

March 2, 2020 (Village Board)

**DENMARK VILLAGE BOARD  
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020  
4:30 P.M., DENMARK VILLAGE HALL**

CALL TO ORDER

President Mleziva called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Susan Selner, Vince Wertel, Deb Kralovetz, Mary Jo Bielinski, Josh Leiterman, Paul Hargarten, Gregory Mleziva

Officials Present: Clerk Sherri Konkol, Treasurer Leah Goral, Director of Public Works Erika Thronson, DEO's Karisa Verheyen and Hayden Estano, Attorney Bartels, Village Engineer Mick Magalski

REMARKS/COMMENTS FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

President Mleziva welcomed all present. He recapped the rules of an open meeting and explained the only opportunity for the public to speak at the meeting is if they are a preregistered citizen or to discuss an agenda topic. Unless the rules of the meeting get suspended, the public cannot speak during the meeting.

PREREGISTERED CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

**Devin Coenen**, 2897 Apple Creek Road, De Pere, WI 54115. Coenen is running for District 20 County Supervisor here to introduce herself to the board and inform them of her guiding principals and reason for running for County Supervisor.

**Reverend Andy Zoerb**, 411 Wisconsin Avenue, Denmark, WI 54208. Zoerb her to inform the Board of the early stages of "One Denmark" which is a group of people working together to support the betterment of those residing in the Denmark School District area. Zoerb explained the community is very generous, but often people do not know of all the resources available in the area. "One Denmark" would offer a centralized place and be the hub of resources and information for the residents in the School District, be visible, help to identify where resource gaps exist in the community, help residents know and accept resources available, and help to identify need trends. Zoerb is asking if the Village Board thinks this is something the Board would find beneficial to the fabric of our community. The Board was very receptive to the idea of "One Denmark", and one Board member volunteered to represent for the Village Board to meet with the group to discuss common visions and goals to meet community needs.

**Lori Wagner**, 212 North Wall Street, Denmark, WI 54208. Wagner is here with Zoerb and he asked the Board if Wagner could speak as to some grants that were applied for through her employer, Neighborhood Partners and awarded to them for the Village of Denmark. Wagner stated the grants were a Technology Grant through Bader Philanthropies to bring technology to seniors to ease isolation, and the other is a Denmark Youth Initiative Grant awarded by the Green Bay Packers. This grant allows to work with youth and their ideas to put them in motion and show the youth they are valued in the community.

**Charles Collier**, 5594 South CTH T, Denmark, WI 54208. Collier had two questions for the Board.

1. How are police citations issued to Courts? In 2019 53% of traffic citations went to Circuit Court. *There are other county officers from the Brown County Sheriff's Department that cover the area when our officers are not working, and if a traffic citation is issued by an officer that is not a Denmark DEO, the ticket goes to Brown County Court. Also, any criminal traffic citations have to be written to Circuit Court not Municipal Court.*

2. Committee meetings-the Village has multiple committees which have not met openly in nearly three years. Why has their use diminished? *Mleziva explained the committees are meeting on an as needed basis and the meeting agendas are posted in three places and on the website along with the minutes. Mleziva also explained the minutes are approved by the Village Board.* Collier questioned if all committee meetings are posted on the website as he is not finding them.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA, ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE AND WILL BE ENACTED UPON BY ONE (1) MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS UNLESS A TRUSTEE SO REQUESTS, IN WHICH EVENT THE ITEM WILL BE REMOVED AND PUT ON THE REGULAR AGENDA BY THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

**Selner/Wertel moved to approve as presented.**

**a. i. Village Board Meeting, February 3, 2020**

**b. Licenses and miscellaneous permits**

**Motion carried.**

BOARD APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

**Wertel/Bielinski moved to approve the monthly disbursements as presented.**

**Motion carried.**

## REPORT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

### Witte

- Issued occupancy permit for Salm Partners new building on Hager road. Salm's is hoping to start full production on June 1
- Working with Salm Partners on Woodrow Street to reduce noise, Salm's installed noise blocking curtains, and the County will be coming back to do decibel readings to see if there is noise reduction
- Cleaning up all the plans in the basement and putting everything in alphabetical order.
- There are plans for a couple new homes in the Village

A board member asked about a large amount of vehicles on a property and Witte stated if the vehicles are licensed, they can be parked, but if no license or the tires are flat he can do something about it.

