

August 3, 2015

REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Call to Order/Roll Call – Village President Susan Washa called this Regular Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Zach Washa, Ginger Halverson, Tony Kaster, Dennis Richgels, John Kreul and Susan Washa. Tom Cody was excused. Others present were Ron Benish, Josh Tarrell, Bart Nies, John Adametz, Carolyn Adametz, Sara Dryeson, Wayne Aeschbach, Sara Winkler, Kate Adametz-Jenkins, Annie Adametz, Jen Robinson, Tom Hebgen, Daniel Swinehart and Becky Fredericks

Certification/Compliance – Clerk certified that notice of meeting was posted on July 31, 2015. Zach Washa motioned as to compliance with open meeting law. Tony Kaster seconded. Motion carried.

Public Input – not for action – Ron Benish was present to present to the board the Hidden Valleys Tourism Guide/Advertising book. Stated that the event advertising in the book is free and would like to recommend that the Village takes advantage of this. Susan Washa informed the board that she would try to collect event dates from the local organizations to include in this book. Ron also mentioned the Highland Rodeo Club/Little Britches Rodeo and his desire that the Village work with the Rodeo Club to allow them to be able to still use the rodeo grounds. He also mentioned his opinion on the Village not trying hard to get a business to come to Highland. Tony Kaster addressed the board on if they would be interested in doing something, be it along the line of a Proclamation, in recognition of Drew Hennessey's accomplishment of the National Title in wrestling. Susan and Tony will look into this.

Josh Tarrell to address the board on the community meeting information – Josh Tarrell presented to the board the planned agenda for the Community Core Meeting that will be with the Highland School board members, Town of Highland board members, Village of Highland board members and himself. He informed the board that he had gotten in contact with Anna Schramke, Iowa County Economic Development Specialist, to attend the meeting on August 17th. Josh informed the board that the reason for the meeting is to build a collaboration between the school, village and town boards and to create a long range plan as to how we can move the village and town of Highland forward through business and relationships created. Tentative agenda items for discussion are existing local business, new business, community surveys, grocery store and Highland Business Association. Josh also informed the board that he has a meeting scheduled for August 7th with Troy Maggied of Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to discuss options. He also plans to meet with Pat Kalmerton to gain some insight on where he is at with the grocery store business that he has been looking into. At this time he asked the board if they had any questions or concerns, which they did not...so Josh thanked them for their time to listen.

Discuss possible construction projects in TID – take action, if necessary

Approve/Deny Delta 3 Engineering Inc Engineering/Construction Proposals - Bart Nies was in attendance to present to the board the cost for street & storm sewer construction on Progressive Way. Estimates given were \$85,700 for street construction from Main St to Valley St and \$213,700 for street & storm sewer construction from Valley St to Industrial Drive for a total of \$299,400 for the entire project. After some discussion it was decided that this item will be tabled until September board meeting so the village clerk can bring back financial information to help with deciding if the project is financial feasible.

Highland Rodeo Club Contract Discussion – take action, if necessary – There were members of the Highland Rodeo Club and interested individuals present to talk to the board about the contract request. All board members had received a letter from the rodeo club stating that John Adametz was present at the July board meeting to present two options for a contract and was to either pay \$100 per year or to pay \$1 per child who registers to ride. The letter went on to say that the board responded that it wanted both options plus \$1 from every eventer for each show including the tractor pullers. After review the letter Susan Washa informed the Rodeo Club members and individuals that they have the request of the Village wrong. At the July board meeting it stated that the board would like \$100 per year from \$1 per recorded participant of the Little Britches Rodeo, not once did they say all events including the tractor pull. When this was clarified the rodeo club members were more accepting. The letter also stated that the Rodeo Club wants to do a 5 year contract with an opt out option due to DNR regulations. The 5 year contract was first not highly accepted but after some discussion it was decided that it could be included in the new contract terms. Other topics discussed after the contract terms were finalized were Tom Hebgen and thanked the Rodeo Club for bringing up the wagon train and giving the kids wagon rides and wondered if they would consider doing that for Our Town 2016. The Rodeo Club also informed the board that they will be holding two more events – Tractor Pull on September 19th and a Fun Event on September 27th. One more item discussed was the key to the gate. With the brush & compost piles being on the same road the gate is continuously locked and the rodeo club was wondering if they would be able to get a key. Tom Hebgen informed the board that the issues at the brush & compost piles have been doing pretty well lately and he suggested that we could try and allow the rodeo club to have a key and if the issues come back at the brush & compost piles then we would need to take back the key. The Rodeo club members agreed to this.

