

**VILLAGE OF TURTLE LAKE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 16TH, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Laurie Tarman called to order a meeting of the Turtle Lake Board of Trustees at 6:30p.m. on Monday, June 16th, 2008.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Tarman, Pabst, Merrill, Becker, Outcalt, and Flottum Absent: Hall. Others present were Deputy Clerk Danielle Maxwell, Village Attorney John Schneider, Public Works Director Cory Davis, Gary Strand of Cooper Engineering, Dave Slack, Sheryl Claflin of SEH, and Al Liesz. Police Chief Al Gabe was absent due to illness.

REVIEW OF AGENDA: It was moved by Flottum and seconded by Becker to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public Comment was opened at 6:34pm and Al Leisz addressed the Board regarding the current status of the Village and how current committees are not acting as they have in the past; roads, sidewalks, and monitoring of weeds have not been addressed. He referenced such incidences of which he feels the Village has fallen short. He stated his frustration with those properties that are not in compliance with municipal code due to excess growth of lawns and weeds, sidewalk snow removal, and the B Plant. He continued that the current procedure that charges owners a fine does not prevent these property owners from acting to avoid such nuisances. Tarman informed Liesz that notices were sent to property owners. Finally Liesz stated that he feels the Village does not need an Administrator. Public Comment was closed at 6:54pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administration – Time sheets were distributed to Board members to help keep accurate record of their Board and individual committee meetings as of June 1st, 2008. Tarman described to the Board the advantages and disadvantages of quarterly utility billing versus monthly. It was found that quarterly billing is far more cost effective since it reduces costs of staff time, paper costs and postage. Tarman thanked Sergeant Loren Slayton for his years of service with Turtle Lake and informed the Board that his last day would be June 29, 2008 and congratulated him on his retirement.

Maxwell updated the Board on her recent NATOW, Native American Tourism of Wisconsin, conference in Mole Lake, WI. She confirmed that the weed notices were indeed mailed to owners and that if lawns were not maintained by the deadline stated, Village staff would be permitted by State Statute to mow the lawns and assess expenses against the property. She added that several building permits had been issued to residents recently.

Legal – None.

Police – Chief Al Gabe included the Police Report in the Board packets prior to the meeting for their review.

Public Works – Public Works Director Cory Davis stated that he would discuss current and upcoming project status on each line item as they became addressed.

Outcalt inquired about signs along Ash Street. Davis stated that a 15 mph sign and “No Thru Trucks” were placed and that “No Parking” signs have been up for the past two years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Water Tower Construction Project, Change Order No. 1 – Gary Strand of Cooper Engineering explained to the Board the details of the Change Order for the Water Tower Construction Project which would include televising of the well from the surface to a depth of 314 feet and a test pump.

It was moved by Hall and seconded by Becker to approve Test Well #3, Change Order No. 1 of the Water Tower Construction Project.

It was noted by the entire Board that this change order was previously discussed and they simply needed to make a formal motion.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Davis explained the process of water flow through the well hole and how the motion clears sand and debris and how this washing motion strengthens the walls. Pabst asked what the next step in the construction project. Strand replied that more samples would be taken and testing completed. If the testing shows that the water is good and the well is sustainable, they would then abandon the Elizabeth Court test well. He continued that Well #1 would not be ready until the water samples, well house and pump are completed. The well house is to be bid out next month.

Resolution 08-09, “2007 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report” – Davis explained that the resolution adopts the Grading Report on Water that was included in the packets. The Village did well overall; however, Davis explained that the score was low due to the Industries and BODs. He stated that this report and resolution is the same as in the past. Pabst asked if the Village’s grade is higher than last year.

It was moved by Pabst and seconded by Hall to accept Resolution 08-09.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Becker Street improvements as proposed by SEH, Inc. – Hall expressed concern from Pat Wick regarding Becker Street which would affect residents of Lakeland Manor. Davis stated that he had spoken to Wick as well. Sheryl Claflin of SEH explained the plans to the Board. The proposed improvements would make Becker Street 36 feet wide from curb to curb, widening for the elderly housing parking with an extra 8 feet. The curb would be a “drive over curb” to allow cars to park on grass but to also funnel water. Ditches toward the highway would be filled in for the most part. A sidewalk would be installed on the west side of the street which was the most practical given the grade of the landscape. Davis continued that the reasons for widening the street and addition of sidewalks fits with the clinics located on the west of Becker Street. Claflin reminded the Board that this project was awarded with County funds and that this would tie into the upcoming Martin Avenue sidewalk project.

Outcalt expressed opposition to Martin Avenue and Becker Street sidewalks, stating that it places a burden to residents involving more work and headache with snow removal and plowing. Becker disagreed stating that new equipment will hopefully solve the snow issue. Davis expressed that safety is a big concern that generates a need for sidewalks.

Becker asked how much more trouble it would be to do Becker Street after the Martin Avenue project. Claflin stated that it would be possible but inconvenient and costly. Hall expressed his

concern with doing construction projects piece by piece. Tarman informed the Board that the Highway Commissioner said that Martin Avenue would be included in the County's 2009 plans. Discussion began to not assessing the sidewalks back to property owners as they are used by everyone, the owner sacrifices yard space and are responsible for maintenance. Davis explained the expenses of the project that would be paid by the County.

