

Denmark Village Board Minutes

August 4, 2008

Public Hearing on Parking Restrictions: 6:30 p.m.

Village President Goral declared the public hearing open and requested discussion of the issue. Residents on Hansen Street requested parking restrictions be adopted on streets near the Denmark school district. Residents previously met with the Village and drafted a proposed ordinance that restricts parking Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Hansen, Johnston, Lee, Highridge and N. Wall during school hours. Those present were in favor of adoption of the ordinance provisions for Hansen, Lee, Highridge (west to and including 421 Highridge and N. Wall St. Three residents were opposed to signage on Johnston Street. The concern on Johnston related to a caregiver situation requiring on-street parking. Other related concerns mentioned included garbage/trash, police ticketing and school involvement to help resolve some of the issues. Hearing no further comments Goral closed the public hearing.

The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Village President Bob Goral. Roll call of Trustees: Present: Gerald Steinberger, Cathy Duescher, Bob Sekora, Brandon Wotachek and Ryan Radue. Absent Dan Dvorak. President Goral indicated the Village Board will be moving into closed session later in the meeting under Wis. Stat 19.85 (1) (e) to discuss personnel matters.

Others present: Jim Bielinski, Lawrence Lacenski, Gordon and Bea Peterson, Arlene Anderson, Linda Pelischek, MiLissa Stipe-Clerk Treasurer, Gordon Ellis-Administrator, Art Rademann, Julia Kudick, Keith Schlies, Rob Freeman, Tom Kaminski, Pam Schoen, Mark Looker and other citizens.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Approval of Minutes

Regular Board meeting minutes of July 7, 2008 were reviewed. Moved by Trustee Steinberger, second by Trustee Duescher to approve the minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Ordinance: Parking restrictions for Hansen, Lee, Johnston and N. Wall Street

Motion by Trustee Sekora, second by Trustee Steinberger to approve the Ordinance amending section 7.04 of the municipal code to include restrictions on Hansen Street, Lee Street, Highridge Ave (west to and including 421 Highridge) and N. Wall Street. All ayes. Motion carried.

Designation of Grand Ave. No Heavy Trucks

A Grand Avenue resident respectfully requested the posting of "No Heavy Trucks" for the length of Grand Avenue. Motion by Trustee Radue, second by Trustee Steinberger to table the request and refer the matter to the Law Enforcement committee. All ayes. Motion carried.

Request to widen track for tractor pull in Memorial Park

A request was received from Lowell Hansen to widen the track at the bottom of the hill at Veterans Memorial Park. There has been a need to do this for insurance and safety reasons. The Lions Club are willing to do all the work and are not requesting any funds to complete the required work. They are just requesting permission to widen the track. It was suggested that the Veterans should also be contacted and included in the discussion. Motion by Sekora and second by Steinberger to approve the request. All ayes. Motion carried.

Creation of Part-time Crossing Guard positions.

At the last Police Committee meeting, they recommended that crossing guard positions be created for the corner crossing areas of N.Wall St./County KB (Main St.) and at the corner of Highridge/N. Wall St. A job description was handed out and a survey on crossing guard pay. Perhaps three individuals may need to be selected to allow for time off or sick leave coverage. Motion by Trustee Steinberger, second by Trustee Sekora to approve the creation

of the position of Cross Guard contingent upon the School District's agreement to share the cost of the positions on a 50/50 cost basis.. All ayes. Motion carried.

Creation of Wastewater/Water utility position.

Given the increased responsibilities at the wastewater treatment plant and water utilities the Board was requested to consider creating a full time position of Wastewater/Water Operator position with a base hourly rate of \$18.85. This position would be within the existing labor agreement. The current Utilities/Public Works Tech position within the Labor Agreement which has been vacant would be abolished. The position will need to be internally posted and if no one applies the Village would advertise the position. Residency would not be required. Motion by Trustee Steinberger, second by Trustee Duescher to approve the resolution as presented. Roll Call vote: Steinberger and Duescher vote yes. Sekora, Radue, Goral, Wotachek voted no. Those voting no or against the resolution stated they believed residency should be required. Motion by Radue, seconded by Sekora to amend the resolution as presented to require residency and move for adoption. Roll call vote. Radue, Sekora, Goral, Wotachek voted aye. Steinberger and Duescher voting no. Motion passed with 4 yes and 2 no.

