

THE VILLAGE OF GAYS MILLS

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Gays Mills held Monday, March 7, 2022, which began at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Commerce Board Room.

Village President Harry Heisz called the meeting to order at 5:30 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.

At 5:30 p.m. McCarn 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. Village Attorney Eileen Brownlee and Evan Chambers of Town and Country Engineering was invited into closed session. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

At 6:06 p.m. K. Murray made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried. No action taken.

Jim Chellevoid Director of Public Works had nothing new to report.

Evan Chambers of Town & Country Engineering was present and discussed that the DNR has responded to the villages Phosphorus Pollutant Minimization Plan and would like to see some changes. Evan will work with the DNR on these changes and report back to the board. Also Town and Country Engineering will begin to work on the Facility Plan.

Library Director David Gibbs reported to the board the current library trustees are Marla Heisz, Lee Ruegg, Rebecca Eby, Emily Bialkowski, and Lois Schwert. The group Friends of the Gays Mills Library oversees events such as the book sale and movies. The library's Public Instruction report was submitted March 1st which shows a decrease in circulations of physical materials and computer usage due to the pandemic. Electronic books have increased but the electronic materials do not help with library funding. The library is focusing on increasing programming which includes book discussions, story hour, movies, fitness, and many other activities. They will begin creating a strategic plan for the library in April. Craig Anderson reminded everyone a library sponsored movie will be held this Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Per the recommendation of the Public Property and Cemetery Committee Ruegg made a motion to amend Ordinance 2022-01 of Section 11-3-3 (b) #6, #7, and #8 of Title 11 of Chapter 3 of the Municipal Code for cemetery lot prices to increase from \$300 to \$450 and add an option of cremation lots 2'x 3' of \$300; and to increase the grave opening fee from \$400 weekdays to \$500 and weekend grave openings from

\$450 to \$600; and to increase the cremation/baby openings from \$70 weekdays to \$200 and weekend cremation/baby openings from \$120 to \$250. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

Heisz reported for the Friends of Gays Mills Committee. It is their goal to raise \$100,000 for the Mill House repairs which includes the original restoration of the roof, deck, rails, brick, and windows.

Kasinskas reported for the Development Committee which did not have any new information due to their meeting being cancelled. Advertisements have not been placed yet and lot marketing signs will be out as soon as the weather permits.

A kitchen report was not given. Heisz asked about a warming cart that is being store and not used - if this item could be sold? In discussion it was asked if people who rented the space knew that this item is available for their use? No action was taken.

Under citizens and delegations Bob Lomas asked how much rent is being collected from the 212 Main upstairs renters due to lights being left on and renters using the space during all kinds of hours. Bob Lomas also inquired about continuing to work on junk and unlicensed vehicles. The income collected from the renters of the 212 Main Street has been covering the utilities. Also the village will review junk and unlicensed vehicles again.

K. Murray made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes of February 7, 2022. Seconded by Ruegg. 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.

Under old business the board discussed the recycling fees and public fire protection charges. The board received information that the fire protection fee being collected through property taxes counts towards the municipalities levy limit. With the action taken last month regarding changing the fire protection fees to be collected all through property taxes this would reduce the village levy limit by an additional \$17,400 resulting in less tax dollars to be available for the village budget. K. Murray made a motion to table agenda item to review information further on direct charges for residents not on the village water system. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

Under new business K. Murray made a motion to approve working with Community Development Alternatives Inc on assisting the village with additional services needed for the sewer project at an hourly fee of \$80 per hour plus \$.50 per mile. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

Ruegg made a motion to approve a Class “B” and “Class B” license for CDA, Driftless Area Art Festival at the Community Commerce Center on June 2, 2022 and approve a Class “B” license for McCormick Rose Legion, Stump Dodger Bash at 388 Railroad Street on July 1-2, 2022. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

Kasinskas made a motion to appoint Don Lampert as a chief inspector and Roseanna Gunderson as an election inspector for a term ending December 31, 2023. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

Ruegg made a motion to approve the Economic Development village budget line: CDA Tourism of \$500, Driftless Development Inc of \$500, Gays Mills Farmers Market of \$500, Kickapoo Stump Dodger Campground of \$1,000 and \$500 left in the budget to be used by the Village Board Development Committee. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

No action taken on Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate.

K. Murray made a motion to approve \$250 towards the North Crawford School athletic poster sponsorship. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

Kasinskas made a motion to approve placing an advertisement for employment for lifeguards and bathhouse attendants due before the next board meeting. Seconded by K. Murray. Motion carried.

No correspondences.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

At 6:49 p.m. K. Murray made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Stat. 19.85(1) (c) for employment positions. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

At 7:24 p.m. K. Murray made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

Swimming Pool Manager advertisement will be place back into the newspaper during March.

K. Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Seconded by McCann. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Dawn R. McCann, Clerk
[APPROVED 04-04-2022](#)