

**VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

DATE: Monday, December 7, 2015

LOCATION: 250 Elm Street
Thiensville, WI

TIME: 6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Mobley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

President:	Van Mobley	
Trustees:	Kim Beck (excused)	Kenneth Kucharski
	Ronald Heinritz	David Lange
	Rob Holyoke	John Treffert
Administrator:	Dianne Robertson	
Staff:	Director of Public Works Andy LaFond	
	Fire Chief Brian Reiels	
	Police Chief Scott Nicholson	
	Asst. Administrator Colleen Landisch-Hansen	
	Clerk Amy Langlois	

III. BUSINESS

A. Review Capital Expenditures List

Administrator Robertson shared that there are no new requests for purchase.

**B. Review and recommendation to Appoint Jerad Wegner, Ruekert & Mielke
as Village Engineer**

Administrator Robertson and Director of Public Works Andy LaFond have worked with several different engineers in anticipation of Mike Campbell's (current Village Engineer) retirement. Both Administrator Robertson and Director LaFond met with Jerad Wegner and believe that Mr. Wegner is a great fit for the Village.

Mr. Jerad Wegner has been with Ruekert & Mielke for 10.5 years and started with Ruekert & Mielke as an engineering intern while attending UW-Milwaukee. Mr. Wegner started as a construction review technician and worked his way up to an engineering technician, graduated as an engineer and then acquired his professional engineering license. Mr. Wegner is now a project manager, a level 5 engineer and is very well versed with the MMSD private property and the Main Street projects. Mr. Wegner has worked on sewer and road projects and has worked closely with Mike Campbell for 5 years.

Mike Campbell was Mr. Wegner's Supervisor and Team Leader for 5 years and has always viewed Mike as a mentor. Both have worked closely on a number of projects and Mr. Wegner stated that he has valued Mike professionally as well as personally. Mr. Wegner looks forward to the opportunity to work with the Village.

President Mobley encouraged Mr. Wegner to look into interesting projects for the Village. Mr. Wegner mentioned that funding opportunities and grants that may be of value are always being researched.

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Heinritz to recommend to the Village Board to Appoint Jerad Wegner, Ruekert & Mielke as Village Engineer. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Hear County Supervisor Karl Hertz provide a County Board Update

Supervisor Karl Hertz reported that Ozaukee County is in very good shape. Most recently, the County is experiencing an increase on sales tax revenues more this year than in the past. The tax delinquencies experienced in the past have decreased. Tax bills are the second lowest in the state.

Ozaukee County has one of the highest household incomes in the state. There was a Journal Sentinel article that reported that this number is down 7% figuring in inflation. Supervisor Hertz believes that in Ozaukee County where there is high percentage of retired residents that by the year 2030, this number will go up another 5%. Public employees took a hit under Act 10 so that portion of the population went down in terms of their take-home pay.

At the County there are five Committees: the Executive Committee oversees these five and the Chairman of those five Committees sits on the Executive Committee. Supervisor Hertz is Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee (HHSC). The HHSC oversees aging services, human services, the Lasata campus, public health and the veteran's services.

The Lasata Nursing Home is undergoing updates. The nursing home is 50 years old and hopefully the updates will be completed shortly. These updates will give the facility less of an institutional feel and will also lend itself to needing fewer employees.

The Health Departments of Ozaukee and Washington County will now be under one leadership and will be considered one Health Department. Financially this is a good thing to do as this will save money for the Counties. Joining two counties health departments has never been done in Wisconsin. Ozaukee County will be the fiscal agent and the individual in charge is from Ozaukee County as well.

There may be other areas in which the two counties can work together. Possibly the Highway Department would benefit. Supervisor Hertz feels that a trial year of the merged Health Departments would be wise prior to merging any other departments.

The County is encouraging residents to get a flu shot and also to immunize their children. The services for the aging are excellent and are a great resource for those who need help understanding Medicare. Supervisor Hertz hopes that the perception of using the County services is positive and encourages residents to familiarize themselves with the services available to them. The County was able to downsize the Human Services Department because people have gotten insurance through the Affordable Care Act.