Interim Financing for the Rural Development Loan.

Under Public Meeting requirements Administrator Ellis discussed the acceptance of the Rural Development funds. The application for the loan was been submitted to the Wisconsin Rural Water. The money has already been allocated. The actual resolutions will be ready to be approved by the Board at their Sept meeting. Short term borrowing to be rolled over into a 40 year amortization schedule will be used. The project cost are estimated at \$1,044,000 and a \$100,000 grant has been tentatively approved. Additional options are still being explored. Rural Development has proposed financing the \$944,000 loan at 3.6% for 40 years. Motion by Radue, second by Wotachek to tentatively approve the financial structuring as presented with the understanding that a final package is to be submitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

Use of Streets & Alleys Resolution: Rural Development

Motion by Trustee Wotachek, second by Trustee Steinberger to adopt the "Use of Streets & Alleys" resolution required by Rural Development. All ayes. Motion carried.

Utility Construction Work: CTH KB From CTH R east through the Village to West Grand Ave.

The Village has received notification of a federal grant for the improvement of CTH KB from St. Claude to Pleasant Ave. This work may begin in 2009-11. In addition to the road work the utilities will need to be reviewed and updated were necessary. Phase I and Phase II borrowing, financing for the Safe Route to School program, Grand Avenue construction and the roll-over on North Road total \$2,943,962. Once the TID amendment is finalized a financing plan will be presented to the Board at either the Sept or Oct. Board meeting. The actual bond sale would occur one month after the presentation to the Board. Brown County Highway has given permission for the Village to begin the utility work in 2009.

TID Amendment for the ½ mile allowance.

A contract for services with Ehlers to amend the TID to include Main/Wisconsin utility construction project within the TIF for cost recovery was presented. Upon approval of the contract, Ehlers will set up a public hearing to be held by the Plan Commission on Sept 15th. The objective is to make certain utility cost will be TID eligible. Motion by Trustee Duescher, second by Trustee Wotachek to approve the contract with Ehlers. All ayes. Motion carried.

Cooperative Agreement between Village and Board of Education for maintenance of Highridge Baseball Diamond Park property.

Trustee Cathy Duescher met with School District staff and collectively redrafted the agreement for the future maintenance of the Highridge baseball diamond park property. A copy of the agreement was presented. Motion by Trustee Wotachek second by Trustee Steinberger to approve the agreement with the adjustment of D (2) to 30 minutes after completion of a game the infield lights will be shut off. All ayes. Motion carried.

Guidelines and Rental agreement for use of Depot shelter building

Trustee Cathy Duescher held a Park, Recreation and Forestry meeting and the committee reviewed and agreed upon the guidelines and rental agreement to be used for the Depot shelter. Motion by Trustee Radue, second by Trustee Sekora to approve the guidelines and rental agreement as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Ad Hoc Committee for development of Master Plan for bicycle routes within the Village.

Trustee Cathy Duescher requested an ad hoc committee be created, with citizens to be appointed, to work toward the development of an overall plan for bicycle routes within the community. Motion by Trustee Wotachek second by Trustee Steinberger to approve the request. All ayes. Motion carried.

Professional Services to develop a Bicycle Master Plan

A proposal was received from Ayres Associates to prepare bicycle route master plan and map identifying routes through out the village. The Board felt the Ad Hoc Committee should be created and then involved in the contracting of a firm. Motion by Trustee Radue, second by Trustee Wotachek to refer the matter to the Ad Hoc Committee to be created. All ayes. Motion carried.

