

## **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 31, 2024**

The special Village Board Meeting of the Village of Hustisford was called to order on Thursday October 31, 2024 @ 6:00pm by Village President Laurie Buchanan at 201 South Lake Street, Hustisford WI, in accordance with the Notice of Meeting delivered to trustees on Friday October 24, 2024.

**Trustees Present:** Bob Knueppel, Ted Engelbart, Andy Buchanan, Cynthia Stroessner, Ken Westphal, and Jay Huncosky

**Trustees Absent:**

**Others Present:** Kim Hopfinger and Dan Strobel

### **Discuss/Approve Digital Sign at the Community Hall:**

Dan Strobel from the Hustisford Community Hall Association appeared before the board to present their plans to put up a digital sign on the lawn of the Community Hall. They will be purchasing the sign from Able Sign out of Beaver Dam. Ted made a motion, seconded by Cynthia, to grant permission for the Community Hall to put up the new sign. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Discuss/Approve the 2025 Budget for the Sinissippi Department:**

The board reviewed the proposed 2025 Sinissippi Recreation Budget. There is no change in the budget from last year as far as the Village and Township contribution of \$9,387.40.

Andy made a motion, seconded by Cynthia, to approve the 2025 Sinissippi Recreation Budget. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the budget is attached to these minutes.

### **Discuss/Approve the 2025 Dodge County Humane Society Contract:**

Ted made a motion, seconded by Cynthis, to approve the 2025 Humane Society Contract for \$1,800 which includes 5 animals and has the stipulation that the Humane Society must get permission from a Village Official to accept an animal brought to them. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Discuss/Approve the 2025 Village Budget Numbers for Public Hearing:**

The board had the detailed budget and discussed proposed numbers that were put in by all of the committees.

Kim reminded the board that to receive the budget restraint money from the state – the Village could not increase their expenditures more than 3.2% over 2024. Hopfinger also stated that the levy limit for this budget is \$382,692 for operating and a total of \$567,044 including the debt service. Laurie informed the board that the finance committee met and has some recommendations to be able to appropriate \$4,000 more than 2024 for both the Fire Department

and the Library. Originally the board stated at a joint meeting that they would increase each by \$2,000 over 2024. The Township would not agree to this \$2,000 so the committee met to try to find a compromise. In their proposed budgets, the library was asking for an \$8,000 increase and the Fire Department was asking for a \$11,000 increase. Laurie stated that the committee went through all of the numbers and there is no way they could appropriate that much without extreme cuts to other Village services. The finance

committee is recommending \$64,000 for the library and \$67,600 for the Fire Department. This is \$4000 more than each received in appropriation funds in 2024.

The committee made these other following adjustments in the 2025 budget worksheet to be able to stay under the levy limit and the budget restraint:

1. The Village will carry over \$10,000 of wheel tax that came in during 2024 to put towards the streets maintenance that is budgeted for in 2025
2. The committee is recommending also including a one dollar bump up in Clerk Kim Hopfinger's hourly wage in addition to the 3.5% increase all employees will receive in the 2025 budget
3. The committee reduced the Police Capital Outlay Squad & Equip. account from \$6,000 to \$4,400. The squad is now paid for so there will be no car payment in 2025. The money will go into capital outlay for payments once the next squad is leased.
4. The committee reduced the capital outlay sweeper account from \$2,500 to \$1,000

With these changes the committee was able to increase the Library and Fire Department budgets by \$4,000 each over 2024. This would make the library appropriation \$64,000 and the Fire Department appropriation \$67,600.

With these adjustments, the Levy for the general fund sits at \$381,824. The total levy with debt service is \$566,175. This puts the Village mill rate at 4.77. The increase in expenditure is 3.17%. Jay made a motion, seconded by Ted, to approve the 2025 budget to go to public hearing on December 2, 2024, at a total of \$566,175 with a mill rate of \$4.77 for 2024 taxes. This budget includes a 3.5% wage increase for Village employees and an additional dollar bump up for Kim Hopfinger. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the budget summary is attached to these minutes. A detailed budget is available at the Village Hall.

The budget will go to publication and the budget hearing will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm.

With no further business before this board, Jay made a motion, seconded by Ken, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.