

## THE VILLAGE OF GAYS MILLS

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Gays Mills held Monday, July 12, 2021, which began at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Commerce Board 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, Aaron Fortney, Larry McCarn, Seamus Murray, Lee Ruegg, and Josh Kasinskas. Kevin Murray was absent.

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

Under citizens and delegations John Gibbs made a complaint about the lights at the new Dollar General Store. In discussion it was mentioned that covers have now been placed on the exterior lights.

Harry Heisz gave the Public Works report. Improvements have been made to the ballfield with screening being donated, first base has been purchased by the Summer Rec program, and the items to repair the fence have been purchased. A letter is to be sent again for length of lawn at 16714 State Highway 131.

There was nothing new to report from Town and Country Engineering on the sewer project.

Cindy Kohles, Volunteer Forester was present to update the board on the urban forestry projects. All items have been completed for the 2021 Urban Forestry Grant. Reported that there has been damage to trees from rabbits, beaver, pests, and mechanical. Watering of the young trees needs to start again if there is no rain. There will be a free landowner class available September 11<sup>th</sup>. Pruning has been done. The Tree Board is asking the village to consider the volunteers time and resources and to find a way to insure no more damage is done to trees and to also help with watering. Has advised a resident of the village on how to properly treat for pine bark beetles and how to prevent the spread of HRD. The Tree Board is recommending a 2022 Grant to not include any tree plantings but to have activities of pruning, testing soils, mulching, gravel beds, training and to include volunteer work as the match. The board discussed options to minimize mechanical damage to floodplain trees such as leaving the grass grown around trees. Heisz scheduled a volunteer day to mulch trees in the floodplain on Saturday July 17<sup>th</sup> at 8am (meeting at tennis court). Fortney made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-07 approving the 2022 Urban Forestry Grant Application. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

Kayla Fortney, Swimming Pool Manager was present and reported to the board that the first set of swimming lessons went well. Has discussed with employees the cleaning complaints received about the bathrooms. Informed the board that some of the issues could be from the campground

using the bathrooms and the dumpster. The board discussed closing the bathroom at night, having the campground clean the bathrooms in the morning, placing a sign on dumpster, and possibility moving the dumpster. Hours have been changed – closing at 7pm during the week and closing at 8pm on the weekends. The campground did install new toilets in the bathhouses. Wauzeka is to start their swimming lessons on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Kayla listed some repairs that need to be made.

A kitchen report was not given.

Ruegg made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes of June 7, 2021. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried. Fortney asked if his arrival time was correct on the minutes.

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

Nothing new to report on the 212 Main Street roof project.

Agenda item Junk & Unlicensed Vehicles – requesting a new list.

After discussion Fortney made a motion to approve the south route 3-phase electrical \$33,000 quote with Alliant Energy for work to be done in the Applewood Business Park. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

Fortney made a motion to donate \$100 to the Crawford County Clean Sweep which will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Seneca. Seconded by Ruegg. Motion carried.

The board received a request to consider reapplying to the Department of Transportation for an ATV/UTV trail designation on State Highway 131 north of Grove Street to Del La Mater Road. The Board discussed and would like to try and reduce the speed limit first before asking about the ATV/UTV trail. McCarn made a motion to resubmit a request to the Department of Transportation to lower the speed limit along State Highway 131 from Grove Street to Del La Mater Road to 35 miles per hour and to also include 25 miles per hour request west on State Highway 171 to West Point Road. Seconded by Fortney. Motion carried.

Anyone who is interested in adopting a fire hydrant to remove snow and ice during the winter months is to contact the village office.

Nothing new to report on the TID Trail project.

Hunter Fortney was present to request the use of 304 Main Street volleyball court for the volleyball league games and tournaments. The volleyball league will keep site clean and the village will do

the maintenance. Kasinskas made a motion to approve the volleyball league to use 304 Main Street until December 31, 2021. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

It was discussed that the Swimming Pool Committee go back to having three members. McCarn made a motion to assign Josh Kasinskas as Swimming Pool Committee chair and to add Aaron Fortney and Lee Ruegg to the swimming pool committee. Seconded by Fortney. Motion carried.

Driftless Wisconsin has been awarded a Joint Effort Marketing Grant for 2021 and are requesting for help with the matching funds required for the grant. The marketing campaign will be Come Out and Play! Fortney made a motion to approve a \$250 sponsorship to Driftless Wisconsin JEM Campaign. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried. The \$250 supporting sponsorship includes name on landing page, name on DriftlessWisconsin.com sponsor page, and name on Driftless Wisconsin Map sponsor panel.

Fortney made a motion to approve operator's licenses to Cortney DuCharme, Jill Riggs, and Jordon McCann and to approve a temporary Class "B" and "Class B" license to Allied Horsemanship on October 16, 2021 at 17725 State Highway 131 (Fairgrounds). Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

No correspondences were received.

The next regular board meeting has been scheduled for Monday, August 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the board room.

At 7:20 p.m. Fortney made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) for the purpose of reviewing employee positions. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried. Kayla Fortney was invited into closed session.

At 8:20 p.m. Ruegg made a motion to reconvene into open session. Seconded by Fortney. Motion carried.

McCarn made a motion to place an ad in the newspaper for a cleaning position. Seconded by Fortney. Motion carried.

Ruegg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Seconded by McCarn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted  
Dawn R. McCann, Village Clerk  
APPROVED 08-02-2021