



UTILITY/MARINA COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes of November 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

Present: Bahle, Lutke and Newcomb
Staff Present: Aylsworth, Larrea and Miller

Reports

A Committee Status Report was submitted by DPW Director Miller and can be found in this meeting packet. Miller stated he is working on the generators right now. Today was the first day out salting; the Village just got the single axle snow plow back yesterday. Next week the new Utility truck will be here, it was ordered about 8 months ago and should be almost ready. The logo application has been arranged.

The Marina report was submitted by Harbor Master Aylsworth and can be found in this meeting packet. Aylsworth stated Elmer's was in recently and has already completed the rip rap project. She stated a ring still needs to be added to the end, otherwise the Marina is good for the winter. The Coal dock has been tethered to the shore. The bubblers have been installed. Aylsworth stated discussions about opening the boat launch next year are forthcoming. Aylsworth stated the overheads would need to be built higher at North Park, at highway height, if North park becomes the main launch. Extending the dock 10 feet or bringing the skid over from the main marina would work at North Park too. To accommodate all boats, we would need to make the overhead higher.

The WWTP Report was submitted by Mark Huggard and can be found in this meeting packet. Huggard was unable to attend the meeting, however DPW Director Miller reviewed Huggard's weekly and monthly reports and stated things are working well at the plant and everything is in compliance. Miller stated the portable gas monitoring system is being utilized until it can be repaired or replaced. Miller provided a memorandum to Committee authored by Mark Huggard, Jacobs, listing two options for a Gas monitoring system

replacement, and following discussion Committee recommends Option One, with a cost of \$1,881.07. The funds currently exist in the budget, therefore there is no need to go before Council and the purchase can be made.

Committee Business

Report VSB 2019-68 F&V Contract – Larrea stated the proposal from Fleis is to bring our water system up to date. Currently there are grant opportunities available to assist with these improvements. Replacements cover an area from M-204 to Jefferson Street and include water main replacements, system upgrades, and fire flow upgrades putting us in compliance with state law. If the Village receives the loan, we are looking at about a \$4.00/month increase in water rates. Bahle asked if this work could be done in conjunction with the TAP Grant project. Larrea stated he will access that possibility. Committee recommends the Water Loan proposal be sent to Council for consideration.

Budget

Larrea stated Treasurer DeVol has done a fantastic job on the budget. The Coal Docks, Pine and Beach Street have been repaired, further noting that the Village continues to hit the smaller projects as we can while Elmer's is already in the area, saving money on staging. Streets are funded by State, County and the General fund. A large portion of the budget will be paid out when the TAP Grant project is complete next year. Larrea stated the County now wants to evaluate the TAP grant, specifically the bump outs. In the Sewer fund, waste hauler fees will see an increase. Currently they are at four cents per gallon, the low end of what is being charged locally. The fee has never been raised. Following discussion, Committee recommends raising the rates to six cents per gallon. Miller stated that a cap on the number of loads was placed on the hauler this year noting the importance of keeping things balanced. A grit removal system, costing approximately \$240,000, is being considered as a 2021 project. In the water fund, rates will remain the same for 2020. Committee discussed small incremental increases beginning sooner than later, however, we have been informed by Fleis and Vandenbrink that the Village is in good shape as we currently stand to receive good terms and rates on a loan from USDA. This is based on the rates we currently charge, the size of the community and our current fund balance. Larrea will check with Fleis and Vandenbrink about raising the rates just \$2.00/month, and its effect to receive an USDA loan, noting we do not want to be knocked out of eligibility for the loan. Larrea stated the Marina is in good shape.

Committee Member Comments

Bahle asked about Elm Street and South Shore Drive, stating they both are getting worse. He stated the County now wants to evaluate the TAP Grant project; specifically, the bump outs. In the past, an issue with the streets has been culverts and the cost associated with fixing/replacing them. Bahle stated County participation is necessary. Lutke asked about getting an Engineering study for these roads, then see what the options were. Larrea stated he thought some preliminary engineering was done in the past and will ask Fleis and Vandenbrink to have a look at it. Larrea would like to get proactive and place weight limits on the roads. Committee discussed a millage dedicated to streets, or perhaps a grant. Larrea stated it will be a 2020 project to figure it all out. There may be two issues, streets and culverts, so grant opportunities may be limited to perhaps just the streets, or the culverts. Newcomb asked if the streetscape project included light posts; it does. Newcomb also asked about the Marina noting it is full of muck. Committee discussed options such as scrape and fill, or a drain. Other Committees discussed not allowing further events at Marina park, due to the water, and instead having the events on Front Street, which worked well for the Art Fest. Larrea stated the proposed Ferry idea will go before Council.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Meeting notes submitted by Shar Fay, Village Clerk.