President Mobley recognized the decline in family household income but does not attribute it to the elderly population and feels that the elderly have more of a stable income. The salaries of new graduates are considerably less. Supervisor Hertz did agree and stated that research does prove that the elderly do have more money than the younger population. President Mobley inquired as to how much money joining the two Health Departments would save. Supervisor Hertz believes that the savings will be around \$350,000.

D. Review and recommendation regarding Agreement for Medical Direction and Medical Control of Emergency Medical Services

Fire Chief Brian Reiels reported that the Village has had an Agreement with Columbia St. Mary's for many years. An opportunity has arisen that is very favorable from Aurora.

Aurora has a dedicated doctor with 50% of his salary dedicated to medial outreach in Ozaukee County and is also a full time EMS liaison. Right now the Village is buying their drugs and supplies through a vendor. Aurora is planning to allow the Village to capitalize on their purchasing power for medications. Aurora will also allow trading of medications in a timely manner to avoid medications from expiring before they are used. This will be very beneficial. The big advantage of making this change is that there will be opportunities for ongoing training for the staff. Unfortunately, Columbia St. Mary's does not have this resource available. Aurora will provide that service to us. Paramedic refresher classes can run thousands of dollars per person.

Grafton has made this change and is very pleased with the educational opportunities.

This would be a win/win for the Village. Columbia St. Mary's has been a wonderful partner to us but Aurora is presenting some great opportunities.

Medical direction is really just medical oversight. This does not mean that patients will need to be directed to Aurora. President Mobley inquired as to how it is determined which hospital is chosen to transport a patient to. Chief Reiels reported that the most severe trauma cases go to Froederdt because that is the only Level 1 Trauma hospital in the area. The patient mainly makes their decision on where they would like to be transported to.

The partnership with Columbia St. Mary's has been very long-standing. They have been a great partner. This is purely a business decision.

Trustee Heinritz inquired as to how billing is generated. Chief Reiels stated that the Village bills separately from the hospitals. The Village is responsible for pre-hospital care. This is handled independently of the hospital. There will not be a requirement to send our patients to Aurora with this Agreement; this is simply an Agreement for medical oversight and direction.

MOTION by Trustee Treffert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Heinritz to recommend to the Village Board to Adopt the Agreement for Medical Direction and Medical Control of Emergency Medical Services. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. Review and recommendation regarding Fire/EMS Wage Structure

Chief Reiels reported that over the past 18 months the Fire Department has experienced some exodus of paramedics. Captain Handgraaf decided to do a study of some of the reasons why people were leaving. About 50% of the staff resides outside of the responding area; so when the employee is on call, they are usually staying with friends or taking advantage of the overnight facilities here at the Village Hall.

One of the issues that came up was that in a 24-hour shift in Thiensville, there are times that are very busy and there are times that several shifts may go by without receiving any compensation at all. Captain Handgraaf looked at some options and came up with a plan for an incentive for those employees who put in their 72 hours per month and for any 24 hours beyond that to get another incentive. This line of work is 24/7. Creative ways to work within the dollar amount budgeted are being researched.

Assistant Administrator Colleen Landisch-Hansen shared that if every current firefighter/EMS/paramedic reached the 72 hour per month commitment, that cost alone is \$4,300. To meet that, the call hourly rate was reduced to \$21 from the current \$26.10. That \$5.10 difference saves about \$1,000 per month; a lot of this is driven on the number of calls. Six months of data was used for this average. This still falls within the budgeted amount for 2016.

Administrator Robertson explained that all the EMS and paramedic calls are run through a separate fund. The shared agreement with the TFD Corporation indicates that they save for equipment. That piece does not affect the general fund budget. One thing also being proposed is stopping the year-end annual stipend where everyone gets a certain dollar amount if they meet certain criteria. This will help to supplement the cost. The hope is to get more to sign up to fulfill their 72 hours per month.

What is presented is if every firefighter/EMS/paramedic made the 72 hours per month commitment. On average, currently there are only 8-10 employees meeting this commitment. The hope is to get more employees to meet the call hours and hopefully take the burden off some of those that seem to take on more.

