

**VILLAGE OF FREDONIA**  
**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
Fredonia Government Center  
242 Fredonia Avenue, Fredonia, WI  
April 19, 2022

Village Clerk Melissa Depies administered the Official Oath of Office to the trustees voted in on April 5, 2022; Incumbent Richard Abegglen and Joshua Haas and new trustee Bruce Paape.

President Dohrwardt called the Village Board meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Board members present: Don Dohrwardt, Dan Gehrke, Bill McLarty, John Long, Josh Haas, Rick Abegglen, and Bruce Paape.

Staff/Officials present: Director of Public Works Roger Strohm, Marshal Mike Davel, Fire Chief Brian Weyker, and Village Clerk Melissa Depies.

**Consent Agenda**

Motion by Trustee Haas, seconded by Trustee Abegglen, to approve the March 29, 2022 Village Board meeting minutes as presented, the General Fund, Water and Sewer bills as presented, and the application for use of Fireman's Park Facilities waiving all park rental fees. Motion carried.

**Open Session for Citizen Questions and Comments**

Ken Karrels, 137 Edmaro Street stated that he experienced a sanitary sewer backup in his basement overnight. Mr. Karrels stated that the cleanup and repair estimate is \$5,000 to \$7,000, plus new carpet.

Director of Public Works Strohm reported that this was a main sewer line that was clogged due to grease, rags, and material that should not be in the line. He also noted that he contacted the Village's insurance carrier who indicated that the Village does not have insurance coverage for sewer main backups as it is not due to negligence.

Trustees Gehrke and Haas were concerned that there was no insurance coverage for this type of incident. President Dohrwardt stated that the Village should still submit the claim, this is not the fault of the Village or the property owner.

Mr. Karrels requested to have the camera view his lateral to make sure it is clear and that there is no lingering effect from the backup.

**Report on Operations of Village by Village President**

President Dohrwardt recommended that all committees remain as they are removing Jill Bertram from Personnel and Park and Recreation and adding Bruce Paape. He requested he committee chair to confirm with citizen members.

Motion by Trustee McLarty, seconded by Trustee Gehrke, to approve the committee appointments as recommended. Motion carried.

**Report on Operations of Village by Village Marshal**

Board members reviewed the report highlighting activities of the Police Department as prepared by Marshal Davel. Nothing else to report at this time.

Trustee Long questioned if patrol hours were done from this time last year. Marshal Davel responded that the Sheriff's Department has been issuing a lot of overtime and there is one officer on medical leave.

Trustee Gehrke stated that there will be a family event being held on June 25; therefore police coverage is requested for that day.

### **Report on Operations of Village by Fire Chief**

Fire Chief Brian Weyker stated that the Fire Department has received 15 portable radios from the County. Radios are currently being reprogrammed.

There was discussion regarding the status of the grant application and communications with other departments for a joint application. There was also discussion regarding the sustainability study which was removed from funding. Trustee Haas stated that the study was removed because the County did not want to force consolidation, they would like to see the departments merge/work together on their own.

Chief Weyker stated that the Village and Town leaders need to start communications regarding current needs, future needs and staffing issues for both EMS and fire.

Trustee Abegglen recommended that leaders and Chiefs of the Town and Village of Belgium and the Town and Village of Fredonia and Waubeka have a meeting to get a general understanding of what this area wants and/or needs.

Chief Weyker stated that discussions need to be held and decisions need to be made. This grant only funds 1 position. We also need to consider what is happening on the fire side of the department as volunteers are becoming less and less. Trustee Abegglen questioned if this is discussion for Public Safety or Finance. Trustee McLarty believed it to be a mixed need and that both committees would be appropriate.

Trustee Paape stated that Waubeka is currently looking at purchasing a new truck. He questioned how the departments share equipment. Chief Weyker stated that the departments have a simulcast page system. Fredonia, Waubeka, and Belgium are all paged together for a fire call.

Chief Weyker stated that we cannot wait for a study to be completed. Area chiefs will need to work together to devise a sustainability plan.

### **Report on Operations of Village by Director of Public Works/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator**

Board members reviewed the report highlighting projects and other activities of the Public Works crew as prepared by Director of Public Works Strohm.

Director of Public Works Strohm reported:

- ✓ Hillcrest has emailed a revised final plat for the condos.
- ✓ North Wilson Street project should start April 20. Contractors will start on Fredonia Avenue and move north. They will begin with water main installation and then complete the sewer laterals.

Trustee Long questioned if T-Mobil had a crane at the water tower. Director Strohm stated that they were working on the equipment.

### **Report on Operations of Village by Clerk/Treasurer**

Board members reviewed the activities report as prepared by Village Clerk/Treasurer Depies.

Clerk Depies questioned if the board members wanted quotes on property insurance this year. Much work needs to be done to obtain the quotes that would require a lot of staff time; therefore if quotes are needed we need to begin the work now. It was the consensus of the board that quotes would not be needed this year.

### **Report by Ozaukee County District 2 Supervisor**

Trustee Haas stated that the county is reviewing projects and uses of funds. The County Board has a lot to do moving forward.

### **Report of Plan Commission**

President Dohrwardt reported:

- ✓ A parking area off of Emerald Hills Drive for the high school was approved.
- ✓ A gravel driveway to a hydrant in the field just north of Park Road was approved.

- ✓ A Public Hearing was held regarding the Sober Living Home at 111 Fredonia Avenue. Many residents were in attendance to express concerns and ask questions. Mr. Brammer was not prepared and was unable to answer many of the questions. Project is currently on hold.

### **Report of Comprehensive Plan**

Director of Public Works Strohm stated that the community survey was sent out, 60 responses were received. The survey and responses were reviewed.

### **Report on School Board Meeting – Duey Strobel**

ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) Funds were discussed. Representative Strobel summarized how the ESSER funding is set up and explained that distribution is not done fairly. He is working on a plan that would release the funding move evenly.

### **Items for Discussion and/or Action**

Ordinance 2022-3 Amending the Village of Fredonia Code of Ordinances Title 132 Village Board Section 8(A) – Meetings and Section 13(A)(1) Meeting Agendas:

President Dohrwardt stated the ordinance change would adjust the work flow for staff and officially change the meeting nights from the first and third Thursday to the first and third Tuesday of each month.

There was lengthy discussion with no action taken:

- ✓ Trustee Abegglen stated that 132-14(4) states: All ordinances, resolutions, or bylaws shall be provided to the Board at least two weeks in advance of any vote (the time between meeting), so that full consideration may be given to that document, unless waived by the Board for good cause.
- ✓ Trustee Gehrke suggested that the Village consider having just one meeting per month.
- ✓ Setting a schedule for all committees was also discussed. Each committee would have a set day and time each month.
- ✓ How supporting documents are handled was also discussed – possible ways to better organize to make the meeting run more efficiently.

Everything needs to be considered before making changes to the ordinance so that this only needs to be done one time.

### **Correspondence**

None

### **Items for Future Consideration by the Village Board**

None

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Trustee Abegglen, seconded by Trustee Haas, to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Respectfully Submitted:

Melissa Depies  
Village Clerk