

VILLAGE OF BALDWIN
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 12, 2023 – 6:00pm

The Village of Baldwin Board of Trustees held their regular board meeting on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. President Lance Van Damme called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Village Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Tracy Carlson took roll call. Those present included: President Lance Van Damme, Trustees Kristine Forbes, Matt Knegendorf, Amy Jurgens, Doug Newton, Austin Van Someren and Chad Wernlund.

Others present: Public Works Director Brad Boldt, EMS Chief Tom Boyer, Librarian Rita Magno, Village Engineer Erik Henningsgard, Jodi Peterson, Angie Chandler, Mitch Nichols, Melissa Anderson, Pam Walker, Sally Leavell, Officer Zach Paul, Officer Shawn Kline, Lexi Hubbub, Danielle Johnson, Pam and Mark Arbaniak, Hillary Boyer, Jason Schulte, Juli Garden, John Bielder, Brooke Gordon, Darcy Almquist and Eilidh Peterson

CONSENT AGENDA

Jurgens **moved** to approve the consent agenda items. Seconded by Van Someren. Motion carried. Items approved included:

- Checks written #41576-41684; Payroll vouchers #28324-28491 and online checks for payroll taxes, HSA contributions, deferred comp/Roth IRA contributions, Payment System Network (PSN) payments and WI Retirement System (WRS) contributions.
- Financial reports (including budget comparisons) for June, 2023.
- Minutes from June 14, 2023 Regular Village Board Meeting
- Municipal court report – June, 2023
- Building inspector report – June, 2023

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Comments: President Van Damme called for public comments.

Sally Leavell and Pam Walker expressed their concerns about current ordinances not allowing motorized scooters and skateboards on village streets.

No other public comments were heard.

Creek flooding issues: No discussion. No action.

Chili Fest requests: Jurgens **moved** to approve the requests from the Baldwin-Woodville Chamber of Commerce for Chili Fest which include the closure of Main St. on Sept. 23 from 10am – 5pm and a beer garden permit. Seconded by Van Damme. Motion carried.

Request to eliminate Ordinance Ch 205-09 related to pit bulls: Jacob Crabb (368 Bluebill St) requested that Ordinance Ch. 205-09 be eliminated. He shared ordinances from other communities in St. Croix County and studies done to indicate that prohibition of breed-specific dogs is not necessary. Comments from most of the audience were in favor of eliminating the ordinance, although there were some audience members who expressed their concerns regarding pit bulls. The

board sent this issue to the Public Safety/Personnel Committee for further discussion and recommendation. Crabb then asked that he be allowed to keep his pit bull at home as it has been determined to be an emotional support dog. The police department and administrative office will follow up with him. No further action taken.

Sewer plant pay request: Van Someren **moved** to approve pay request #23 - RJ Jurowski - \$350,095, SEH - \$35,961.31, Wipfli IT - \$15,690.14, Gregersons Ace Hardware - \$1,435, Baldwin Lightstream - \$90. Seconded by Jurgens. Motion carried.

2023 Street project pay request: Knegendorf **moved** to approve pay request #1 for Albrightson Excavating - \$81,648.51. Seconded by Newton. Motion carried.

EMS building pay requests: Jurgens **moved** to approve pay request #4 - \$7205.75 and pay request #5 - \$280,537.85 and Wold Architects invoice - \$5,178.69. Seconded by Wernlund. Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-14 – 2022 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report: Newton **moved** to approve this resolution. Seconded by Van Someren. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor. (The actual report was approved at the June 14, 2023 board meeting).

Request to order new police cars: Officer Zach Paul requested that a new squad car (Dodge Durango) be ordered as budgeted and that an order be placed for two new squad cars for the 2024 budget year, contingent on approval of the 2024 budget. Van Someren **moved** to allow three cars to be ordered, but with a contingency clause written that if the 2024 budget does not support two additional vehicles, the order will be null and void. Seconded by Jurgens. Motion carried.

Request to order additional election tabulator: Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Carlson requested the purchase of an additional election/ballot tabulator to be used during heavy elections. Van Someren **moved** to approve the budgeted purchase. Seconded by Forbes. Motion carried.

