

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

The regular board meeting of the Village of Hustisford was called to order by Village President **Laurie Buchanan** at 201 South Lake Street, Hustisford, Wisconsin at 7:00PM in accordance with the Notice of Meeting delivered to trustees on September 6, 2024.

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

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Police Chief Greg Kaepernick, Nathan Schoenike, Kim Hopfinger, Angela Matt, Justin Montani and Matt Spencer

Public Appearances:

President Buchanan spoke on a concern from a resident that was not at the meeting but had been in contact with board member Jay Huncosky. The resident is concerned that the new lighting put on the outside at Station Hustis is too bright and shines in their window at night. Angela Matt – the manager from Station Hustis attended the meeting. Buchanan stated that there is nothing in the village ordinances stating that the lighting at the commercial property is in any violation. The lighting is to help stop vandalism that has occurred at the station after hours.

Minutes:

Cynthia made a motion, seconded by Ted, to accept the August full board meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills:

Jay made a motion, seconded by Ted, to approve the August bills with checks #46530- #46574 for a total of \$351,551.79 – with check # 46547 void. The motion carried unanimously.

Utility:

There was no utility report.

Police Committee:

Chief Kaepernick went over the monthly police report.

Chief Kaepernick gave an update on the department. Officer Devon Meeuwsen has taken a full-time police position in another community. He will not be able to pick up hours here until he has completed the training at his new job. It is most likely he could return for some hours in January of 2025. Officer Ryan Brehmer also may have a new full-time job in which he would have to complete the training before he could have hours here again. Brehmer is still currently fulfilling his hours here as the School Resource Officer. If he does need time away – Officer Haag would cover the School Resource Officer hours. Kaepernick stated he has hopes that Officer Brehmer would return to his part-time position here after training is completed if he takes the new full-time job. Kaepernick also stated that he is tracking the police budget and is doing his best to stay on budget.

There was discussion on a car repair business using Ridge and Anthony Streets for parking of overflow vehicles associated with their business. President Buchanan stated that there is sometimes up to 30 cars on the street and many of them are unlicensed. The streets are also narrow, and it is hard for two cars to pass when the streets are parked full on both sides. Chief Kaepernick stated that the police department is marking the tires of the parked vehicles and that they are not in one place more than the 48 hours as the ordinance states. There was also discussion on whether the department should start ticketing the unlicensed vehicles. Buchanan and the Chief have had discussions with the owner of the business. Kaepernick stated that the issue has improved since these discussions. The business owner does not own the property – he rents the space. Kim will send a letter to the owner of the property regarding these issues. Andy made a motion, seconded by Jay, to table this matter. The motion carried unanimously.

Andy made a motion, seconded by Ted, to approve a special event permit for The Hustisford Historical Society for Founder Johns Day on September 14, 2024, and to waive the permit fee. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Kaepernick stated that the police committee interviewed 2 part-time applicants to fill the void of officers that will not be available because of new jobs. The committee is recommending hiring both applicants that were interviewed. Jay made a motion, seconded by Ted to hire Jace Laning pending pre-employment physical results and to hire Ryan Cepican, pending background check and pre-employment physical results. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee:

The following committee meetings were scheduled:

Monday September 30th – Public Works 6pm

Monday October 7th – Parks Committee 6pm

Tuesday October 8th – Finance 4:30pm

It is possible that there will be a joint Fire Department meeting on October 21st, but that has not been confirmed.

Public Works Committee:

The current 5-year contract with LRS for residential garbage and recycling pick up is up for renewal at the end of 2024. Justin Montani and Matt Spencer from LRS were in attendance to answer any questions the board might have.

Chairman Bob Kneuppel stated that the Village 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 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.

Bob stated some 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.

Bob also stated Cons to stay with LRS:

1. Monthly rate higher due to 4% annual increase after the first year.
2. Fuel surcharge starts 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. The commercial and industrial pickups are not part of this contract and are contracted separately by each business owner. Justin Montani stated that he would keep a close eye on not only the residential services but also the commercial services.

After much discussion, Ted made a motion, seconded by Cynthia, to approve a 5-year contract extension with LRS for residential garbage and recycling services. The board was polled:

Ken -Y, Jay -N, Andy -N, Laurie -Y, Bob -Y, Ted -Y, Cynthia -Y. The motion carried.

There was a discussion on a tree root problem 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.

At a recent public works committee meeting, Jesse offered a compromise to save all parties cost. The tree would stay and the Village would pay 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 made a motion, seconded by Ken, 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. The motion carried.

Report from Village Representatives on Joint Boards:

Ken reported that an engine tank was leaking water. It was fixed for around \$3,000.

Cynthia gave a brief update on the library and handed out a sheet with many events coming up at the library.

Bob gave an update on the Recreation Department. The Fall session of poms is in full swing. The next recreation board meeting will be September 11th at 6:30pm.

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