

# MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING – SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

**Call to Order:** Chairman Bob Knueppel called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

**Trustees Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Laurie Buchanan, Nathan Schoenike, Jesse Bischoff, and Braxton Bischoff.

**Discuss/Approve Minutes from 7/17/24 Committee Meeting:**

Ted motioned to approve the minutes as presented, second by Andy. Motion carried.

**Discuss/Recommend New Garbage/Recycling Contract:**

We received two proposals of 5-year contracts. LRS (formerly Badgerland) proposed a 5-year extension of their existing contract, with clarification of some of the existing services, along with a 4% increase annually after the first year (which remains exactly the same as this year). They changed the fuel surcharge to start after fuel reaches \$4.00/gallon from the existing \$3.50.

GFL proposed a 5-year contract somewhat similar to what we have now, with a few less services and possible rate adjustments beyond the proposed pricing. Pricing begins \$0.12 per home per month less than LRS the first year, \$1.44 total less for the year. The second year is a 2.5% increase, the third year no increase, the fourth year a 2.5% increase, and the fifth year no increase. Their fuel surcharge will start after fuel reaches \$5.00 per gallon. They will offer the same curbside bulk pickup monthly as LRS, but they will not collect appliances, tires, electronics, or batteries. They will accept tires (4 per year) at their landfill in Horicon, with proof of residency. They do not offer compost/yard waste dumpsters as we have now.

Annual increase cost per home for LRS over GFL:

2025 = \$1.44, 2026 = \$5.28, 2027 = \$12.96, 2028 = \$17.04, 2029 = \$25.32

Pros to stay with LRS:

1. Locked in price, no extra surcharges or fees resulting in rate adjustments. Easier to budget a fixed cost with no unknowns.
2. Yard waste dumpsters (four 30-yarders per year). A value to the village of \$1,872.00 annually.
3. A 10-yard dumpster for each of the two community events per summer.
4. Bulk pickup curbside includes appliances, tires and electronics. **Using this just once in the five years will more than make up the total increased cost to a home over the five-year contract.**
5. No switching out carts for all the residents and going through the retraining of drivers process with a new provider.

Cons to stay with LRS:

1. Monthly rate higher due to 4% annual increase after the first year.
2. Fuel surcharge starts in after \$4.00 price of fuel and GFL starts after \$5.00.

Andy and Laurie expressed their displeasure with their separate commercial dumpster pickups they have with LRS. Andy questioned the integrity of LRS. The commercial and industrial pickups are not part of this contract and are contracted separately by each business owner.

Ted motioned to recommend to the Village Board to proceed with the 5-year extension with LRS, seconded by Bob. Andy and Laurie opposed. The motion carried. Bob will place on the Village Board agenda for Monday, September 9th.

**Discuss/Recommend Tree Root & Sidewalk Issue at 205 S. Ridge Street:**

Jesse Bischoff and his son Braxton are fixing up this property. The sidewalk is all in bad condition on the front side of this property. A beautiful tree in the terrace area has grown partially into the sidewalk, so he is concerned if he fixes the sidewalk now, eventually it will become a heaving problem again. They asked Nathan if the Village tree could be removed because they don't want to have to deal with this same problem again years from now. The committee had told Nathan previously to offer to Jesse to pay for half the removal. The lowest quote Nathan received to remove it was \$2,400, and \$800 to stump it, from K&B.

The quote to grind the roots causing the heaving in the 16 feet of sidewalk is \$250 from K&B. The quote to replace the 16 feet of concrete sidewalk from Duane Westphal last fall was \$710. The Village ordinance states the Village will pay for half of the replacement costs for sidewalk repair for any section(s) caused by a Village tree, so \$355. So, the total Village cost to remove the tree and replace the sidewalk would be \$2,355 (\$1,200 + \$800 + \$355).

Jesse offered a compromise to save all parties cost. The tree stays and the Village pays for grinding the roots (\$250) and the whole cost of 16 feet of sidewalk replacement (\$710), for a total of \$960. The sidewalk replacement concrete quote from last fall could actually be higher now because concrete has gone up substantially at the beginning of this year. Jesse agreed to do the entire length of his sidewalk that is in bad shape on this side of his property, possibly himself. Bob motioned to grind the roots and replace 16 feet of sidewalk at Village expense not to exceed \$1200, and Jesse would replace all of his sidewalk in front of his property by July 1, 2025. Ted seconded the motion. The motion carried. Bob will have this subject placed on the Village Board meeting agenda for the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Discuss/Recommend Additional Bill for Roof Project at the Village Garage:**

Nathan explained that he has several questions regarding the extra bill of \$4,512.00 and has not gotten a chance to receive clarification because Scott Firari is in Canada for a few weeks. Andy motioned to table this subject until Nathan can get clarification, seconded by Ted. The motion carried.

**Adjourn:**

With no further business, Andy made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m., seconded by Ted. The motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Bob Knueppel, Public Works Chairman