Wage adjustments: Knegendorf **moved** to approve wage adjustments for Adam Newton, Public Works (2 years) with an increase of \$1.33/hr. and Tyler Place, EMS (6 months) with an increase of .50/hr. Seconded by Wernlund. Motion carried.

REPORTS -

Village Engineer – Erik Henningsgard (SEH) – Written report was submitted. The sewer plant is 97% completed. Henningsgard reported that Baldwin-Lightstream must move a fiber optic line along County Rd J that is inhibiting the start-up of the new plant. (A change order for the work is included in the committee report/action below). The anticipated date for the sewer plant to be on-line is July 24, 2023.

Committee Reports

Water/Sewer Committee:

i). Knegendorf **moved** to approve the quote with HydroCorp to install new meters and completed the residential cross connections in 2024-2025 and to approve the quote for cross connection inspections for commercial/industrial properties in 2024. Seconded by Van Someren. Motion carried.

ii). Van Someren **moved** to table the approval of new Ordinance 556-37 – Private water system maintenance. Seconded by Newton.

iii). Phil Broberg (personal representative for owner of 1150 9th Ave) requested that the final water/sewer bill be reduced. The bill is \$7970.30 due to late bills and consumption of over 504,000 gallons of water used between Feb.6 – March 1, 2023. At the recommendation of the Water/Sewer Committee, Van Damme **moved** to adjust the billing to include any and all past due amounts, water usage between Feb. 6 – Feb. 21 and the cost of a new meter. Seconded by Forbes. Motion carried.

iv). Van Someren **moved** to increase the price of septage and holding tank hauler dumping effective Jan. 1, 2024. Septage loads will be \$250/load. Holding tank loads will be \$100/load. The annual fee will be increased to \$75. Seconded by Forbes. Motion carried.

v). The board considered the request to budget an additional sewer plant laborer for 2024 in anticipation of G. Newton retiring. The board agreed to consider another position during the budget cycle. No action taken.

vi). Van Damme **moved** to approve change order #28 for the new sewer plant to relocate fiber optic lines that conflict with the influent sewer pipe. Seconded by Van Someren. Motion carried.

Dept. Heads

Public Works – Director Boldt reported the Newton St. project is not going as expected and will have an increased cost. 8th Ave. project will be completed prior to Curtis St.

The south water tower work is completed.

There was some water utility work completed on Locust St as part of repairs needed at 980 Locust St (Donaldson property). 3 valves, watermain and a hydrant were replaced.

The walking bridge on Florence St/12th Ave has been removed for truss work.

A new dump truck has been ordered. Delivery is not expected until Sept. 2024.

Police Department – Krueger not present. Report submitted. There were 245 calls for service in June. August 1 is National Night Out.

EMS – Report submitted. There were 164 calls for service and 38 transfers in June, 2023. The new EMS building project is moving forward. Starting July 24, the pre-fabricated walls will begin being installed.

Library – Librarian Magno reported on summer programming. There are state park passes available for free. There was an accessibility audit completed with suggestions for improvements to be made.

Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer's Report – Administrator Carlson reported on the following:

- The state budget has been passed and includes increases to the shared revenue fund for all municipalities in WI. The Village will receive an additional \$103,038 in 2024.

- A Streets/Building Committee meeting will be called to discuss motorized scooters, skateboards, roller blades.
- David Amondson has filed a lawsuit against the village re: Baldwin Creek. Bakke Norman will represent the village with a motion to dismiss.

Recess: 7:33pm

Reconvene: 7:37pm

Van Someren **moved** to convene to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1) (c) – Consideration of employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any village employee who is subject to the jurisdiction or authority of the board. Seconded by Newton. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor. Closed session convened at 7:37pm.

The Village Board discussed policies and procedures of the Police Department and appointed Officer Zach Paul as Officer-In-Charge in the absence of Chief Darren Krueger.

Van Someren **moved** to adjourn closed session and adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Newton. The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Lance Van Damme
Village President

Tracy Carlson
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer