

Proceedings of Regular Board Meeting

October 14, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Village President, Mark Bade, at 6 p.m. Present were Trustees: Todd Dorshorst, Joe Haupt, Jerry Rybicki and Barb Ziebell. Absent: Clerk Ron Peters and Treasurer Joanne Budzinski. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved as corrected. At the top of page 2, first paragraph, first sentence: Bade and Rybicki have looked at the possible crossing of Main Street to be installed during the reconstruction.... It should read: Bade and Rybicki have looked at the possibility of the sewer lines being installed during the reconstruction at the crossing of Main Street..... Also, the September 2007 sewer bills, instead of the September 2008 sewer bills, were attached to the minutes. Trustee Haupt moved to accept the minutes with the corrections; seconded by Trustee Rybicki. Carried unanimously.

Review of the previous meeting minutes:

- We are waiting for the paperwork to pay the bill for the County repaving Meadowview Lane to submit our request for reimbursement.
- Stan Charron from MSA met with President Bade to collect demographic information for the Waste Water Facilities Plan. When we apply for a grant, we will include the \$19,900 it is going to cost us for preparation of the report. We should also consider including in the grant request the cost of upgrading the lift stations.
- Trustee Haupt has been attempting to reach someone about recouping lawn mowing expenses at the Atrium. It is a good possibility that we will have to include the expenses on the property owner's real estate tax bill.
- The County came in and cleaned out the ditch along 4th Street North. The top of water flow will be at the top of the rocks in the ditch. It will be easier to maintain.
- The application has not been submitted for the Community Progress Fund grant of \$1,000 for community beautification. The Rudolph Lions Club may have additional money for the project. It was decided to ask village residents if they have any ideas about flower pots, planters, etc. for Main Street. They will also be asked if someone will volunteer to keep one of the decorations watered and cared for. This information will be sent with the January sewer bills.
- Trustees Dorshorst, Haupt, and Rybicki and President Bade met with the officers of the Fire Department before their annual meeting to discuss the cost of snow plowing at Fire Station No. 1. The Fire Department officers suggested that if they are to pay for the snow plowing fees, the village will be charged \$100 each time their services are needed. At this time, the village will continue to pay for the snow plowing at Fire Station No. 1.

Budget – It was thought that there should be enough money to pay the village's share of Main Street road re-construction in 2010. There will also be four years of 50/50 road improvement money that has been or will be "banked" with the County. Money being available for purchase of a new mower for the park was also considered. Trustee Haupt moved and Trustee Dorshorst seconded that the budget based on the tax levy of \$26,690, be accepted as presented.

Insurance Rates - Westland Insurance Services submitted a proposal for workmen's compensation, liability, and no fault sewer backup at a total cost of \$5,450. This is a \$735 increase in fees. Trustee Rybicki moved and Trustee Haupt seconded to adopt Resolution #32 which states Westland Insurance Services will be the village's provider of workmen's compensation, liability, and no fault sewer backup insurance for the time period October 21, 2008 through October 21, 2009.

Ambulance Services – Commencing in 2010, Gary and Tyler Johnson hope to be owners of Higgins Ambulance Service. At that time it will be known as United Emergency Response L.L.C. The bank financing the sale would like Higgins/United to have a ten year contract with municipalities. As has been in the past, an annual 3% increase in fees will be in effect. In 2010 the formula used to determine municipality costs will be reviewed. And, then every five years there will be an additional review. Joe will ask, at the next ambulance board meeting, why a formula review is not conducted yearly. The formula used includes population figures, square miles, and ambulance runs. Trustee Rybicki moved and Trustee Dorshorst seconded to accept a ten year contract with Higgins Ambulance/United Emergency Response. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Rates – More than likely the sewer rates will have to be increased when the Wastewater Facilities Plan is implemented. At one time we had a maintenance/repair fund. Those present were not sure if the fund is still in existence and, if so, how much money is in the account. A suggestion was made to increase the fees \$5 in six month increments. The topic will be addressed again in February, before the March sewer bills are mailed.

Snow Plowing – Hartjes Trucking submitted a proposal of \$85/hour for the large truck and loader and \$65/hour for the pick up. This will be a \$10/hour increase for the large truck and \$5/hour for the loader and the pick up. Dean Altmann will charge \$65/hour for the pick up, \$75/hour for dump truck and salt truck, and \$95/hour for the loader. His costs will be based on round trip from his place of business to the village and return. Wood County will charge a rate of \$120.38/hour. President Bade was asked if the village ever considered purchasing their own snow plow. After much discussion the cost of a vehicle, end loader, insurance, and wages will probably prohibit the village from doing their own snow plowing. Trustee Haupt moved and Trustee Ziebell seconded to accept Hartjes Trucking snow plowing bids for the 2008-2009 season. We will be able to purchase sand and salt from the County.

Trick and Treat Hours – The hours were set at 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Friday, October 31.

President Bade read a very good sewer report.

Trustee Joe moved and Trustee Rybicki seconded to accept reading and payment of the bills.

On motion and vote the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Ziebell
Acting Village Clerk