Based on the different certifications, there are different levels of pay for the stipend; paramedics receive the highest and firefighters the lowest.

President Mobley stated that we do not want to structure this in such a way to disincentive any employees.

Committee of the Whole, meeting minutes
December 7, 2015
Page four of eight

Assistant Administrator Landisch-Hansen feels that the \$21 rate is the lowest that could be offered and still remain competitive.

Chief Reiels will take this positive feedback, present it at the Fire Department meeting and will report back to the Board. President Mobley shared that the Board can then take action in February.

F. Review and recommendation regarding Withdrawal from the Local Government Property Insurance Fund

Administrator Robertson reported that the Village has received an increase in rates of almost 50% from the State's property insurance. Municipal Property Insurance Company (MPIC) has presented a proposal that increases the insurance by about \$1,400 but is still much lower than the State. The State is noticing a decline in participation. This is the program that Governor Walker talked about eliminating. Depending on how many leave, this may be eliminated. As of September 30, 2015, this program is in the negative by about \$8.5 million. Administrator Robertson recommends that the Village join MPIC.

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Holyoke to recommend to the Village Board to Withdraw from the Local Government Property Insurance Fund and Join the MPIC Program. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

G. Review and recommendation regarding Denial of Claim from Peter D. Onsgard Regarding Property Damage

Administrator Robertson informed the Board about a claim from Peter D. Onsgard regarding damage to his automobile tire during the Water Main Project. This claim has been forwarded to Globe's insurance company.

MOTION by Trustee Treffert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Lange to recommend to the Village Board to Approve the Denial of Claim from Peter D. Onsgard Regarding Property Damage. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

H. Review and recommendation regarding Appointing Kirk Gagnon to the Special Police

Police Chief Scott Nicholson reported that Kirk Gagnon passed the background check and is a certifiable police officer.

MOTION by Trustee Kucharski, **SECONDED** by Trustee Heinritz to recommend to the Village Board to Appoint Kirk Gagnon to the Special Police. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

I. Update regarding Emerald Ash Borer

Director LaFond updated the Board regarding Emerald Ash Borer in the Village. Several years ago, knowing the threat of Emerald Ash Borer was eminent, the Board adopted a management plan for both the urban trees and the Emerald Ash. A few years ago, based on detection from area communities, the Village started treating the Village owned Ash trees more aggressively. Last week, the Village received confirmation from the DNR that Emerald Ash Borer was detected on private property. We are the last community in the county to receive confirmation and the second county in the state where every community has Emerald Ash Borer detected.

The Village is in a good position in terms of our own trees because treatments have been made. The only risk financially now to the Village is wood waste from privately owned trees as it comes into the Public Works Yard. Most of the time, residents hire their own contractor and the wood is taken. If the homeowner takes down the tree themselves, then that wood is typically taken to the Public Works Yard. These trees do not have to be disposed of any differently than any other tree as long as it is kept in the quarantined area.

- J. Review and recommendation Adopting Resolution No. 2015-11 Authorizing the Reduction of Election Officials and Combining the Wards and Appointment of Election Inspectors for All Elections Held In 2016 & 2017

MOTION by Trustee Treffert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Kucharski to recommend to the Village Board to Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11 Authorizing the Reduction of Election Officials and Combining the Wards and Appointment of Election Inspectors for All Elections Held in 2016 & 2017. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- K. Review and recommendation Adopting Resolution No. 2015-12 2016 Fee Schedule

Assistant Administrator Landisch-Hansen shared some comparisons in regards to park rental fees in relation to area parks. No change to these charges are being proposed to the local residents, however, it has been a number of years since some of these rates have changed. With the new bathroom facility, an increase in park rental is anticipated. For non-residents the increase is 5% across the board.

The recommended increase to the Yard Gate cards is from \$10 to \$20. There is a cost associated to the Village for programming and un-programming these cards. Occasionally, there are landscape businesses outside of Thiensville that use this service for work done in the Village and recommend a fee of \$500.

A charge of \$.50 is recommended per document for notary services. The banks are not offering this service any longer so the Village office is seeing an increase for these requests. This fee will be free to Thiensville residents but recommend a \$.50 charge to non-residents.

