

THE VILLAGE OF GAYS MILLS

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Gays Mills held Monday, January 3, 2022, which began at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Commerce Community Room.

Village President Harry Heisz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following present: Harry Heisz, Josh Kasinskas, Larry McCarn, Kevin Murray, Seamus Murray and Lee Ruegg. Aaron Fortney was absent.

The board received verification that the agenda was posted in accordance with the open meeting law.

Under citizens and delegations JoAnn Gonos followed up on the boards request to talk to the Mercantile tenants regarding the request to install a table and chairs and a book cart in the Mercantile hallway for a place for community members to gather. JoAnn reported that two tenants were opposed. Charley Preusser questioned if a plan was in place to have a person responsible for cleaning, who would be responsible for specific hours to be open and who would be responsible to check that the doors are locked? Item will be added to February agenda.

Jim Chellevold did report for public works that some snow removal has been done and continuing to work on the beaver issue next to the Community Commerce Center.

Evan Chambers of Town & Country Engineering was present and discussed that they have a call scheduled with the DNR on Thursday regarding the facility projections. In February he hopes that they can start working on estimates. Also continuing to work with Jim and labs on different testing methods for wastewater.

Kasinskas reported for the Development Committee - a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday the 11th with agenda items of goals for year and commercial lot prices. The lots for sale signs will be stored in the shop for the winter.

Cindy Kohles reported for the Tree Board with the Urban Forestry 2021 grant complete and the 2022 grant awarded. The 2022 grant includes hiring pruning to be done, soil work, and possible treatment of an ash tree. Volunteer time is no longer considered a match, but the volunteers will still be contributing to pruning with a lift this year. A 5-year management plan needs to be updated with a request of community and board feedback by the end of March.

Harry reported that he talked to Jill Riggs today for the kitchen report and a new client should be starting this month.

Ruegg made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes of December 6, 2021. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

McCarn made a motion to approve payment of the bills as listed in the monthly expense report. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

Heisz informed the board that he has a verbal agreement with New Horizons that a sidewalk will be installed in spring at the Marketplace.

John Gibbs put in a request to purchase Lot 24 of the North Mills subdivision. McCarn made a motion to accept the request to sell Lot 24 to John Gibbs and to start the selling process. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

The previous month the board discussed possibly charging a garbage fee to cover additional expense and free up tax dollars for other uses. The board received handouts explaining that a new garbage fee also needs to reduce the levy limit by the same amount, but a recycling fee does not need to reduce the tax levy amount. In 2021 the village paid out \$8,912 for recycling services. There are 631 tax parcels in the village which includes vacant land parcels and tax-exempt parcels and there are 242 water-sewer accounts. The board discussed the best billing option for this possible new recycling fee. No action taken. Item will be left on agenda for next month.

The board also received information on the Public Fire Protection which is currently being paid by the general tax levy and water billing. If the board chooses to shift the collection of public fire protection to water a portion of the tax dollars would be available for other uses. This change would have to be reviewed by the Public Service Commission. No action taken. Item will be left on agenda for next month.

A draft letter to the DOT was presented to the board to request waivers for the ATV/UTV from the State Highways to Del La Mater and West Point Road. K. Murray made a motion to submit the ATV/UTV waiver requests to the DOT. Seconded by Kasinskas. Motion carried.

The villages health insurance plan for 2021 had \$4,456.41 left in the budget. Ruegg made a motion to deny any health insurance incentive bonuses. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

No correspondences.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 7, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

At 6:40 p.m. K. Murray made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Stat. 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating the purchasing of property. Evan Chambers and Jim Chellevoid were invited into closed session. Seconded by Kasinskas. Motion carried.

At 7:04 p.m. K. Murray made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried. No action was taken from closed session.

Ruegg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Dawn R. McCann, Clerk

APPROVED 02-07-2022