

**VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE
PLEASANT PRAIRIE VILLAGE BOARD
PLEASANT PRAIRIE WATER UTILITY
PLEASANT PRAIRIE SEWER UTILITY
9915 - 39th Avenue
Pleasant Prairie, WI
November 17, 2014
6:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Village Board was held on Monday, November 17, 2014. Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Village Board members John Steinbrink, Kris Keckler, Steve Kumorkiewicz, Clyde Allen, and Mike Serpe. Also present were Tom Shircel, Assistant Administrator; Jean Werbie-Harris, Community Development Director; Kathy Goessl, Finance Director; Dave Smetana, Police Chief; Doug McElmury, Fire & Rescue Chief; John Steinbrink Jr., Public Works Director; Sandro Perez, Inspection Superintendent; and Jane M. Romanowski, Village Clerk. Four citizens attended the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Steinbrink:

Before we move to the Pledge of Allegiance, Tom, you had some special guests here today?

Tom Shircel:

Yes, tonight, Mr. President and Village Trustees, we have a Cub Scout Troop from Prairie Lane School, and they just completed a tour of the Village Hall, both upstairs, and we saved the best for last, of course, the fire department. They had a good time down there. And we thought we'd invite them in for tonight's Village Board meeting to lead the Pledge of Allegiance tonight. And we thank them for coming and for braving the cold weather, and I hope you had a good time.

John Steinbrink:

Very well, we'll go to Item 2, the Pledge of Allegiance. Please rise for the pledge. Troop?

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

John Steinbrink:

Thank you, Tom, and what is the Troop's number?

Tom Shircel:

I'm not quite sure. Maybe they could fill us in.

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

544.

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Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

Yes, that's right.

Tom Shircel:

544

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

And the reason I know that is because I was assistant Cub Master in that pack back in 1976 to '78, so I remember that. Thank you.

John Steinbrink:

That was a long time ago. That might have been before I was born. Thank you for being here this evening, and I hope you enjoyed your tour of the Village. There's always plenty to see. Did they put the anti-freeze in the water down there so it didn't freeze in the fire trucks? No, okay.

3. ROLL CALL

4. MINUTES OF MEETING - OCTOBER 20 AND NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

Adopt as written.

Kris Keckler:

Second.

John Steinbrink:

Motion by Steve, second by Kris. Any additions, corrections?

KUMORKIEWICZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20 AND NOVEMBER 3, 2014 VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS AS PRESENTED IN THEIR WRITTEN FORM; SECONDED BY KECKLER; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jane Romanowski:

We have one signup tonight, Dick Ginkowski.

Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

Dick Ginkowski:

Good evening. Dick Ginkowski, 9915 39th Avenue. As Municipal Judge I don't get a chance to report too often to let you know of some things that are happening. But I thought it would be timely tonight to mention a couple of things. Later this week I will attend, I'm one of the three of the 240 municipal judges in Wisconsin selected to attend the Wisconsin Judicial Conference in Appleton. And that's the meeting of all the circuit and appellate judges. So of the 240 of us only three were selected to be delegates. I'll be carrying a message that our community based municipal courts offer a significant but often misunderstood alternative to a more costly and sometimes less efficient criminal justice system in very minor cases where jail or probation isn't being considered and it makes more sense to conserve those resources for more serious cases and offenders.

Our municipal courts are self-sustaining. Not only do we pay our own way, but we actually send \$5 out of every citation that's adjudicated to the state. We are not cash register or kangaroo courts. We do listen to people, and we try to be accommodating for the most part. Our police department does a very, very, very good job, and it's very rare that we have to disagree and that's good.

But the other thing I wanted to point out to you as well is that the recent events in Ferguson and the St. Louis suburbs, and I have been consulting with the Missouri court system on improvements that are necessary in that area. There are some problems. Just a little tidbit, Ferguson, Missouri is about 1,000 more people than Pleasant Prairie. Last year our revenue from municipal fines in the Village was approximately \$323,000. It will probably be around \$350,000, \$360,000 this year. In Ferguson it was nearly \$2.6 million.

So many of those communities in the St. Louis suburbs and Ferguson isn't the first one. Thirty to 40 percent, or significant amounts of their municipal budgets, are being driven from those revenue sources. And that has caused some interesting issues within those communities, none of which are present here. And that is why we have been providing some guidance to the Missouri court system on how they might be able to improve things.

