

## MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING – JANUARY 29, 2024

**Call to Order:** Chairman Bob Knueppel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Trustees Present:** Bob Knueppel, Ted Engelbart, and Andy Buchanan

**Trustees Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Laurie Buchanan, Roger Zubke, Nathan Schoenike, Todd Tessmann, and David Margelofsky (via Zoom).

**Discuss/Approve Minutes from 10/2/23 Committee Meeting:**

Ted motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Andy. The motion carried.

**Discuss/Recommend Proposal for a Joint New Salt Shed:**

Our present 40-year-old salt shed is 35' x 30'. The cost of building a new shed will be split evenly with the Town of Hustisford, since we both utilize it for our roads. We have agreed to relocate the shed away from the Village wells to 600 S.Lake St. to the north of the existing storage building. Roger and Nathan have done extensive research into multiple options. They presented quotes and recommendations for a couple options. The committee agreed to recommend going with a shed comprised of the following details for an estimated total of \$228,235.34:

A 40' x 60', 1,000-ton capacity, Hoop, Clear Span Fabric Structure, 16' Poured Concrete Walls, 6' concrete divider wall down the center, and asphalt floor.

Todd and Nathan will discuss this project with MSA Engineering to develop specs for bidding purposes.

David will bring this proposal to his Town of Hustisford Board for their approval. We are hoping to get this out for bids in early Spring so we have an opportunity to construct this shed this year yet. We will have to borrow the money for our portion of this project. Bob will have clerk Kim Hopfinger discuss this with our financial advisor to find out our best option. Bob will have this subject placed on the February 12<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting agenda.

**Discuss/Recommend Repairs to Roof & Overhead Doors on Village Shop:**

The roof and overhead door I-beams of the shop are in need of repair. Roger and Nathan presented quotes from local contractors for doing the work so we have an idea of the cost because we will need to borrow the money for these projects. There are a few unknowns yet due to the fact that actual construction around the overhead doors could lead to more extensive work once they start the project. Also, the door contractor gave an inadequate quote because he did not actually meet with the guys to discuss the project when he was here to look at it. The committee felt the total cost of these projects could range from \$125,000 to \$150,000. Andy motioned, with a second by Ted, to recommend to the Village Board to borrow \$150,000 for these projects. The motion carried. Bob will have clerk Kim Hopfinger discuss this with our financial advisor to find out our best option. We need to find out if the \$25,000 bid law applies to this repair project to determine if we need to bid this out. Bob will have this subject placed on the February 12<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting agenda.

**Discuss/Recommend Replacement of the Front-End Loader:**

Our front-end loader is 28 years old and has had extensive repair work done already, so it is time to look into replacing it. Roger and Nathan have been researching and testing multiple brands and sizes of new loaders. They have not finalized their testing yet, but they are estimating a new loader could cost around \$180,000. Todd said he would estimate getting around \$15,000 for our old loader if we advertised on Wisconsin Surplus. We do not have any money saved for this purchase and would have to borrow for it. Bob motioned, with a second by Ted, to recommend to the Village Board to borrow \$180,000 for this. The motion carried with Andy opposed. Bob will have clerk Kim Hopfinger discuss this with our financial advisor to find out our best option. Bob will have this subject placed on the February 12<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting agenda.

**Discuss/Recommend Street Maintenance Repairs for 2024 and Future Years:**

Bob presented the proposal for using the remainder of our borrowed money for street maintenance, which is around \$39,000. Kim said that we have interest accumulated over the last several years in this account that would cover the proposed estimate of \$42,000 for 4 sections of streets. Bob motioned, seconded by Andy, to recommend to the Village Board to put this proposal out for bids. The motion carried. Bob will have this subject placed on the February 12<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting agenda.

Bob presented the remaining plan for street maintenance over the next few years, totaling an estimated \$138,000. We would need to borrow additional money for these projects. Andy suggested waiting with borrowing for these because the Finance committee is researching the possibility of implementing a wheel tax in the Village, which could possibly help fund these projects.

**Discuss/Recommend Borrowing Funds for the Above Items:**

Bob presented the total amount of an estimated \$586,000 for these items:

Salt Shed: \$118,000

Shop Repairs: \$150,000

Front-End Loader: \$180,000

Street Maintenance: \$138,000 (might not be needed)

Andy motioned, seconded by Ted, to recommend to the Village Board to borrow the money needed for these projects. The motion carried. Bob will have this subject placed on the February 12<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting agenda. Bob will have clerk Kim Hopfinger discuss this with our financial advisor to find out our best option.

**Discuss/Recommend Possible Discontinuance of Plastic Recycling Collection:**

Roger and Nathan presented the cost for them to collect and dispose of the plastic that we have been doing to get a free bench from Trex after collecting 500 lbs. We were getting 2 benches per year. Trex has changed the amount needed to get a bench to 1,000 lbs. The disposal fee has increased also. They estimate about 39 labor hours per year for them to do this. Total cost for collection is estimated to be over \$1,100. The bench we are receiving can be purchased for \$359.00.

Bob had suggested they work with Dollar General to dispose of our plastic with theirs, thus eliminating disposal cost and reducing our labor hours substantially.

Dollar General manager here agreed to do that. The guys did not feel comfortable with this and did not expect that agreement to last very long before their corporate questioned it. Bob felt offering this convenient collection was important to encourage recycling, otherwise people will just dispose in the garbage again. Ted motioned, seconded by Andy, to recommend to the Village Board to discontinue the collection. The motion carried with Bob opposed. Bob will have this subject placed on the February 12<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting agenda. Bob will discuss this with the School Superintendent to see if any children would be interested in providing this service as a possible community service.

**Update from Nathan on Highway 60 Discussion at the Dodge County Traffic Safety Commission Meeting:**

Scott Smith from the County told Nathan about their discussion at their meeting about pedestrians walking and biking across Highway 60 to get to and from the Dollar General store. They felt this was unsafe activity due to the speed of the traffic and multiple traffic lanes to cross. Nathan talked to Christopher Wells from the State D.O.T. about this situation and he said it would be entirely Village cost to do anything about this. Bob said that the Village had expressed their concerns about this during the previous stages of development and construction of this intersection. He had suggested reducing the speed on highway 60 as they do in other communities with such intersections, but it fell on deaf ears. He felt nothing would happen until there were some unfortunate accidents. The committee felt it was not our total responsibility to fund a solution to this issue.

**Adjourn:**

With no further business Ted made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Andy. The motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Bob Knueppel, Public Works Chairman