### Thronson

- Plant maintenance
- Truck maintenance
- Met with DNR
- Inventory for Auditors

### Goral

- Auditors were here February 17-21
- Will be closing accounts at BMO bank and transferring to Denmark State Bank due to BMO closing

### Verheyen

- Recapped January events as listed on the monthly report

### Mleziva

- On behalf of the Board Mleziva would like to send out congratulations to Gabe Wertel for his state wrestling championship and Ethan Schwartz and Reece Piontek for their accomplishments in wrestling this year at the state level.

## BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ON TERM LOAN FROM DENMARK STATE BANK FOR FINANCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON HAGER ROAD, SCHLEIS LANE AND SCHULTZ WAY

Mleziva explained this would be to fund the projects for economic development on Hager Road, Schleis Lane and Schultz Way, and would recommend the 60-month term and rate. **Hargarten/Bielinski moved to approve the term loan for a 60-month commitment at a fixed rate of 3.31%. Motion carried.**

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BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ON CHANGING THE DATE OF THE NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING FROM THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH TO ANOTHER DATE DUE TO THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Konkol explained with the Presidential Election being held on November 3, 2020 she asked that the monthly Village Board meeting date changed from November 2, 2020 due to set up of the Village Hall for the election being done during the day on November 2. **Wertel/Leiterman moved to hold the monthly Board meeting in November on Monday November 9, 2020. Motion carried.**

BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION 02-2020, A PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS UNDER POLICE POWER PURSUANT TO WIS. STATUTES SECTION 66.0703 AND AS APPLICABLE 61.36, 66.0701, 66.0907, AND 66.0703(8), AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME (AND AS AMENDED OR MODIFIED BY VILLAGE ORDINANCE) **LYNCH AVENUE/SAINT CLAUDE STREET/DE PERE ROAD**

**Hargarten/Bielinski moved to approve Resolution 02-2020, a preliminary resolution declaring intent to levy special assessments under police power pursuant to Wis. Statutes Section 66-0703 and as applicable 61.36, 66.0701, 66.0907 and 66.0703(8). As amended from time to time (and as amended or modified by Village Ordinance) Lynch Avenue/Saint Claude Street/De Pere Road. Motion carried.**

BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION 03-2020, A PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS UNDER POLICE POWER PURSUANT TO WIS. STATUTES SECTION 66.0703 AND AS APPLICABLE 61.36, 66.0701, 66.0907, AND 66.0703(8), AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME (AND AS AMENDED OR MODIFIED BY VILLAGE ORDINANCE) **BOHEMIA DRIVE/HAGER ROAD/SCHLIES LANE AND WATER MAIN BEING PLACED IN EASEMENT CONNECTING TO WATER TOWER**

**Wertel/Kralovetz moved to approve Resolution 03-2020, a preliminary resolution declaring intent to levy special assessments under police power pursuant to Wis. Statutes Section 66-0703 and as applicable 61.36, 66.0701, 66.0907 and 66.0703(8), as amended from time to time ( and as amended or modified by Village Ordinance) Bohemia Drive/Haver Road/Schleis Lane and water main being placed in easement connecting to water tower. Motion carried.**

BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ON INCLUDING SIDEWALK INSTALLATION IN THE CONSTRUCTION PLAN FOR HAGER ROAD, SCHLIES LANE AND SCHULTZ WAY

Thronson explained if pedestrian facilities (sidewalks) will be included in our plans for construction, the DOT needs a resolution as a part of our LRIP Grant application supporting the inclusion of pedestrian ways as part of the project.

A question was asked if the pedestrian ways could be blacktop instead of concrete.  
*Magalski stated concrete is preferred for longevity.*

**Hargarten/Wertel moved to approve Resolution 05-2020, a resolution supporting the inclusion of pedestrian ways as part of the Bohemia Drive/Hager Road/Schleis Lane reconstruction project. Motion carried.**

BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ON INCLUDING SIDEWALK INSTALLATION IN THE CONSTRUCTION PLAN FOR LYNCH AVENUE

**Selner/Wertel moved to suspend the rules of the meeting. Selner – aye, Wertel – aye, Kralovetz – aye, Bielinski – aye, Leiterman – aye, Hargarten – aye, Mleziva – aye. Motion carried.**

