

## MINUTES

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: 345 West St, Arena, WI 53503

PURPOSE: REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order** at 6:03 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Kate Reimann, Kathy Stoltz, Tami Erspamer, Kristen Shea, Melissa Bandell, Jim Doerflinger arrived at 6:38 p.m.  
Absent: Brittany Carney
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. Motion made by Shea to **Approve November 15, 2022 agenda**. Seconded by Bandell. Motion carried.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed 2023 Village of Arena General Budget**
  - A. Motion made by Stoltz to **Open public hearing**. Seconded by Bandell. Motion carried at 6:06 p.m.
  - B. **Comments from the public on 2023 Budget:** Steve Wilkinson had a question regarding the total of the Fire/EMS funds. Indicated in 2022 a total of \$49,759 was budgeted and questioned what this year's budget would be. Stated a ½ FT position and wage increase would cost the Village \$15,000. Clerk explained that the EMS Director applied for some grants but used the Village's FEIN number vs the Fire/EMS FEIN number so a check for ARPA and grant funds came to the village and had to record it as revenue and issue a check to the EMS for a total of around \$18,xxx. The State would not reissue the check so had to record it on the Village's books. Bandell explained that there was an issue with the referendum per the Department of Revenue, so the budget does not include the referendum of \$35,000. Can go back to referendum in April to request once again and so the budget includes 2 FT EMT's with 5% raise at \$30,000, the 1/2 FT position will not be budgeted. Wilkinson stated "I'm retiring, and you won't have my hours to cover, what are you going to do? Be prepared for not having coverage." Bandell indicated the Fire Board needs to look at ambulance fees charged and increase those fees and use those funds to cover the ½ FT position for 2023.

Paul Pustina questioned what the issue was with the referendum? Clerk indicated wording. Pustina asked if it was reviewed by anyone. Clerk answered no, used 2020 referendum question that was reviewed by the Village's attorney and changed numbers. Pustina – so you're saying in 2020 the referendum wasn't correct? Answer – yes. Pustina asked who the Village attorney was. Clerk – Paul Johnson.

No further questions.

- C. Motion made by Stoltz to **Close Public Hearing**. Seconded by Erspamer. Motion carried at 6:14 p.m.
- D. **Board action after the close of the public hearing**
  1. Resolution was read aloud for the public. Motion made by Bandell to approve **Resolution #2022-10 Adopting the 2023 Annual Budget and Establishing the 2022 Local Tax Levy**. Seconded by Erspamer. Roll call vote: Bandell -I; Shea -I; Erspamer -I; Stoltz-I; Reimann-I. Motion carried 5-0.
6. **Consent Agenda: *Items listed under consent agenda will be approved in one motion without discussion unless any Board member requests that an item be removed for individual discussion.***
  - a. **Approval of minutes from the October 4, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**
  - b. **Approval of monthly invoices and biweekly payroll**  
Motion made by Stoltz to approve above consent agenda. Seconded by Bandell. Motion carried.

7. **Public Comment** – Please be advised per State Statue section 19.84(2), information will be received from the public; be further advised that there may limited discussion on the information received; however, no action will be taken under public comments. It is the policy of the Village that there is a two-minute time limit per person. Time extensions may be granted by the President. Please register your name on the sign-in sheet prior to the start of the meeting. None
8. **SPEAKERS:** None
9. **President’s Report**
  - a. **Fire District Representative** – asked if anyone was interested in representing the Village on the Fire Board, meets every other month first Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Tami Erspamer indicated she would be interest. Motion made by Stoltz to approve Tami Erspamer as the new Fire Board Representative beginning January 2023. Seconded by Bandell. Motion carried.
10. **Monthly Maintenance Report**
11. **Clerk/Treasurer Report:**
12. **OLD BUSINESS:**
13. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - a. **Doerflinger request: Install speed bumps on Willow Street** – Doerflinger not present, board feels needs more information on cost effectiveness, effects on Fire/EMS, criteria for providing speed bumps so not every street has them, does police see an issue, is there documentation on when it’s occurring to provide to the police department. Motion made by Shea to lay on the table, seconded by Bandell. Motion carried.
  - b. **Doerflinger request: Refunding park rental to Mary Jones Memorial Fund – Fireworks.** The village has an ordinance that states there is a fee, if you exempt one will need to be fair and exempt everyone. Noted that the event does cost taxpayers for the extra electricity, utilities, and restroom supplies. If Doerflinger doesn’t feel its right, he is welcome to donate the fees. Clerk indicated they did not request an exemption. No action taken.
  - c. **Everest Offer letter to acquire easement** – Letter provided from Everest Infrastructure Partners from PA to acquire the easement to the land the village owns under the cell tower (US Cellular). Offered three purchase options. Clerk indicated under the current agreement with US Cellular, page 7, if the village wishes to sell, they must provide this offer to them for “Right of First Refusal”. Also recommended having village attorney review to ensure it is legit. Motion made by Stoltz to not accept the offer from Everest to acquire easement. Seconded by Erspamer. Motion carried.

*DOERFLINGER ARRIVED*

- d. Motion made by Bandell to approve the **Iowa County Humane Society Contract**. Seconded by Shea. Motion carried.

**Discussion and possible action regarding reports from the following Committees:**

14. **Public Works**
15. **Finance, Technology, Licensing**
16. **Dane-Iowa/Wastewater**
17. **Emergency Response**
18. **Fire/EMS**
  - A. **2023 Fire/EMS Budget** – Was discussed in budget hearing. Motion made by Bandell to approve proposed Fire/EMS budget without EMT wages of \$23,940.88. Seconded by Stoltz. Motion carried. Motion made by Bandell to approve 2 FT EMT employees with a budget of \$30,000, contingent any funds not paid to EMT’s to be refunded back to the Village. Seconded by Stoltz. Motion carried.
19. **Personnel**
20. **Plan Commission**
21. **Police – Report**
22. **Informational/Education:**
23. Motion made by Stoltz to **Adjourn**. Seconded by Shea. Motion carried at 6:49 p.m.