

MEETING MINUTES FEB 15, 2023 6:30 PM VILLAGE HALL

6:30pm meeting called to order by President Tom Bush. Attendance: Tom Bush, Robert Babcock, Amy Hajdasz, Brian Beckel, Brad Bartels, and others in audience.

Reading of minutes and agenda from last meeting waived and posted. Accepted and approved as presented.

- Randy Hill was present to present options for the village hall for purchasing a W80C HS Compact Loader. Randy stated that Baribeau Implement has a municipality discount. Total list price is \$147,899.00. Baribeau's Bid purchase price would be \$92,900.00. Randy presented a 5-year purchase option at 7% interest. He also presented the board with 5-year lease options with monthly or annual payments. The lease options all had a \$1 dollar buyout option at the end of the term. Randy also stated that Baribeau would give the Village \$16,000 trade in value for the current New Holland tractor the Village has. The board asked about attachment options and were presented with a snow blower, straight blade 10-foot plow, a grapple bucket, wing plow attachment, and a push plow. Amy H. asked for a 2-year lease option and Bob stated he would like to contact CCF Bank in Barron about financing through them for a better interest rate. He stated that the Fire Department was able to secure a 4% rate with them for the new pumper they bought. Randy stated he would provide those other options tomorrow morning. James Schmidt from the community was present and voiced concern over the extremely high snowbanks in people's yards at intersections where it makes it difficult to see oncoming traffic. He asked if this purchase would help the village be able to do a better job of not having the high bank on the corners and the mess in people's yards. Tom B. spoke up and stated that this year has been a difficult one for the guys, due to the extreme snow and the current equipment breakdowns we had. And that yes, those concerns are part of the reason for looking into getting equipment that can more easily handle the job. Amy suggested, to set up a special meeting in the next week or so if all the financials come back favorable on the other lease options or a better rate from CCF bank is available to make appropriate motions and vote on purchasing the equipment, since the other two quotes from John Deere and Case are much higher.
- Tom then moved to the next item on the agenda of VFW Hall purchase for upcoming referendum April 4th this year. Tom provided some print outs that showed the costs to the VFW over the past 10 years for gas, electric and water utilities. James S. from the audience asked what the purpose would be for the building if the Village did buy it? Tom B. stated it would be a community center and available for lease to the public for events. Currently the average yearly expense for the VFW is \$3,500. And the increase to the village municipality insurance would be \$250 a year. Tom also stated that if the referendum passes, the VFW and potentially the community club would be paying tenants of the building for their meetings and events. Other information from VFW on the Hall are attached to these minutes.
- Brad and Brain had a job posting prepared for the board to review and approve for Assistant Maintenance Operator. Amy H. made motion to approve and post the job with Indeed, Ladysmith News, and at Northwoods Technical College, Rice Lake, WI. Bob seconded. Motion carried.
- Brad had copies of the municipality insurance renewal policy for the board to review and approve for 2023. EMC has revaluated buildings and property in the open because of increased building & repair costs. Our overall coverage has been increased by \$1,165,348 per the overview and statement of values. This increased the annual premium by \$1,700. The workers comp did go down \$471 for a net increase of \$1,229. Annual premium of \$8,978 and \$5,343 for Workers Compensation Insurance. Tom B. notice two items on the policy that are listed as covered at the park that are no longer there. The open metal slide and jungle gym. Instructed Brad to have those removed. Bob B. made motion to approve the insurance policy with those two items removed. Amy H. seconded. Motion carried.

- Board then reviewed the contract with Bonczyk Soft Maple Valley Farm, Inc. permitted by the DNR to establish plans to reduce runoff of phosphorus from farmers fields. Bob B. made motion to approve the renewal per current contract with the 3% increase per year for another 5 year term. Tom B. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Brad will contact Andy Bonczyk to see if he is in agreement. If so, the new contract would be effective March 20, 2024.
- Brian B. brought up an inspection report from Lane Tank on the water tower. Brian also had an estimate from Lane Tank for the repairs needed on the water tower. With the inspection it was found that there a few spots of rust showing. There was also Lane tank estimate was for wet interior blast and coat with epoxy, exterior spot repair, dry interior spot repair, Roof hatch modifications and safety railing installation, platform electrical modifications, and install aluminum insulation jacket on the fill/drain pipe. Would be approximately \$130,000 at today's prices. A 2nd estimate from Lane Tank was just for the more immediate repairs of the roof hatch covers to allow them to close properly and modify overflow discharge to allow better flow into the catch basin. This would cost \$3,500. Brian stated that the painting of the tower doesn't need to be this year. But agreed with Lane Tank that it needed to be sooner rather than later. If too many more rust spots start to appear there will be a likely hood of having to encapsulate the entire due to the lead base paint on the tour to properly repair and repaint. This would drastically increase the over all cost for the project. Tom B. made a motion to approve the repairs on the 2nd estimate and hold off on re-painting for now. Amy seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Brian then presented 3rd street asphalt replacement project. Brian asked the board on whether they wanted to replace the curb and gutter or make repairs as needed. And the same for the sidewalk. Board elected to go with replacement of all the sidewalk and curb and gutter. Brian will work with Zech from Morgan and Parmley to get plans and cost estimates done for March Board meeting. If approved then, project will go out for bids.
- Brad reviewed plans with the board for new sidewalk from pickleball court and picnic areas by playground at the park. Brad submitted a grant application with Wisconsin Economic Development for the project. Over all cost would be \$51,000 and the grant would pay half.
- Board discussed spring cleanup and Wisconsin emergency funds available. Brad completed the initial application for funds but will need to have completed costs and plans by March 17th for the final deadline of the application. Board wants to have tree service come in and develop a plan with Brain and Greg with a quote for what it would cost for them to get the trees and limbs that are hanging yet that Greg and Brian want be able to reach. For Spring cleanup, the board all agreed to allow at least a week for village members to pile their tree limbs and brush next to the curb and the crew will come along and pick it up.
- Tom B. motioned to adjourn and Amy H seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.