So it's been my honor and privilege to work with all of you and with our other departments and our police and fire department and our inspection department. And I look forward to that. But I wanted to at least give you a little bit of update on where we are. Also we have in place our accountability factors. We have been working with our collection agency partner in whittling down our backlog of unpaid court obligations. It will never be perfect, but certainly we have been very diligent in that area, and we've had good cooperation from everyone involved. Thank you so much and have a good meeting.

John Steinbrink:

Thank you. Anyone else wishing to speak under citizens' comments? Hearing none I'm going to close citizens' comments.

Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Tom Shircel:

Just a quick update regarding the Village Hall and the ongoing construction around Village Hall and the new fire station. At some point this week, it was supposed to happen today, the main entrance here to Village Hall and to the auditorium are going to be closed. They're going to rip up the concrete there and put in new concrete. But, of course, it's weather dependent. They were supposed to start today, it's too cold. I don't know when the weather is going to break so just an FYI. And the temporary entrance will be right out here, the east side of the building. We'll have signage put up, and this will all be blocked off, so just an FYI that that will happen probably sometime this week weather permitting. And it will probably be closed for up to ten days. So just to let you know. That's all I have.

John Steinbrink:

Thank you, Tom.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Receive Plan Commission recommendation and consider Ordinance #14-33 for a zoning text amendment to Section 420-139 B (2)(b) related to the required street setback for access to a Manufactured Home/Mobile Home within a licensed park.

Jean Werbie-Harris:

Mr. President and members of the Board and the audience, the owners of the Westwood Manufactured Home Park are requesting an amendment to the Village zoning ordinance to allow for the setback for decks and porches, including steps and stairs, to encroach into the required street setback a maximum of four feet in order to allow for a minimum required deck or porch area for the required ingress or egress to a manufactured home.

Specifically, the amendment then would allow for the setback to encroach into the public right of way. Section 420-139 B (2)(b) is proposed to be amended to read as follows - and this is where we've made the modification - the required street setback distance for a deck or a porch including steps or stairs used for the minimum required ingress or egress to a manufactured or mobile home located within a licensed park may encroach up to four feet into the required street setback, but in no case shall the setback be reduced to less than ten feet from the Village's right of way or less than five feet from a private roadway as measured from the back of curb or the edge of the roadway pavement.

This modification and exception that we're requesting to be put into the zoning ordinance is very similar to a single family home modification and exception which does allow porches and decks to encroach into the setback only for the purposes of ingress and egress. So we're putting in a modification and exception in the mobile home park provision section in order for them to have that same encroachment for, just again, the ingress and egress. This was a matter that was before

Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

our Village Plan Commission for discussion and public hearing. They recommended approval. We do have a representative here from Westwood Estates who is actually asking for this modification to be approved by the Village Board.

And, again, one of the things I just want to mention as I mentioned at the Plan Commission meeting is that we do have an averaging principle which means that if there is structures or units on either side we do allow the distance to be averaged if they're closer to the road right of way. And we have that for both single family homes as well as manufactured homes. But this is just a little bit different because it also allows for an encroachment for that ingress or egress for up to four feet.

Michael Serpe:

Jean, could this have any way involving snowplowing where if they get a significant amount of snow could that snow be pushed into this patio porch? Would it be that close?

Jean Werbie-Harris:

You know, I don't think so. Specifically in the Westwood all of their new areas they're at 30 foot setback. And this is from the right of way or from the edge of that pavement. So it means that they would be at 26 feet from the right of way. And all the other mobile homes are on private streets. And I would say that they're at least 10 feet setback, again, from that edge of pavement. So, no, it should not be an issue or problem.

John Steinbrink:

Ma'am, did you have anything to add? Jean has covered it pretty well, right?

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

Make a motion to approve Village ordinance Chapter 420, Ordinance 14-33.

Clyde Allen:

Second.

John Steinbrink:

Motion by Steve, second by Clyde. Any further discussion on this item?

