

Committee of the Whole
April 24, 2023
MINUTES
6:00pm

Board present: Steve Buss, Claudia Simpson, Christin Keeffer, Brian Peight, Les Nielsen, Chelsea White, Brandon Smith, Cathy Stevens, Nicole Callos. Also present: Brian Nott, Rick Heinrich, Nick Bergman, Louise Workinger, Kory Polhill, Lindsay Buss

Call to Order

1) The Committee of the Whole meeting of April 24, 2023 was called to order by President Buss at 6:00pm.

Approval of Minutes – March 27, 2023

2) On a motion by Smith second by Peight to approve the meeting minutes from March 27, 2023. ALL AYE.

Approval of Bills Payable

3) On a motion by Keeffer second by Stevens to approve the bills payable report. ALL AYE.

Public Participation

4) There was no one for public participation at this time.

Recognition of Rick Heinrich for His Services

5) Buss presented Rick Heinrich with a placard for his 45+ years of service and read words of appreciation from Village Employees.

Discuss Village Hall Tuck-point Repairs

6) Callos will be getting estimates for repairs. Stevens added that the windows need to be done yet as well. Nielsen was looking into this.

Discuss American Legal Publishing Adding Ordinances to Website

7) Stevens explained that they have a decision to make between American Legal and Stevens Company(no relation to Cathy Stevens) for uploading ordinances on the website. American Legal has yearly fees of \$500, and would charge roughly \$500-\$1500 to do the initial work, with an additional \$2-\$4 per page charge for every change the Village does. Stevens Company would charge an initial \$750 with an annual fee of \$200, and no editing fee. Stevens will be sending the proposals to all the Board members.

Discuss Maturing CDs

8) Callos stated that 2 CDs mature on the 26th. One at Community Bank and one at Lena State Bank.

Discuss Employee Health Insurance Contributions

9) The Village currently pays 100% for employees and 60% for family members. White explained that the health insurance options she looked into varied greatly. It was suggested to implement a stipend for individuals who do not opt to have dependents included on their insurance with the Village. Keeffer requested a break down for the different rates and available insurance for dependents. The renewal is July 1st.

Discussion of Parking Restrictions

10) Smith addressed that there is no ordinance against people parking in their yards, and he suggested we have one.

Discuss CPI Water/Sewer Rate Increases

11) Smith explained there will be a meeting on May 17th at the Community Center explaining work that must be done to the water treatment plant, and how they intend to pay for it. It is estimated that to pay for the 6.4 million in work including a new infiltration system, the base rate for water bills would need to be raised – they are not making any decisions on this at this time, but it was suggested to start with a smaller adjustment with gradual increases. The Village was approved for loan forgiveness. If the Village becomes non EPA Compliant, the government makes the updates happen at a much bigger cost.

Discuss Mower for Water Treatment Plant

12) Peight was going to arrange for mowers to be tested at the plant.

Discuss Zoning Coordinator Bonus

13) Les Nielsen is the Zoning trustee. The attorney advised to have an employee handle permits rather than requiring a board member. Buss offered a flat yearly stipend as pay for the hired zoning coordinator.

Adjournment

14) On a motion by Smith second by Keeffer to adjourn the April 24, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting at 6:45pm. ALL AYE.

Submitted by Claudia Simpson, Village Clerk

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
APRIL 24, 2023
MINUTES
5:55pm**

The notice for this special board meeting was prepared by the Clerk on Thursday April 20, 2023 with a copy of such notice being posted in the municipal building and delivered to each board member's email.

CALL TO ORDER

- 1) The Special Board Meeting was called to order by Village President Buss before the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 5:55 pm.

Board present: Steve Buss, Christin Keefer, Brian Peight, Les Nielsen, Chelsea White (6:00), Brandon Smith, Cathy Stevens, Also present: Brian Nott, Rick Hienrich, Kory Polhill, Lindsay Buss, Nick Bergman, Louise Workinger.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #23-241 APPROVING SAND PRAIRIE FIBER AGREEMENT

- 2) Buss explained that Sand Prairie Fiber wants to establish infrastructure to eventually offer a fiber option to Lena. A resolution will be needed to establish a permit for the work to be done as well. On a motion by Peight second by Smith to approve the Sand Prairie Fiber Resolution #23-241. ALL AYE.

ADJOURNMENT

- 3) On a motion by Smith second by Keefer to adjourn the April 24, 2023 Special Board Meeting at 6:00pm. ALL AYE.

**CLAUDIA SIMPSON
VILLAGE CLERK**

**STEVE BUSS
VILLAGE PRESIDENT**