



January 11, 2021 Village Board of Trustees Meeting

The Village of Grantsburg Board of Trustees met on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. remotely via zoom.

Present via zoom: President Michael Longhenry, Trustee Diane Barton, Trustee Greg Peer, Trustee Caylin Muehlberg, Trustee Russell Stone, Trustee Joe Sturdevant, Trustee Leo Janke.

Others via zoom: Police Chief Dan Wald, Director of Public Works Chris Bartlett, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Allison Longhenry, Library Director Sara Christopherson, Jonathan Richie-Burnett County Sentinel, Darcy Kolander-Inter-County Leader, Brian Reilly-Ehlers & Associates, Dave Rasmussen-MSA Professional Services, Richard Lee-Inter-County Coop, Rick Roeser-Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC), John Richards-President Grantsburg Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC), Terry Kucera, Rod Kleiss, Kayla Woody, Leesa Schultz and other miscellaneous guests.

CALL TO ORDER President Longhenry called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPEARANCES: 6:00 p.m. Dave Rasmussen, MSA, spoke about creating two new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts in the Village. One for the proposed new Industrial Park and a second on State Road 70 to accommodate a new business being proposed along with possible future development. Rasmussen indicated there would be a considerable cost savings to the Village if both TIF Districts were created at the same time. 6:15 p.m. Brian Reilly, Ehlers, discussed financing options for large projects and the use of tax increments to pay the loan payments. Reilly indicated the Village could finance a million-dollar project and would still have 35% of its borrowing capacity available. 6:30 p.m. John Richards, GIDC, spoke about the importance of creating the new Industrial Park and having the infrastructure completed as a way to attract industry to the Village. Richards explained the lengthy process to find land for another Industrial Park, which started in 2012. The current Industrial Park has created approximately 380 jobs with payrolls totaling \$23,000,000. The current Industrial Park has only one lot available and there has been interest expressed from a business in purchasing this lot. Richards also indicated the GIDC Board would be meeting to discuss contributing money to the project and that he would report back. Rick Roeser, NWRPC, spoke to the two year process for gathering information for the grant application to the WI Department of Administration/Economic Development Association (WI DOA/EDA), the length of time to prepare and file the application, the large number of municipalities applying for funding and the limited amount of money available. There is no guarantee assistance would be available in the future. Roeser reported he is currently working with the GIDC, Burnett County Administrator, Nathan Ehalt and the WI DOA/EDA rep to find additional funding to assist with the Village's 50% share of the project. An extension was requested and granted by WI DOA/EDA to February 15, 2021 for the Village to decide if they will accept the 50% grant.

7:00 p.m. Leesa Shultz appeared with questions regarding manganese levels in the Village water which exceed the recommended levels issued by U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. DPW Bartlett went through a timeline of events, tests, etc. prepared to outline all steps taken to date including when the Village was notified by WI DNR regarding the exceeded limits. Bartlett gathered test results from 1978 to current showing the same levels of manganese in Village water, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has change the safe level of manganese in water. He explained that an engineering firm was hired and a pilot program was run to determine the best action plan for the Village. A filtration system will be installed at Well #3 by June 2021. Shultz commented on the good and detailed report and asked what the residents of the Village should be doing now and if they would be receiving a credit for the contaminated water they have been paying for. Discussion ensued. DPW Bartlett offered that residents could pick up water test bottles at the Village shop, gather a sample of their water, bring the sample with payment made out to the lab to the Village shop Wednesday morning to be shipped with the Village's normal samples. The board indicated they were researching options to provide safe water to Village residents while the filtration system is being worked on and will report more details when they are available.

MINUTES Motion by Trustee Janke, second by Trustee Stone to approve the following minutes as presented: December 14, 2020 Administration Committee; December 14, 2020 Village Board; December 29, 2020 Administration Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE The following reports were included in the Trustee packets for review: Police Chief's report; Director of Public Work's report; Clerk/Treasurer's reports 1) license/permits issued, 2) cash report, 3) Ehlers Municipal Advisor Client Disclosure; Grantsburg Area Food Shelf improvements update.

BOARD, STAFF and COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Chief Wald reported on an appreciation gathering sponsored by the Methodist Church thanking the Department for their dedicated work.

Public Works 1) Water manganese project filters. DPW Bartlett explained the need to order the filters soon as it could take up to 16 weeks to receive them. **Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Peer to order the water manganese filters and pay the required 10% down \$17,889. Motion passed unanimously.** DPW Bartlett reported the painting and repairing of the Big Gust Statute will begin this week.

