

THE VILLAGE OF GAYS MILLS

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Gays Mills held Monday, June 3, 2024, which began at 5:40 p.m. in the Community Commerce Board Room.

Village President Harry Heisz called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following present: Ethan Eitsert, Harry Heisz, Emily Kinserdahl, Larry McCarn, Kevin Murray, and Art Winsor. Aaron Fortney was absent.

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

Murray made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisc. State Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Seconded by Kinserdahl. A roll call vote was taken: Eitsert, Heisz, Kinserdahl, McCarn, Murray and Winsor voted Yes. Motion carried. Lisa Twarog of Town and Country Engineering was invited into closed session.

At 5:54 p.m. Murray made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

Under citizens and delegations Martha Querin-Schultz of Connect Communities updated the board that the group had a successful All-Village Rummage Sale that was held on May 18th with up to seven other sales in the area. The group plans on holding the All-Village Rummage Sales again next year. Announced the 2nd Sunday at the Gays Mills Mercantile will be held on June 9th. Martha also provided a handout of information on the Connect Communities Gays Mills group with information of Who they are, How they work, and What they do.

Under the public works report Jim Chellevoid updated the board that the lawn mowing is getting done with the three lawn mowers which is estimated taking a half day to a day longer to mow. The board learned that the large tractor with the pull behind mower has a broken PTO drive shaft. An estimate was received from Simpsons Tractor for repairs of over \$3,000. Heisz suggested waiting on the tractor repairs. Chellevoid is still waiting on water hydrant parts. The office will be sending out letters with the June's water/sewer bills for each water user to self-report the type of incoming water service pipes before the water meter. This form will help the village start the process of completing the required Service Line Materials Inventory report to the Environment Protection Agency and Department of Natural Resources. McCarn made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-02 for the 2023 Wastewater Compliance Maintenance Annual Report which received a GPA of 3.62. Seconded by

Eitsert. Motion carried. The GPA decreased from a 3.81 to a 3.62 due to the phosphorus component. The board reviewed the covid fund budget (American Rescue Act Plan) with a remaining balance of \$30,000 so far. Chellevoid is happy with the new water meters with auto read and is recommending purchasing additional auto readers with the funds. McCarn approved the purchase of 75 additional water meters and auto readers with the ARAP funds. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried. Chellevoid plans on keeping enough funds back to also fix a manhole. A follow up from last month with Jim Maybee Jr.'s concerns regarding the drainage issues along Grove Street which was found to be the cause of a beaver dam that has now been removed.

Kinserdahl and Eitsert met with the swimming pool staff and reviewed policy and procedures. The board agreed to allow t-shirts or tank tops to be ordered for swimming pool staff. The pool is scheduled to open Saturday June 8th. A suggestion from the swimming pool manager would be for the lifeguard stations to have umbrellas. Heisz suggested funds to be used out of the Swimming Pool Fundraising account for this.

Nothing to report for the Wastewater Treatment Project.

Kinserdahl made a motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes of May 6, 2024. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

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

Under old business Heisz updated the board that he has been in contact with McCormick Electric and that they have not been there to look at the 212 Main Street upstairs offices for metering purposes. Rent prices have been discussed with the current renter and Heisz has reviewed the need for repairs.

Heisz has followed up with the DNR on possible ways to reduce beaver damage issues along Highway 131. The DNR has suggested to remove the food source and/or install a drainage tube to control the water level within the beaver dam. A suggestion was also made to have the dam flood gate open to draw out additional sitting water. Kinserdahl reported that she has spoken with John Alexander and if he does agree to trap he would want a statement from both landowners in order to nuisance trap. Heisz and Robin Babb agreed to meet and visit the site.

Heisz has attempted to get answers regarding the dam buildings west of the Kickapoo River with no response received back from the DNR in May.

Under New Business Martha Querin-Schultz of Connect Communities introduced Mark Lee Director of Driftless Development, Beth Haskovec of Rural Prosperity, and Jim Cleveland Grant Project Manager of Rural Prosperity. The group presented to the board the Thrive Rural Wisconsin Program Grant explaining eligible costs, other projects, and possibilities.

