



Village of Grantsburg

Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, February 8, 2021

The Village of Grantsburg Board of Trustees met remotely via zoom on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Present via zoom: President Michael Longhenry, Trustee Diane Barton, Trustee Greg Peer, Trustee Caylin Muehlberg, Trustee Russell Stone, Trustee Joe Sturdevant, Trustee Leo Janke.

Others via zoom: Director of Public Works (DPW) Chris Bartlett, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Allison Longhenry, Library Director Sara Christopherson, Jonathan Richie-Burnett County Sentinel, Brian Reilly-Ehlers & Associates, Dave Rasmussen-MSA Professional Services, Rick Roeser-Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC), John Richards-President Grantsburg Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC), Nathan Ehalt, Burnett County Administrator, Scott Hanson, Kara Schmidt, Terry Kucera, Rod Kleiss, Kayla Woody, Brent Blomberg, Lisa Slater, WCMP Radio and other miscellaneous guests.

CALL TO ORDER President Longhenry called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPEARANCES: 6:00 p.m. Brian Reilly, Ehlers, discussed financing options for installing infrastructure in the Industrial Park Expansion Project if the Board accepts a 50/50 grant from US Dept of Administration/EDA for the \$2.1 million project. Financing could be scheduled in many different ways to accommodate the Village's needs. Reilly felt the Board should create a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District and then the biggest consideration was the fact that the District would need to create approximately \$5.25 million in value to cover the loan. **John Richards, GIDC, and Rick Roeser, NWRPC** spoke about the importance of expanding the Industrial Park and having the infrastructure completed as a way to attract industry to the Village. Richards felt the success of the existing Industrial Park should ease the question of whether the expanded Park would create enough value to work. Richards also indicated the GIDC Board would be contributing \$50,000 to the Village for use on this project along with giving the land to the Village. Roeser updated the Board, after talking with the EDA rep, about the large number of municipalities applying for funding, the limited amount of money available from EDA and the slim possibility of the Village being approved for another EDA grant for several years to come. **Nathan Ehalt, Burnett County Administrator**, reported the Burnett County Administration Committee had met and will be recommending the County Board contribute \$50,000 from their Economic Development fund to this project along with \$10,000 per year for 10 years from the sales tax revenue fund. **Motion by Trustee Peer, second by Trustee Muehlberg to accept a 50/50 grant from US Department of Commerce/Economic Development Association (EDA) for a \$2,170,760 Industrial Park Expansion project. Motion passes unanimously.**

MINUTES Motion by Trustee Janke, second by Trustee Barton to approve the following minutes as presented: January 11, 2021 Public Safety; January 11, 2021 Village Board; February 3, 2021 Airport; February 3, 2021 Recreation. Motion passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE: 7:00 pm Karl Anderson Storage Units Kara Schmidt appeared for Karl Anderson requesting permission to sell shipping container storage units from his lot located on State Road 70 across from the Johnson Street entrance. There would be around 5 units available for sale or rent. Rented units would be moved off the property for use. The units would be nicer, used one-time, 40-foot long units. **Motion by Trustee Muehlberg, second by President Longhenry to allow Karl Anderson to use his lot #07-131-2-38-19-23-1 01-000-011000 at 497 E State Road 70 for short-term storage of 40-foot long shipping containers while for sale and/or rent provided they are all removed prior to the Memorial Day weekend. Motion passed 5 to 2. Ayes - President Longhenry, Trustees Muehlberg, Peer, Sturdevant and Janke. Nays – Trustees Barton and Stone.**

CORRESPONDENCE Included in the Board packets for their review: Police Chief's report, DPW report, C/T reports, Grantsburg Golf Course financials, North Ambulance reports and Grantsburg Housing Authority HUD report.