**Paula Gauthier, 260 Lynch Avenue:**

- No justification for sidewalks, maybe 5 people walk on Lynch
- There is no vehicle traffic
- The subdivision is not laid out for sidewalks
- Have you explored sidewalks on only one side of the street

**Dale Schlies, 418 Lynch Avenue:**

- There should be a better plan
- The whole subdivision should have been looked at while designing the plan and should have included Lynch, William, and Dworak and put sidewalks in the entire area – it would be cheaper to do it all at once instead of doing it in sections

Thronson stated that the project was driven by the residents on Lynch Avenue approaching the Village with stormwater drainage concerns

**Bernice Christensen, 211 Hershman Avenue:**

- We don't need sidewalks
- Did you get our petition
- You are here for the people and aren't listening to us

**Erik Seidl, 235 Lynch Avenue:**

- We bought homes without sidewalks so there aren't people walking there
- Can now leave the garage door open and not worry about people stealing things out of it
- We like to keep the neighborhood quiet
- Leave the sidewalks on the main streets
- We have a walking trail, people can walk there
- There is no traffic in the neighborhood
- We want to be left alone

**Merlin Jorgensen**, 413 Lynch Avenue:

- There are mostly elderly people living on Lynch Avenue

**Lisa Vanderkelen**, 407 Lynch Avenue:

- If there are sidewalks put in there will be no front yards and nowhere to park cars

**Tyler Watzka**, 408 Lynch Avenue:

- The reason we bought the house is because there were no sidewalks
- Sidewalks are unnecessary and a waste of taxpayer money
- This is a quiet neighborhood
- 9-10 times any cars going on Lynch are the residents of Lynch

**Marie Ourada**, 225 Lynch Avenue:

- We need to consider global warming grass is better than concrete

**Mark Vanderkelen**, 407 Lynch Avenue:

- Safety needs to be considered keeping sidewalks clean and free of ice build-up would be dangerous for elderly people going for a walk
- Consider the age of the homes

**Steve Otradovec**, 412 Lynch Avenue:

- Walking in the street is safer
- If sidewalks are put in, people will be closer to our homes giving us less privacy

**Wertel/Bielinski moved to return to the rules of the regular meeting. Motion carried.**

**Discussion:**

- \* Three times in nearly 10 years I was nearly hit walking on Woodrow Street. I will not vote against safety
- \* I do not like inconveniencing residents with no parking
- \* Lack of space in driveways
- \* I am all for safety, but this subdivision was not designed for sidewalks
- \* There is no room to expand
- \* Concerned about narrowing the streets, this was built 50 years ago
- \* I can see sidewalks on Hansen Street with the schools there
- \* I am ok with doing the project without sidewalks

**Selner moved to go ahead with the project excluding sidewalks. Motion died due to no second.**

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Mleziva stated if there is no further discussion, we would need a motion to either postpone the project and have the engineers look into a new design including the entire subdivision or we need to approve or deny the resolution to include sidewalks.

**Hargarten/Mleziva moved to approve Resolution 04-220, a resolution supporting the inclusion of pedestrian ways as part of the Lynch Avenue Street project.**

**Discussion:**

- \* I would hate to lose the funding from Rural Development and if we are awarded the LRIP grant
- \* DOT needs to know one way or the other whether there will be sidewalks or not for the LRIP Grant.

**Motion carried 4-3. Leiterman, Bielinski, Hargarten, Mleziva-aye, Selner, Wertel, Karlovetz nay.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Bielinski/Leiterman moved to convene into closed session pursuant to WIS. Statute 19.85(1)(e), deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, as it relates to economic development whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session. Selner – aye, Wertel – aye, Kralovetz – aye, Bielinski - aye Leiterman – aye, Hargarten – aye, Mleziva – aye. Motion carried.**

**RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION UNDER WIS STATUTE 19.85(2) TO TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEM(S) IN CLOSED SESSION**

**Selner/Wertel moved to reconvene into open session under Wis. Statute 19.85(2) to take possible action on item(s) in closed session. Motion carried.**

**Wertel/Leiterman moved to have attorney pursue potential developer's agreement. Motion carried.**

**Selner/Wertel moved to allow the Village President to negotiate for acquisition of property. Motion carried.**

**Kralovetz/Bielinski moved to authorize offer to purchase property for economic development. Motion carried.**

**ADJOURN**

**Bielinski/Wertel moved to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by Sherri Konkol, Village Clerk