

Village of Stoddard
Village Board Meeting
March 14th, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

The Village Board met in regular session. Roll call: Bob Wurtzel, Scott Chiples, Bill Evans, Diane Olson, Tom Venner, Steve Davis and Garry Oliver.

Minutes: Motion Evans, second Olson to approve minutes from February meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

Appearances: None.

Bills and Vouchers: Motion Oliver, second Evans to approve February payments #20883-20920 in the amount of \$299,709.90 for payment. All aye. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Board of Appeals – No meeting.

Board of Review – Open Book, April 3, 2023 3-5 p.m.

Budget & Finance – No meeting.

Building/Zoning/Land Planning – **March 14th, 2023, 4:00 p.m.**, Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m., Roll call: Mark Peterson, Bob Wurtzel and Diane Olson. Clerk Kent Hatlestad and Scott Chiples also present. Minutes: Motion Peterson, second Olson to approve minutes from the last meeting. All aye, motion approved. Appearances: Nancy Wedwick – President - Coon Valley Business Association, Christina Dollhausen – Vernon County, Kelly Hutchinson – village property owner.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion on Room Tax resolution. A group representing the “Soul of the Driftless” tourism commission brought up the idea of a proposed resolution that the village could pass that would raise money to be used to promote tourism in the area. Kelly Hutchinson, Nancy Wedwick and Christina Dollhausen talked about the idea of using up to an 8% room tax on lodging in the village to raise money. As part of the money raised, 70% would go to the “Soul of the Driftless” tourism commission and 30% would go directly into the village general fund. The committee will take the information under consideration.

Discussion on ATV/UTV proposed ordinance. Hatlestad reported that the proposed ordinance was sent to the VCSD and approved by the department. Hatlestad said he is still working with the county and the WI DOT on approval of the STH 162 portion of the trail.

Discussion on cell tower update permit. Hatlestad is working with the cell tower company on getting permits, not an easy process. Sending information back and forth.

Discussion on Certified Survey Map (CSM) at 222 S. Main St. Hatlestad shared a map requesting the approval of a CSM for property purchased by Terry Mueller.

Mueller would like to add the property to his existing property and make one lot. Motion Peterson, second Olson to approve the CSM. All aye, motion carried.

Discussion on swimming pool cover ordinance. Hatlestad shared information on a proposal to approve the use of a swimming pool cover in lieu of a fence to meet requirements in the village. Hatlestad will look at information from Onalaska who has this on its books and bring the information to the next meeting.

Discussion on electronic message board. Hatlestad shared information on the cost of installing an electronic message board at the village hall and share the costs with the SBFD. The costs being looked at now are between \$42 - \$60,000. Tabled until more bids are received.

Discussion Oak St. duplex site plan. Hatlestad reported that the planner would send a new proposal.

Motion Peterson, second Wurtzel to adjourn at 5:05. All aye, motion carried. Adjournment

Fire – No meeting.

Park – No meeting.

Personnel – No meeting.

Public Works – No meeting.

W&S – February 13th, 2023, 3:30 p.m., Stoddard Sewer Plant

Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. Present - Mark Peterson and John Tully. Village Administrator Kent Hatlestad, Village Lead Operator-Mike Young and Operator Rob Hurlburt also present. Russ Bolton-excused.

Minutes: Motion Peterson, second Tully to approve minutes from previous meeting. All aye, motion carried.

Appearances: None.

Bills and Vouchers: Sewer - #3638-3644 = \$4,992.08 Water - #3295-3299=\$1,180.20 Motion Tully, second Peterson to approve. All aye, motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion on WPDES permit. Hatlestad reported Julia Stephenson from the WI DNR would be on site later this week to conduct an inspection. Everything looks ready for her and the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) regarding ferric dosing for the new WPDES permit that she wanted to see looked good according to her.

Discussion on WI DOT Hwy 162 project engineering agreement. Hatlestad passed out copies of the engineering agreement that Makepeace Engineering is proposing.

