

Village of Roberts
Village Board Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2017 – 7:00 PM

The Village Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Moeri

The meeting was properly notices in the Central St. Croix News and posted in three locations in the Village of Roberts.

Members Present: Rand Waughtal, Willard Moeri, Chad Svacina, and Chuck Pizzi, Mary Shemon, Don Gerhardt, Katy Kapaun

Absent:

Guest: Peter Tharp, Tom Lindfors, Aaron McWilliams, Angi Goodwin, John Bond, Linda Hall, Michele Delong, Nick Hron, Trisha Boortz, Dale Volkert, Robert Kramer, Kevin Olson and Fadra Green

Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve for by Pizzi, seconded by Gerhardt. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Gerhardt, seconded by Waughtal. Motion carried.

Public Concerns –

- There is a complaint regarding May's property on Maple Street. There appears to have been a shared driveway sign that came up when the house was being showed the past weekend and appears to have cost the homeowner a sale. Pizzi added his comments regarding May's property. Two old pickups with no license, topper, bed liner, three trailers, etc. McWilliams stated that the vehicles are titled just do not have the current stickers on them. Main concern is the reason for moving is feeling uncomfortable with living at this address due to more junk being added and the tension between them. Ordinance says that it has to be away from the curb and this appears not to be the issue since you can see it when you are looking down the driveway. Will contact the Village Attorney tomorrow with this issue.
- Hancock's was another issue that was brought up. This has been an ongoing issue. The issue with this property is it looks like they are running a junk yard and it is zoned business. Moeri would like to see McWilliams send a letter to them.

Communications – None

Department Reports:

Police Department – Chief McWilliams

- Monthly statistics report was handed out.
- At the last meeting, there was a resident asking about the ATV trails within the Village. Today another person came in asking where the starting point would be regarding the trails. Pointed this person in the direction of James Cave and Warren Township.
- Click it or tick it starts state wide May 22nd until June and Roberts will be participating in this program.
- GND planning is about 50% done. The letters will go out pertaining to the parade route and parking restrictions. Parade is still at 11:00 AM. No mud volleyball this year. Times might have been changed a little. This will be staffed in-house only.

Director of Public Works – John Bond

- We received a grant for the LED lighting two months ago. All lights at Village Hall and the Park have been replaced. Will see what this does to the monthly bill in the months to come.
- Sweeper repairs were done to a hydraulic cylinder for the steering.
- John has been asked to be a speaker at their annual conference. He is willing to go to be a speaker. This will be done on John's time with no expense. Willard is ok with him doing this.
- The DNR contacted us last week and the permit has been up for renewal for the treatment plant. The majority of it is the same. The flows have stayed the same. The biggest changes if this is reissued (5-year permit) we will have to install a flow meter on the treated portion of the plant and wording changes to the copper regulations. The limit will be the same but the way it is currently worded now allows us a monthly average if we sample the first week of the month high. The new language is for a daily limit. If you take a sample and it is high we will receive three notices from the State because of the daily, monthly, etc. being high. Our ammonia right now is a dual limit (summer and winter limits). The new permit will have the summer limit year-round and this will be a challenge to meet in the winter months. Our plant is under loaded and to allow for this you have a thicker concentration of our bugs but ours are always hungry. There is not enough food to feed all of them. The last language change is because of our phosphorus and what we decide to do with this, the wording in the permit will have to be done next summer to meet the January 1, 2019. If we go with Clearas and are proceeding with this and having the hearings, they will push the date back by two years.
- DNR received our package and we need to have a public hearing with our options for the phosphorus removal. We need to decide the date of this meeting. With notice needing to be a certain length, we are looking at June before this can happen. No decisions will be made at this meeting.

Library Director – Krissa Coleman

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- No Director's report given this month. Handouts were included in the packet.

