan Lahti, Rick Heltemes, Brad Harlander and Doug Gustafson present.

Consideration of Change to Noticed Agenda: Hansford suggested moving Planning Committee and Public Works Committee meeting reports to 8. Friberg proposal and 10. New Meter Proposal. No opposition.

Approval of January 15, 2018 Minutes: Harlander motioned to approve, Lahti second. Carried.

Public Comments: William Johnson commented on the owners of Starwire who have submitted an application to the PSC for a Broadband expansion grant. Becky Amundson stated a list of questions regarding the poll on February 20 and various ambulance questions. Brad Olson voiced his support on North Land Ambulance.

Upcoming Board Member Training Opportunity: Hansford informed the Board of a Local Government 101 in Eau Claire in May. The Village will cover the cost of the class.

Discuss/Approve MSA to Seek Bids for Road Project: Dave Rasmussen stated that Erik Evenson presented project information to Ken Hackett last week. He explained that MSA is asking for authorization for seeking bids February 21 through February 28. MSA will open bids on March 7th and present them to the Board at their March 12th meeting. Construction will begin this spring. Hansford made a motion to authorize MSA to begin the bidding process, Lahti second. Carried.

Board Discussion of Ambulance Service options and Discuss/Approve Upcoming Ambulance Poll: Hansford shared the poll process and keeping the ballot simple. Harlander agreed that it should be simple. Hansford stated we have educated ourselves and the public and now it is time to get their opinion. Miller and Lahti also stated it should be simple. Hansford motioned to approve poll ballot, Heltemes second, Carried. Board members discussed ambulance service decision with input from Raeann Allen. Harlander stated he has received a lot of feedback on the ambulance issue and he believes it isn't feasible to go away from North Land. Hansford stated the Village of Luck will be having a special meeting on February 21 to hear presentations from North Land and Lakes Regional services. Dave Rasmussen stated the Village of Luck has signed the 10 year commitment for the new Ambulance truck with North Land but they still have not decided on which way they will go. Heltemes expressed concern with North Land and thought Frederic should move on to Lakes in hopes of better service and technology. Miller felt that Lakes Regional response time would be an issue and the Village of Frederic would lose control since he is the representative for the Village on North Land's board of directors. He stated we would lose our voice switched to Lakes Regional. Lahti said he would like to echo what Miller and Harlander stated. He also said Lakes does not make sense for Frederic because they are too far away. Lahti believes if citizens want Lakes Regional they should go talk to the North Land Board of Directors.

Discuss/Act on Kay Friberg's Proposal for Memorial Park: Hansford explained the Planning Committee met on 1/24/18 to discuss the zoning requirements. There was opposition to the proposal from a committee member who had a concern the cross shape of the memorial would not be favorable for the Village. Hansford also said we will discuss the sale of the property in closed session. Friberg put together a model of what the memorial would look like and explained the Gold Star Family Memorial mission. Friberg said it would be privately funded and maintained.

Discuss/Approve Direct Seller Permit: Phernetton explained a permit application was filled out and submitted to the Clerk from a Kirby Vacuum salesperson. It was submitted to Dale Johnson for background checks. Johnson stated he did not find criminal activity in the background check but several complaints were issued about the sales methods used. He also stated there were two other people involved in the door to door sales operations and those names were not provided so he could not do a background check on them. Johnson recommended the board get more information before they accept the permit. Miller motion to deny application for the direct seller permit. Hansford second. Carried.

Discuss/Approve Public Works Committee Recommendation to Purchase a New Water Meter System: Hansford updated the board on the Public Works Committee recommendation to purchase Kamstrup meters for the Village. This purchase would include installation and all cross connection inspections to bring the Village up to code with the DNR. Hansford asked Bill Struck to explain the meters to the Board. Struck explained the 1 ½ year process in seeking out the best meter system for the water department needs. He said the Kamstrup meters are an upgrade and would help reduce costs of meter reading and help us recapture lost revenues of water usage that was not getting billed. He explained this purchase would help us with revenues so we can begin to tackle infrastructure needs in the Village Water and Sewer departments. Hansford stated that Sterling bank was able to beat the financing quote given by the Kamstrup representative and the Village should be able to afford the 7 year financing. He also stated the meters are warranted for 20 years, which financed for only 7 will give us the opportunity to save up for 13 years for the next meter system. Miller reminded the board the quote comes with installation which will free up our Public Works employees to stay on other Village tasks. Harlander move to approve Kamstrup meter system upgrade with 7 year financing, Heltemes second. Carried.

Discuss/Approve Public Works Committee Recommendation regarding Sanding and Snow Pile Removal Policy: Hansford explained the Public Works Committee covered this in their February meeting and recommend it to the Board. Hansford asked Ken Hackett to explain the need for a policy. Hackett said there has not been any policy in place. We will bill for requests to move snow piles at \$250/hour which includes 3 employees and 3 pieces of equipment. Hackett also said the sanding would be billed at \$30 minimum and up to \$100 for large lots. Gustafson said Luck does it without charging. Hackett said a policy would be good so everyone is treated the same. Harlander thought the rates were fair. Miller motion to approve the Sanding and Snow pile removal policy. Thomas second. Carried.

Committee and Department Head Reports:

Public Works-Kenneth Hackett: The branch pile has been chipped. A Street light was hit by a truck and the globe broke. The fuel pump went in the loader and has now been fixed.

Park Board-Rebecca Harlander: Phernetton reported for Rebecca that the ski trails and skating rink are both open and getting lots of use.

Library-Kris Surbaugh: Chris Byerly has helped to get all the annual reports completed. Library has two new book groups. Employees have been going to trainings and workshops. The library will be hosting a book sale on Feb 22-24th.

Law Enforcement-Officer Johnson: Police department had 41 events in January. Johnson attended Annual Chiefs Conference in Superior last month. Johnson had new tires put on the squad car and reported he is half done with inventory.

Treasurer-Jennifer Phernetton: Phernetton reported on departments 2017 expense budgets. She also stated that the Village has received money from the sales of property to Joe Taylor and the Frederic Arts. Discussion on these funds will be during the March Village Board meeting. She also explained the completion of the February Tax Settlement of property taxes. \$336,000 was paid out to the other taxing districts. Statements were mailed to 8 businesses for delinquent personal property taxes. She also stated the Bremer bank checking account has been closed.

Approval of Payment of Bills – Check #189003 - 189085: Lahti motioned to approve, Thomas second. Carried.

Convene into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public property, investing of public funds, conducting other business whenever competitive and/or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

Harlander motion to convene closed session, Heltemes second. Hansford-Yes, Thomas-Yes, Miller-Yes, Harlander- Yes, Lahti-Yes, Heltemes-Yes, Gustafson-Yes. Carried.

Reconvene into Open Session. Harlander motioned to reconvene to open session, Heltemes second. Carried.

Action Taken from Closed Session.

Hansford made a motion to put 3 acres of Village property on the north side of Industrial Ave up for bid for 2 weeks at \$1500/acre. Bid will include a right of refusal, Potential buyer responsible for surveying and closing costs. Bids to be received by March 9, 2018 and will be opened March 12, 2018 at the Village Board meeting. Heltemes second. Carried.

Hansford made a motion to offer a lease agreement for the 107 Hope Road W property of \$400/ month plus utilities for a 12 month term and an \$800 damage deposit. Rent would also be considered a down payment toward purchase. Lahti second. Carried.

Adjourn. Miller motioned to adjourn at 9:58 pm, Heltemes second. Carried.

Jennifer Phernetton
Village Treasurer