Aaron Fortney has stepped down from his Village Trustee seat. Murray made a motion to accept Fortney's resignation. Seconded by Kinserdahl. Motion carried. McCarn made a motion to appoint Kim Pettit to Aaron Fortney's seat from June 3, 2024 to April 15, 2025. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kinserdahl to approve Board committees assignments: Finance Committee – *Harry Heisz, Ethan Eitsert, Kim Pettit, Larry McCarn, Kevin Murray, Emily Kinserdahl, and Art Winsor; Personnel Committee – *Harry Heisz, Ethan Eitsert, Kim Pettit, Larry McCarn, Kevin Murray, Emily Kinserdahl, and Art Winsor; Roads and Streets Committee – Ethan Eitsert, Kevin Murray, and Art Winsor; Utilities Committee – Art Winsor, Emily Kinserdahl, and Kevin Murray; Public Safety – Harry Heisz, Emily Kinserdahl, and Larry McCarn; Public Property and Cemetery – Ethan Eitsert, Harry Heisz, and Kevin Murray; Library Board – Kim Pettit; Board of Review – Harry Heisz, Larry McCarn, and Dawn McCann; President Pro Tem – Larry McCarn; Swimming Pool Committee – Art Winsor, Ethan Eitsert, and Emily Kinserdahl. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

No decision was made on the sidewalks. Murray added an additional sidewalk to be reviewed – Rebecca Street Sidewalk. Also reviewed the State Highway 131 sidewalk but in discussion the board decided to wait until after the highway project. The board will wait for the next meeting to discuss possible sidewalk repairs and measurements.

Virginia Murphy requested to the board to install a dead-end street sign on Blue Bird Lane. The board had no issues with the request but is unsure where to locate the sign.

The board received a list of village residents who have received 2024 dog licenses. There is an estimate that 50% of dogs within the village are not registered. Public Works will provide a list of dog owners. The board discussed what options are available to resolve this issue and item will be added onto July's agenda.

Village Attorney Eric Hagen reviewed the Mercantile Lease and provided a revised draft for the board to review. Murray made a motion to table agenda item Mercantile Lease. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

Kinserdahl made a motion to:

- Approve Machine License Applications to Halver's Town Tap and Cardinali Management Inc., DBA Dante's.
- Approve Tobacco License Applications to New Horizons Supply Cooperative, Cardinali Management Inc., Dollar General, and Halver's Town Tap.
- Approve Annual Alcohol Beverage License Applications to New Horizons Supply Cooperative, Tanya Peterson, Class "A" Beer and Liquor, 180 Misty Valley Avenue; DOLGENCORP, LLC, DBA Dollar General, Emmanuel Agyemang, Class "A" Beer and Liquor, 106 N Royal Avenue; Halver's Town Tap, LLC, Donald T. Halverson, Class "B" Beer and Liquor, 315 Main Street; and Cardinali Management Inc., DBA Dante's, Scott R. Cardinali, Class "B" Beer and Liquor, 312 Main Street.
- Approve operator's license applications to Cindy McCullick, Steve George, Dana George, Veronica Geddes, Carolyn Swiggum, Sherry Bushey, Trevor O'Kane, Theron Nicks, Dawn Swanson, Linda Johnson, Douglas Abbey, Rita Hines, Tracey VanFleet, April Brockway, Hannah Mullikin, Laura Halverson, Penelope Tainter, Tanya Peterson, Kristina McCormick, Cole Hanson, Mari Esparza, and Hannah Iris.
- Approve Temporary Class "B" license for the Crawford County Fair at 17725 State Highway 131 on August 22 – August 25, 2024.

Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

No correspondences were received.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

At 7:23 p.m. Murray made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85 (1)(c) for the purpose of reviewing swimming pool and 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved related to an eviction/guidance on collection. Seconded by Kinserdahl. A roll call vote was taken: Eitsert, Heisz, Kinserdahl, McCarn, Murray and Winsor voted Yes. Motion carried.

At 8:11 p.m. Murray made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. Seconded by Eitsert. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Dawn R. McCann, Clerk

APPROVED 07-01-2024