BOARD, STAFF and COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works 1) **Trustee Janke and President Longhenry concerns.** Concerns regarding snow plowing, sanding stop signs, flasher on State Rd 70, streetlights, sidewalk cleaning and alley plowing were discussed with DPW Bartlett. Discussion ensued with other Board members expressing their concerns as well. 2) **Manganese project.** DPW Bartlett reported the project is ready to go out for bids. Bids will be opened at the Village Office on March 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. 3) **Provide water to residents.** DPW Bartlett indicated there are still quotes coming in. This was tabled and will be discussed at a Special Village Board meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

MSA CONTRACT Dave Rasmussen, MSA, discussed the contract for creating two Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts in the Village. One for the Industrial Park Expansion project at \$12,000 and another one on W. State Road 70 at an additional \$2,500, if a conditional use permit is granted to the applicant on March 8, 2021. The total cost is \$14,500. **Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Sturdevant to contract with Dave Rasmussen of MSA to create two new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts. One for the Industrial Park Expansion project and one on W. State Road 70 (if project approved in March) at a total cost of \$14,500. Motion passed unanimously.**

BOARD, STAFF and COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Library Director Sara Christopherson presented the library report.

Fire Association Village Representative Trustee Sturdevant presented the Fire Association

report. There was a total of 135 incidents in 2020, 8 to date in 2021 as compared to 7 at this time in 2020. Elections were held with Cory Barnette being reelected Fire Chief and Todd Snyder as President.

Airport Committee 1) **Hangar purchase.** The committee made a recommendation the Village Board add a condition to the sales agreement with Scott Hanson. **Motion by Trustee Muehlberg, second by Trustee Janke to add the following condition to the sales agreement between Scott Hanson and the Village “if reconstruction of the blacktop runway at the Grantsburg Municipal Airport has not started within two years of signing this sales agreement, Scott Hanson will have the option to sell the hangar back to the Village. The Village would buy the hangar back for \$10,000”.** Motion passed unanimously.

2) **Airport campground release.** Motion by Trustee Muehlberg second by Trustee Janke to sign the release for the campground land at the airport. Motion passed 6-1. Ayes: President Longhenry, Trustees Barton, Peer, Muehlberg, Sturdevant and Janke. Nay: Trustee Stone.

Recreation Committee 1) **Pool manager.** Motion by Trustee Muehlberg, second by Trustee Barton to advertise for a Pool Manager at a starting wage of \$15.00 per hour. Motion carried unanimously. 2) **New campground.** Motion by Trustee Muehlberg, second by Trustee Sturdevant to contact 3 engineering firms and request designs and quotes for a new campground located off W. Olson Drive, west of the existing campground, for a total project cost under \$500,000. Motion passed unanimously.

NWRPC claim C/T Meyer informed the Board that a claim has been received from Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) for Recovery of Unlawful Tax on 365 Industrial Avenue W for \$13,845.78 plus interest, which is the amount NWRPC paid for the 2020 real estate taxes. The claim was sent to Village Attorney, Anders Helquist and to the Village’s insurance company.

RECYCLING CONTROL An addendum to the approved 2021 Drop-off Site Staffing Agreement was received. The addendum increased the attendant hourly wage rate from \$8.90 to \$11.00. **Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Stone to agree to the addendum to the 2021 Drop-off Site Staffing Agreement for the recycling center to raise the attendant’s hourly wage to \$11.00.** Motion passed unanimously.

TWO RIVER’S Proposal The Village auditor, Two River’s Accounting, LLC, submitted a proposal to assist with the required Tax Increment District #3 closeout audit for \$5,000. **Motion by President Longhenry, second by Trustee Barton to approve the proposal received from Two River’s Accounting, LLC, in the amount of \$5,000 to assist with the required Tax Increment District #3 closeout audit.** Motion passed unanimously.

BILLS Motion by Trustee Janke, second by Trustee Barton to approve the bills as presented:

Checks #33411-33470	\$307,903.72
Payroll vouchers #V7149-V7186	\$32,620.65
ACH/EFTPS payments	\$38,730.90
Total	\$379,255.27

Motion passed unanimously.

VILLAGE BOARD WILL CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (c) “Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.”

Motion by Trustee Barton, second by Trustee Sturdevant to go into closed session. Motion passed unanimously.

VILLAGE BOARD WILL RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (2).

Motion by Trustee Barton, second by Trustee Janke to reconvene into open session. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT Motion by Trustee Janke, second by Trustee Barton to adjourn the Village Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheila Meyer
Clerk/Treasurer