KUMORKIEWICZ MOVED TO CONCUR WITH THE PLAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND CONSIDER ORDINANCE #14-33 FOR A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTION 420-139 B (2)(B) RELATED TO THE REQUIRED STREET SETBACK FOR ACCESS TO A MANUFACTURED HOME/MOBILE HOME WITHIN A LICENSED PARK; SECONDED BY ALLEN; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

B. Consider Resolution #14-35 authorizing the placing of utilities and special charges on the tax roll.

Kathy Goessl:

Mr. President and Village Board, this resolution is an annual resolution around tax time to place delinquent invoices and utility bills onto the tax roll and also special assessments. The total amount that we have here is \$428,326.48. The majority of this is actually delinquent utility bills totaling \$344,000. Of that \$334,000 almost \$31,000 is penalties. We add 10 percent onto anything that rolls to the tax roll.

And then we also have delinquent invoices. That's \$46,000 is actually only eight parcels that we're looking at, the biggest being BP at a little over \$16,000, and demo-ing and asbestos removal for a home in the Village or a parcel in the Village for the home a little over \$26,000. Special assessments are pretty small this year in terms of rolling to the tax roll at \$28,782. So I'm looking for authorization to put these charges onto the tax roll for this upcoming tax season.

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

I have a question. Kathy, is a lot of those in this list repeaters, second year or third year?

Kathy Goessl:

Yeah, a lot of our utility customers just automatically do this. They just let it roll and pay the extra ten percent, and they probably deduct it from their taxes, I'm not sure. Then it goes onto the property tax bill in total. So, yeah, there are repeat utility customers that just don't pay their bills, they just let it roll. I think BP might have been on the tax roll probably last year, too.

Kris Keckler:

Is this close to historical averages, the delinquent invoices?

Kathy Goessl:

Yeah, pretty much so.

John Steinbrink:

If there are no further comments or questions we need a motion.

Kris Keckler:

Move to accept.

Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

Second.

John Steinbrink:

Motion by Kris, second by Steve. Any further discussion?

KECKLER MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #14-35 AUTHORIZING THE PLACING OF UTILITIES AND SPECIAL CHARGES ON THE TAX ROLL; SECONDED BY KUMORKIEWICZ; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

C. Consider Operator license applications on file.

Jane Romanowski:

There's just one application tonight for Therese Beetschen. And the application looks fine. The Police Chief recommends approval.

Michael Serpe:

Move approval.

Clyde Allen:

Second.

John Steinbrink:

Motion by Mike, second by Clyde. Any discussion on this motion?

SERPE MOVED TO APPROVE THE OPERATOR LICENSE FOR THERESE BEETSCHEN; SECONDED BY ALLEN; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

8. VILLAGE BOARD COMMENTS

Michael Serpe:

I just have one. To the Cub Scouts we're going to have a quiz on what we just discussed. Who wants to be first? Nobody.

Kris Keckler:

Are they quizzing us are we quizzing them? Because it went kind of fast.

Village Board Meeting
November 17, 2014

John Steinbrink:

I think Kris has a point there. We'll dispense with the quiz.

Steve Kumorkiewicz:

Mike, that reminds me when I was [inaudible] back then there used to be in the gymnasium in Prairie Lane a rope and I used to climb it in two seconds. Then I used to say, okay, your parents, your fathers are going to show you how to do it. And you should see the dirty looks I got. So I wish the parents were here now and [inaudible].

John Steinbrink:

First off I want to thank everybody that came out to the veteran's celebration on Sunday. It was a very nice celebration. We had the honor of James Van Bendegom's mother being there, Virginia, as we honored her son for his sacrifice and service to our country. I also want to thank Ruth Stoner for all the work she does on these ceremonies. I think we have one of the best ceremonies in the county. It doesn't go without a lot of hard work, and most of that hard work is Ruth. And she deserves a lot of credit for what she does and her dedication to this event.

Also, afterwards we were served, and we had hot beef sandwiches and chili, and I believe it was Scouts from 544 there doing the serving. And I believe there was one lone Girl Scout I believe serving also. But you guys did a heck of a good job and thank you very much. It was well appreciated by all those in attendance. And by the time we got in there we were cold and we were hungry, and you guys did a great job. So with that.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

Michael Serpe:

Move to adjourn.

Kris Keckler:

Second.

John Steinbrink:

Motion by Mike, second by Kris. No further discussion?

**SERPE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING; SECONDED BY KECKLER;
MOTION CARRIED 5-0 AND MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:20 P.M.**