WisDOT intends to reconstruct STH 162 through Stoddard in the coming years. Stoddard has sewer collection and water distribution infrastructure buried in the affected rights-of-way. All of this infrastructure is very old. DOT will not reconstruct this highway again for decades to come. It is highly recommend the village replace these old pipes and manholes in conjunction with the highway reconstruction. In order to have utility replacement done in conjunction with the DOT construction project, the Village must assemble plans and specifications for the utility work, and provide them to the DOT. DOT will take those plans and specifications and include them in the bid documents for the overall project. DOT will then conduct the bidding of the project. During construction, Stoddard will be responsible for inspection and certification of utility construction by a Professional Engineer. DOT will have their own inspectors which focus on reconstruction of the street. Stoddard is eligible for 40% grant through the Clean Water Fund Program. The CWF has record levels of grant funding available for the next few years and the engineer is confident Stoddard will receive the 40% grant. Stoddard is also eligible for 40% grant through the Safe Drinking Water program. Again, with record levels of funding, the engineer is confident Stoddard will be awarded this grant as well.

DOT Schedule:

30% Complete Now - 60% Complete 07/01/2023 - 90% Complete 2/1/2025 - 100% Complete 5/1/2025

In order to meet DOT’s 60% deadline this summer, the village needs to start design at this time. Construction will occur in the summer of 2026. Motion Peterson, second Tully to send recommendation for approval of engineering agreement to the village board. All aye, motion carried. Scope of the project will be considered in the future. Sidewalks and storm water will be looked at.

New Business:

Hatlestad reported that a new owner of the empty lots on Oak St. had sent a plan to the village for the construction of duplexes on the property. Review of the plan left out sewer and water extensions. Hatlestad will include that information request when he responds to the designer.

Hatlestad reported that a developer may be interested in putting up more duplexes on Center St. Plans will be coming soon.

Hatlestad reported that two CD’s for the sewer department at the River Bank were renewed at 4.4% on a 15-month CD.

Young reported that PFAS testing is coming in April, June and November. It is expensive, about \$3,000 total, but if there are no measurable amounts in April and June testing the village may be able to avoid November testing.

Hatlestad reported that the Simplified Rate increase cannot begin until the annual report for 2022 is completed for the WI PSC.

Motion Bolton, second Tully to adjourn at 4:42. All aye. Motion carried. Adjournment.

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Unfinished Business:

- a) Discussion on website upgrade. Hatlestad reported that he had met with a web service company. A bid will be developed for the proposed site, looking at around \$5-\$7,000 dollars. Hatlestad said he is looking at other companies to get more bids.
- b) Discussion on ATV/UTV ordinance. Hatlestad shared copies of the proposed ordinance that was approved by the Public Works committee. Hatlestad sent the ordinance to the Vernon County Sheriff's Department and they gave their approval of it. A few minor suggestions were made and the ordinance will go back to committee for final adjustments before being brought back to the board for final approval.

New Business:

a) Discussion on Certified Survey Map (CSM) at 222 S. Main St. Hatlestad shared a map requesting the approval of a CSM for property purchased by Terry Mueller at 222 S. Main St. Mueller would like to add the property to his existing property and make one lot. The CSM has already passed out of the Building, Zoning and Land Planning committee. Motion Oliver, second Venner to approve the CSM for Terry Mueller. All aye, motion carried.

b) Discussion on Room Tax resolution. Hatlestad shared information on a proposed resolution that would approve a room tax of up to 8% on room rentals in the village. Tabled.

c) Discussion on electronic message board. Hatlestad shared information on the purchase of a new electronic message board to be installed at the Village Hall and shared with the SBFD. Hatlestad reported that the price came in between \$42-\$60,000. Tabled until more bids can be looked at.

Communications: None.

License Applications: None.

Public Comment: Mike Tully appeared before the board and expressed his opinion on the Room Tax Resolution.

Motion Venner, second Olson to adjourn at 6:40. All aye. Motion carried.

Next meeting April 11th.