Committee Reports and Recommendations

Park Board – Chuck Pizzi

- Last fall there was an issue with the condenser in the air conditioning unit for the main meeting area. Furnace was still working correctly.
- We received bids to fix this along with pricing for a new furnace since ours is currently 25 years old.
- Bids range from 8,091 to \$7,000 with Anderson Heating having the lower bid of \$7,066 which included sales tax that we do not pay. The bid now is \$7,001. The recommendation was to take the low bid from Andersons and replace the furnace and condenser. This money is in the budget under continual appropriations. **Motion** to go with the \$7,001 bid with Anderson's Heating out of Houlton by Gerhardt, seconded by Shemon. Motion carried.
- When the new tower is up and running we will not be able to have fireworks around this tower. It has to be 300 feet away in all directions. This is effective this year. Pizzi will check into this to see if we have room. There was also dialog to see if we can use Stewart's field for launching.

Plan Commission - Willard Moeri

- **Building Inspector Report** - Report was reviewed
- **Fred Kuebker Petition for Zoning Map Amendment from RS-7 to RS-8**
 - This is for 206 W Maple St and changing from RS-7 to RS-8 Single Family.
 - **Motion to approve** the petition for rezoning from RS-7 to RS-8 by Kapuan, seconded by Pizzi.
- **Business Plan of Operation for Chris Stark**
 - Chris is looking at putting in a laundry mat in Dale Stewarts Building. Chris asked the board about the need for a laundry mat. Equipment is \$200,000 and \$110,000 for labor. Chris is trying to figure out if this will work or do we scale this back? What does the council see for Roberts? Talked to residents of Hammond and they are more willing to go to Baldwin then Roberts due to distance. To break even you have to have two turns per machine per day. Average customer is three loads. 16 customers per day or 448 customers a month. 48 turns per day. If we cut the number of machine in half, the turns will cut in half. Other idea would be to do half laundry half coffee shops. Free Wi-Fi and tables. Kapaun asked about the drop off area and if this would stay if the facility was downsized and Chris is wanting to keep this area. Dry cleaning was also asked about.
 - **Motion to approve** Chris Stark's business plan for Main Street Laundry by Pizzi, seconded by Gerhardt. Motion carried.
- **Update on Cross Lutheran Church**
 - They had requested a partial approval and only had site plan review.
 - Reviewed Angi's memo regarding site plan review. Recommend approval.
 - Still waiting on the public sanitary sewer main plans for review.

CDA Board – Rand Waughtal

- Did not meet

Finance Committee – None

Public Safety Committee – None

Public Works Committee – Rand Waughtal

- Water tower maintenance agreement. Expired January 1st. Opted to look at this again in the spring.
- John found a couple extra companies that were willing to give a bid. We also have a couple of repairs that need to be made which will cost \$6,000 - \$7,000 to correct. Discussed not having an agreement in place. Committee felt that this might be an avenue to try. Motion to make inspections in the years that they pop up. Rates are based on having an agreement and can we still charge our customers for not having this? Could this money be used for other items like water meters or painting of the tower? Committee recommended not having a maintenance fee.
- Loader that was purchased in 1997 also came up for discussion. This will need repairs or if we want to replace we need to look at something higher powered. We have a 20-year equipment plan that needs updating once the numbers are in from the auditors. This loader will cost around \$200,000 to replace. We can put \$8,000 - \$10,000 in repairs now but what else could go wrong. If we are going to put the money into it we need to keep it to try to recoup some of our money from it.
- There was a suggestion to paint a stripe on South Division Street and no action was taken on this topic. We need to decide which side of the street this should be on and how it will affect the parking. The line to the North has been used better than what was expected by Moeri. It comes back to not having a sidewalk and the kids having to walk in the street. Paint is \$35/gallon and could take 15 gallons to do this. Kapaun asked McWilliams his opinion on this topic. We currently do not have an ordinance on this white line and being protected if you are stuck while walking in this safe area. Would safe routes to school allow us funding to put in a sidewalk? There would still be local cost sharing with this program. We have used Regional Planning to help write these grants but there are fees associated with writing these. The line would eliminate parking on one side of the street and would need a public hearing. Kapuan asked for a cost for putting the sidewalk in. This could be every other year grant and we might have missed it for this year.

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- Last public works item was to rename the north portion of West Boulevard to Main Street. This would start at Pine Street and go left to Main Street. This would be an access right off of the highway and would not cost hardly anything to do this. This needs to go to the Fire Association meeting for discussion also.