A & E Firm for proposed 2009 utility construction projects (Main/Wisconsin)

The Public Works Committee/A&E review committee met twice and listened to seven firms presentations on services to be provided for the utility reconstruction project for Main/Wisconsin in 2009. Based upon the established selection criteria the committee selected and recommends the firm of Ayres be selected and the contract for services be approved in the amount of \$129,000.00. Motion by Trustee Sekora second by Trustee Duescher to approve a contract with Ayres in the amount of \$129,000.00. All ayes. Motion carried.

2009 Budget Development Calendar of Events

Budget Calendar for 2009 was distributed. It was pointed out that the “starting point” for budget discussions should begin with the understanding of how the actual mil rate is determined. Total expenditures anticipated for 2009 are identified and then total anticipated revenues are identified. The amount of expenditures not covered by anticipated revenues is that amount the Village will need to levy against properties. The levy amount is divided by the assessed valuation of the Village to come up with the mil rate for the Village. In 2008 the Village rate was 3.9016212. In 2009, if revenues and expenditures were to remain the same the mil rate could decrease to 3.011864 due to the recent revaluation that was completed. Basically, the reduction in the Village mil rate would translate into a reduction of \$90.04 on a \$100,000 value home or \$180.08 on a \$200,000 home. Therefore, when decisions are made on the 2009 budget the effect these individual decisions should be made with reference to this formula and the net impact these choices will have on the starting point of a possible reduction in taxes of \$90.04 on a home valued at \$100,000.

Quarterly Financial Reports

Clerk/Treasurer MiLissa Stipe has implemented many changes in the way the Village handles all of its financial transactions. Several records are now maintained electronically. Financial information is more readily available to decision makers. Stipe distributed copies of quarterly financial reports on Village and utility budgets for 2008 to help Trustees to see how the Village is performing so far this year in relation to the budgets that were adopted back in Nov of 2007.

Approval of license applications

Motion by Duescher, second by Brandon to approve the picnic beer licenses as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Sekora, second by Radue to approve the operator licenses as presented. All ayes.

Committee Reports

Brief information about various activities within each of the committee areas was presented by each Trustee. Village President Goral accepted the resignation of Steinberger from the Viking Board and appointed Cathy Paquet. Motion by Sekora, second by Steinberger to approve the appointment. All ayes. Motion carried.

Monthly Disbursements

Moved by Trustee Ryan Radue, second by Trustee Sekora to approve voucher numbers 33086 to 33169 for a total of \$129,886.35. Village: \$69,768.07, Water \$19,253.00, Sewer \$37,454.36, Storm Sewer, \$1,939.56 and TIF \$1,471.36. All ayes. Motion carried.

Comments from the Public

Art Rademann indicated he noticed that trail users who were not aware that the Devils River State Recreation Trail was not completed, were disappointed in that it only went a mile and a half. The Village will post information about the progress on trail construction in the information kiosk along the trail to inform people about the current length of the trail and the anticipated completion date. Jim Bielinski requested that the fire hoses be made available at the upper and lower diamond areas so the teams can water the fields during tournaments. Steinberger requested that a yield sign be installed on the corner of Jacob Drive and Church Street. Attorney Duffy recommended this request be placed on the next agenda and be voted upon. Bea Peterson requested the Village public works crew pick up trash at the concession stand and that the Legion shouldn't need to perform these tasks.

Report of Village Officials

Village Attorney Duffy stated that he would be meeting with Rural Development staff on Tuesday to go over the multitude of regulations/requirements associated with their grant/loan offer for the water utility improvement. Administrator Ellis indicated he had received a request for signage for a Special Needs Child Area on Wisconsin Ave. and would be requesting the public works crew to install these signs. He also congratulated and thanked Shawn Wagner on completion of his Eagle Scout project and providing two new bridges along the Denmark Creek Nature Trail.

Closed Session

Motion by Trustee Duescher, second by Trustee Wotachek to move into closed session per Wis Stats 19.85 (1) (e) to discuss personnel performance and collective bargaining issues. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Sekora seconded by Trustee Duescher to move back into open session. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Motion by Trustee Wotachek, second by Trustee Steinberger to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

MiLissa Stipe
Clerk-Treasurer