Rescind Highland Rodeo Club Contract motion/Approve 2016 Highland Rodeo Club Contract – It was decided that this will be tabled until the September board meeting to look at correct procedure for the rescinding and to establish the new contract.

Our Town Recap – Susan Washa informed the board that Linda Rose, Holly Laufenberg and Aggie Rose had talked to her about getting a committee together to get more people to come and stay at the celebration – feel that something is needed to get the teenagers/college kids to come to the celebration and stay plus look at options for the adults as well. Susan also informed the board that Craig Ramsden talked to her about talking to the town board to see if they would be interested in contributing money towards the fireworks since he feels this celebration is as much for the township as it is for the village. Also discussed were options to be able to get the band closer to the beer & concession stands. Tom Hebgen said that he talked to Ben Biser of the band and they love playing in Highland but where they were is just too far away from the crowd. Dennis Richgels mentioned that maybe there would be an option to extend out a patio or something to the west of the beer & concession stand to accommodate the band – Tom Hebgen & Becky Fredericks had informed the board that they had actually thought of this also and had done some research on drawings for the size that would fit. This matter will be discussed at a Parks Committee Meeting. Ginger Halverson mentioned that the Talent Show went quite well and suggested figuring out an idea to be able to give something to all participants of the talent show. All suggestions and ideas will be discussed at future meetings.

Ralph Davies & Jerry Adametz to address Village Board on possible driveway easement of Village property to access backyard of 1104 Dodgeville St – take action, if necessary – Susan Washa informed the board the Jerry had contacted her and informed her that the sale of the property did not go thru so he would not be attending at this time. Board discussed options if the matter was to come back to the board – plus there was concern of the possibility there is an utility easement on the property already. It was decided that before any decision could be made that more information is needed and will be looked into for the future.

Discuss park picnic tables & maintenance projects – take action, if necessary – The Village board was informed that the picnic tables are getting pretty beat up being moved out of the park, even the square tables which people are told not to take from the park but some are still be removed. The board discussed options to try to prevent the tables from being damaged – some options discussed were to stencil the tables, put up signs and ask for donations to borrow the tables, with a suggested amount of \$10 per table. The next project discussed was the grand stand and it's need for some major rehab – discussed possibly sending letters to residents to ask for donations to do the rehab work. Tom Hebgen informed the board that there is possibly an interested individual/business in paying for half the cost of the scoreboard thru the Pepsi program. Tom also asked the board what are their thoughts to move the upper scoreboard to the lower diamond, if the individual/business did come thru and we were able to get the new scoreboard. The Park Committee will meet to discuss and bring back to the September board meeting. Tentative date is set for August 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Police BOTS Grant Expenses – Daniel Swinehart informed the board that he will be receiving grant monies to pay for overtime hours for traffic stops pertaining to speeding and will pay for some equipment. Of the list of approved equipment Daniel has picked out a light bar for in the back of the car with a price of \$735.37 and a body camera with a price of \$599.00. Daniel informed the board that the Village will need to purchase the items and then they will be reimbursed with the grant monies. Zach motioned to approve the purchase of the two items for \$1,334.37. Ginger Halverson seconded. Roll call vote “Aye”: John Kreul, Dennis Richgels, Tony Kaster, Ginger Halverson, Zach Washa and Susan Washa. Motion carried.

Approve 2014 Audit – Susan Washa motioned to approve the 2014 Audit. John Kreul seconded. Roll call vote “Aye”: Zach Washa, Ginger Halverson, Tony Kaster, Dennis Richgels, John Kreul and Susan Washa. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings – Ginger Halverson motioned to approve the July 13, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. Tony Kaster seconded. Motion carried with Zach Washa abstaining.

Authorize Payment of Bills – Tony Kaster motioned to approve payment of bills as presented: General Account \$22,741.31, Sewer Account \$1,898.90, Water Account \$1,394.43, TID #2 Account \$5,195.00. Dennis Richgels seconded. Roll call vote “Aye”: Ginger Halverson, Dennis Richgels, Susan Washa, Zach Washa, Tony Kaster and John Kreul. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Economic Development – It was noted that Highland Meat Market has closed their doors on Saturday, August 1st. Then it was discussed that they heard Mike Eppley’s plans are to focus on getting the processing area finished up and ready for processing.

Law Enforcement – Report submitted.

Water – Nothing new to report

Sewer – Nothing new to report

Streets – Nothing new to report

Parks – Nothing new to report

Public Property – Nothing new to report

Fire District – Nothing new to report

Operator Licenses – None

Zoning Permits – None

Forthcoming Events – None

Correspondence Received – None

Set August Board Meeting – Monday, September 14, 2015

Adjournment – Ginger Halverson motioned to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Zach Washa seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Fredericks, Clerk-Treasurer