Pabst asked what the deciding factors are to install sidewalks. It was said that requests by residents, safety and walking routes to school. Pabst asked if the grant funds include five feet of sidewalk. Claflin explained that it does not include sidewalks. The difference in cost is approximately \$10,000, and curb is a separate cost. Ditching and street options were reviewed; however, there were problems with the water flow and utilities in the way of ditching. The total project cost is \$112,000 and \$70,000 for the street, asphalt and sub-base. It was noted that with this cost estimate fluctuates frequently and that asphalt prices have doubled in the last four years. Claflin confirmed that curb and gutter aide in storm water drainage. Flottum asked if the Village could recycle the current blacktop. Claflin replied that yes, the blacktop would be ground up and the Village credited. She continued that the project would go out on bids and that the biggest obstacle is keeping up with the price of asphalt.

Slack asked if the curb cost was \$11,500 and sidewalks \$10,500. Claflin stated that the time is now to make changes to the preliminary plan. Flottum expressed agreement to do sidewalks on Becker regardless of Martin Avenue. He stated that there is heavy traffic on the street and it would be good to get pedestrians off of the road. It was noted that there is an 8 feet drop North to South and that the water would flow to catch basins at either end. Outcalt expressed concern over the addition of sidewalks and narrowing of the street. Flottum added that costs will increase for installation in the future.

It was moved by Flottum and seconded by Becker to accept the Claflin plans as submitted for Becker Street improvements, with an estimated cost of \$112,000 with curb and gutter.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Becker, Flottum, and Tarman. Nays – Merrill, Hall, Pabst and Outcalt. Motion failed.

More discussion took place addressing concerns with the project; each member shared his/her viewpoint. It was noted that \$17,000 would be funded by the grant. Tarman asked if there was a specified time frame in which the funds were to be spent. Claflin informed the Board that the grant was awarded last fall and the money is to be issued July 1st. She continued that the project should take one month at the maximum to complete.

Tarman requested to be informed of a deadline of when to use the grant monies. The issue was tabled until the July regular meeting of the Board.

Additional expenses related to the Cattail Linkage Grant – Issue was tabled until the July meeting due to Chief Al Gabe's absence.

Downtown Façade Loan Program and Microloan Program Guidelines and District Map Revisions – Tarman explained the program to the Board and the Planning Commission recommendation of guidelines. She further explained that initially the Planning Commission had the understanding that side streets were not eligible; however, Railway Avenue would be considered part of the "main street" and, therefore, eligible to be included in the district. The revised map presented illustrated the district to include Martin Avenue from Pine Street to Elm Street, Maple Street South from Martin Avenue to Logan Ave and the addition of Railway Avenue East from Maple Street to Elm Street.

It was moved by Hall and seconded by Pabst to approve the guidelines and map as presented.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Village's Businesses Incentive Loan Program – Tarman reviewed the program and stated that it and the Microloan Program benefits and offerings overlap with each other. She suggested closing the Village's Business Incentive Loan program as it eliminates paperwork and staff expense. Outcalt as if there was an additional 1% interest on Village loans. Tarman stated that there was which helped fund the work. Pabst questioned if the program were to be closed if the Village would be able to open it again. Tarman suggested to close the program so that two loan programs were not available at once.

It was moved by Hall and seconded by Tarman to close the Village of Turtle Lake Business Incentive Loan Fund.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Amplified Music Permit Application for the St. Croix Casino Annual Tribal Competition Pow-Wow -

It was moved by Hall and seconded by Outcalt to approve the application for amplified music permit application for June 27, 28 and 29th, 2008, at the St. Croix Casino & Hotel RV Park for the competition Pow-Wow.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Merrill asked if the music can go until 12:00 a.m. It was confirmed that, yes it can until 12:30 a.m.

Park Reservation and Amplified Music Permit for the Turtle Lake Lions Club Inter-County Fair –

It was moved by Tarman and seconded by Merrill to approve the park reservation and amplified music permit for the Turtle Lake Lions Club during the Turtle Lake Inter-County Fair, July 11, 12 and 13th, 2008 in the Village Park.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License Application for the Turtle Lake Inter-County Fair to the Lions Club –

It was moved by Pabst and seconded by Becker to approve the Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License to the Turtle Lake Lions Club for July 11, 12 and 13th, 2008, during the Turtle Lake Inter-County Fair.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Park Reservation and Amplified Music Permit for the Cars, Crafts and Rock & Roll in the Village Park to the G.T.L.A.A. –

It was moved by Hall and seconded by Becker to approve the park reservation and amplified music permit for the G.T.L.A.A. during the Cars, Crafts and Rock & Roll in the Park, August 10th, 2008 in the Village Park.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Litigation Issues regarding the elimination of the Clerk/Treasurer Position – Item was not addressed in closed session as the Labor Attorney was not present.

Financial Settlement with Former Clerk/Treasurer in exchange for release of all potential claims against the Village of Turtle Lake – Tarman informed the Board that Fran Duncanson has seven days to revoke the agreement once the Village accepts the settlement. She continued that a motion was needed and the agreement would then be signed and information released once the seven day period has expired.

It was moved by Tarman and seconded by Pabst to settle with former Clerk/Treasurer, Fran Duncanson, as set before the Village Board.

Hall questioned if the settlement presented was all inclusive.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

“Joint Powers Agreement between Barron County and the Village of Turtle Lake” – Tarman explained the letter from the Barron County Sherriff’s Department and that this was a formality agreement with the County and Village.

It was moved by Pabst and seconded by Flottum to accept the “Joint Powers Agreement between Barron County and the Village of Turtle Lake.”

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF BILL AND CLAIMS:

It was moved by Becker and seconded by Hall to approve the Bills and Claims as presented.

Roll call vote: Yeas – All. Nays – none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Becker and seconded by Hall to adjourn this meeting of the Turtle Lake Board of Trustees at 7:58p.m.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Prepared by:
Danielle E. Maxwell
Village Deputy Clerk