Fire Association – Chad Svacina

- With both municipalities having issues with budgeting for the air packs it was asked to do more planning for this in the future.
- The air compressor has arrived or the air packs.
- We are inquiring into grants to procure bend extraction equipment. United Fire in Baldwin is the closest and that is 17 minutes away. Chad has had conversations with others regarding this item.

Old Business

Discussion on Municipal Judge Invoice

- Moeri discussed this bill with Judge Wopat and he has been doing this for 32 years. In his years, this is one of the most difficult case to review. Discussed the gentleman's agreement regarding taking over cases from others. Defense attorney filed six motions regarding this case which took it right out of our judge's hands. Moeri also had a conversation with Judge Needham regarding this and he thought it was unusual for a bill to be sent but agrees that there was a lot of time spent reviewing it. Waughtal asked Moeri his opinion on this bill. He is not happy to pay it but we need to get this off our plate. Kapaun asked how we avoid this in the future. There is really no way unless you have a judge with experience and the knowledge to handle it. We should have immediately turned it over to the county and let them handle it.
- **Motion** to approve paying Judge Wopat for this bill by Pizzi, seconded by Gerhardt. Motion carried.

New Business

Employee Education Requests - None

Operator's Licenses - None

Update from Kevin Olson Regarding Main Street Business

- Robert Kramer and Dale Volkert are here to be introduced. Talked to John about running the water line to 1 ½ inch and they are working on pricing for this. The building has been torn apart. There will be an area of 14x60 for retail across the front of the store. They are looking to put a fence out the back and off to the East side of the lot. Looking at something that looks good and offers privacy. Looking at signage for highway 65 and also at the building. Changed from A Butchery Shop from Blacksheep Meats. They are looking for a beer/wine license for events and for sale. USDA grant and inspection takes 30 days. Entire USDA facility. Kevin is checking with the county to see about kitchen inspections. Hard date is August for opening. Looking at premium products with clean food and no nitrates.

Discussion Regarding Committee Meeting Minutes and Approvals.

- Discussed this last fall regarding who gets the meeting minutes from the other committees. Waughtal would like to discuss this again and look for an approval. They should say draft unless they have been approved by the committee. These should also be posted to the Village website for others to review. **Motion** that the committee minutes be sent with the agendas for approval by the committees before they become official Village minutes by Waughtal, seconded by Shemon. Motion carried.

Bob Town Brew House Special Request for Good Neighbor Days, June 1- 4th.

- **Motion to approve** Bobtown's request by Gerhardt, seconded by Kapaun. Motion carried.

Phantom Fireworks – Fireworks Permit for Good Neighbor Days.

- **Motion to approve** the permit for Phantom Fireworks for GND by Kapaun, seconded by Gerhardt. Motion carried.

Approval of Roberts-Warren Fire Department Officers.

- **Motion to approve** the Roberts- Warren Fire Department Officers by Pizzi, seconded by Gerhardt. Motion carried with Shemon opposing.

Discussion/Approval of Employee Achievement Program (EAP) with REALiving.

- This is not a program that was budgeted for during the finance meeting. This would be additional cost. Would run year to year. Kapaun likes the idea of offering an item like this but do we want to start it now or wait until the next budget cycle. We can wait until 2018 because we can make arrangements if needed for the remainder of this year. This could become part of our negotiation committee as part of this being a benefit to the employees. **Motion to table** this program and make it part of the 2018 negotiation and budget process by Kapaun, seconded by Svacina. Motion carried.

Discussion of Committee Appointments.

- Al Meredith has agreed to be part of the Plan Board. There is an opening on the Park Board and the CDA. All other members are the same. No one asked to be changed so they are on the same as last year. **Motion to approve** the committee appointment by Pizzi, seconded by Shemon. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Pedestrian Walkway / Crosswalk on South Division

- **Motion to table** this until next month so that we can see if there are grants available by Kapaun, seconded by Svacina. Motion carried.

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Payment of Bills

- **Motion to approve** payment of the bills by Gerhardt, seconded by Shemon. Motion carried.

Other Business - None

Motion to adjourn at 9:20 PM by Gerhardt, seconded by Pizzi. Motion carried.

Megan Dull
Village Clerk