Clerk/Treasurer 1) Spring Primary and Spring Election update. C/T Meyer reported three individuals have filed paperwork to be on the ballot for Village President and three individuals have filed paperwork to be on the ballot for Village Trustees. With three running for Village President, a primary will be needed to narrow the candidates to two. The Spring Primary will be held on February 16, 2021. **2) Airport Project update** Nothing new to report

Library Director Sara Christopherson presented the library report. Christopherson also reported the library will be open additional hours starting on January 18th.

Fire Association Village Representative Trustee Sturdevant presented the Fire Association report. There have been 118 incidents to date in 2020 as compared to 130 at this time in 2019.

Public Safety Committee Nothing to report.

Appearances (continued) 7:30 p.m. Richard Lee, General Manager at Inter-County Cooperative Publishing Lee addressed the Village Board asking what could be done for the Inter-County Leader to become the official paper of the Village. Lee indicated they employ many people from the Grantsburg area and have a much larger circulation area than the Village's current paper, the Burnett County Sentinel.

MSA CONTRACT for creation of 2 TIF Districts Motion by Trustee Peer, second by Trustee Muehlberg to table approval of the MSA contract to February 8, 2021 when additional information has been obtained regarding the new Industrial Park. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW INDUSTRIAL PARK Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Stone to table the decision of whether to accept the WI DOA/EDA grant for construction of infrastructure for a new Industrial Park to February 8, 2021 until more information is obtained. Motion passed unanimously.

WATER MANGANESE Provide water for residents. DPW Bartlett presented several options for providing filtered water to the Village residents until the filtration system is completed at Well #3 in June 2021. All options would be at the Village Office building; equipment rental from Culligan Water or a permanent system installed by Burnett Plumbing. Bartlett indicated he was still researching options and waiting for prices from some companies. President Longhenry asked Bartlett to compile all his information and asked C/T Meyer to contact the WI Public Service Commission (WI PSC) who sets the Village's water rates and regulations regarding compensation for past water usage. Once all information is ready, a Special Village Board meeting can be called to discuss or it will be discussed at the next Village Board meeting on February 8, 2021.

DESIGNATE OFFICIAL PAPER Motion by Trustee Peer, second by Trustee Janke to keep the Burnett County Sentinel as the Village's official newspaper. Motion passed unanimously.

CYBER LIABILITY COVERAGE Spectrum Insurance Group LLC is the Village's current agent for the League of WI Mutual Insurance and sent an email asking if the Village would like to add cyber liability coverage to their policy for 2021. The board felt we should already be covered by contracting with Easy IT Guys for computer monitoring, support and backups. Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Sturdevant to decline the cyber liability coverage offered thru Spectrum Insurance Group LLC. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2021-01 Motion by Trustee Muehlberg, second by Trustee Barton to approve Resolution #2021-01 designating May 22, 2021 International Migratory Bird Day. Motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Peer to appoint Don Nelson to the Grantsburg Housing Authority Board as the resident representative to fill the unexpired term to March 1, 2025. Motion passed 5-1 with President Longhenry, Trustees Peer, Barton, Muehlberg and Sturdevant voting yea. Trustee Stone abstained. Trustee Janke voted nay.

VILLAGE LIBRARY REP Trustee Muehlberg asked to be replaced on the Grantsburg Library Board. Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Peer to appoint Trustee Diane Barton to the Grantsburg Library Board to fill an unexpired term to April 19, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

COVID-19 Discussion was held on whether the Village and Police Offices should be opened to the public. The Burnett County Government Center has extended their closure to the public until March 31, 2021. Motion by Trustee Barton, second by Trustee Janke to continue with the Village and Police Offices being closed to the public, by appointment only, until March 31, 2021 like the Burnett County Government Center. Motion passed 4-3 with President Longhenry, Trustees Peer, Barton and Janke voting yea. Trustees Muehlberg, Stone and Sturdevant voted nay.

BILLS Motion by Trustee Janke, second by Trustee Barton to approve the bills as presented:

Checks #33350-33410	\$108,462.26
Payroll vouchers #V7113-V#7148	\$32,761.14
ACH/EFTPS payments	\$46,475.42
Total	<u>\$187,698.82</u>

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Motion by Trustee Janke, second by Trustee Barton to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheila Meyer
Clerk/Treasurer