An increase to \$40 for assessment requests is proposed. This is a request for any outstanding fees due upon sale of a property.

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Kucharski to recommend to the Village Board Adopting Resolution No. 2015-12 2016 Fee Schedule. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- L. Discussion regarding Coyotes in the Village

The Police Department is receiving calls daily regarding coyote sightings. The coyotes are not just being sighted in Thiensville; they are in all of southeastern Wisconsin. Currently, Greenfield is trapping the coyotes. There are no large packs reported. The largest number seen has been during third shift where three were sighted in a pack. During the day it has been reported that some coyotes were seen walking around yards and down the streets. There have not been any attacks on small dogs and/or any citizens to date.

Director LaFond shared that coyotes are a problem in many communities. Information has been included on the Village's website. Generally, coyotes are reclusive animals and avoid human contact but are also very adaptive and smart and have figured out that they have no natural enemies, especially in urban areas where food is readily available to them. The spread of coyotes is attributed to human alteration to the landscape.

Killing and trapping are generally the first reaction. Once coyotes mate, they often stay together for life. Most of the information available indicates that the most effective way to deal with coyotes is to train humans to interact with them. Hazing them is effective if it is continuous. Yelling, waving your arms while approaching the coyote, spraying with water and installing motion detection lights are ways of hazing the coyotes. Some communities trap, however, this is documented as being not effective. Once they animals are trapped, it is unclear where they will be taken.

Small pets are seen as easy food to the coyotes. It is recommended to not leave your small pets unattended and not to leave food outside. Coyotes are omnivores that will eat anything edible. Raking up the fruit from the fruit trees is recommended.

Committee of the Whole, meeting minutes
December 7, 2015
Page six of eight

The Village does not have an official coyote policy. Anything more aggressively done here in the Village will not matter if Mequon is not doing anything. Mequon does not send city staff to euthanize unless there is a human attack.

It was brought to Trustee Lange's attention that because of some new development along the river, 22 coyotes were killed.

Trustee Kucharski inquired as to who should be called regarding the coyotes. Chief Nicholson shared that the Police Department is keeping track of sightings. Years ago sharp shooters were hired to narrow the deer herd. This is a problem in Thiensville because of the closeness of the homes/residents. The only time an officer will shoot a coyote is if it is injured or has attacked a human.

Trustee Heinritz recommended continuing to monitor the sightings. President Mobley inquired as to if wolf urine is known to help. Director LaFond shared that it is available for purchase and needs to be applied after every rain. This can displace the coyotes from an immediate area but do not believe it would be effective to push them out of the Village.

**M. Discussion regarding Entering Into a Franchise Agreement for Outdoor Seating
In the Right-Of-Way with The Cheel**

Jesse Daily, owner of The Cheel shared with the Board plans to have seating on the right-of-way outside of The Cheel at 105 South Main Street and hopes to enter into a Franchise Agreement with the Village in order to do so. The Cheel plans to have three 30" tables with 2-3 chairs on South Main Street and would like to also serve to these tables. This will allow for 9 extra customers to be served. There are plans to enclose the current patio to create a 3 season room.

Wrought iron furniture will be used with a black chain rope fence to be used to separate the seating from the sidewalk. The sidewalk is 13' wide, the tables will take up 2'4", the chain fence will be placed 2' east of the tables which will leave 8'6" for the pedestrian walkway.

Administrator Robertson explained that these plans are being presented this evening to see if the Board is receptive to using public right-of-way for outdoor seating. These plans will be brought before the Plan Commission and then back to the Board for approval.

Trustee Heinritz inquired as to the chain fence and questioned if that was necessary. Mr. Daily preferred no fence at all. Administrator Robertson reported that for purposes of insurance, the fence is required.

Administrator Robertson shared that fees will need to be considered and then brought before the Village Board for approval. The Franchise Agreement is necessary because The Cheel will be using public right-of-way.

**N. Discussion regarding New State Directives from Probation and Parole Regarding
Sex Offenders Housing**

Chief Nicholson shared a letter and map of the Village of Thiensville indicating where sex offenders can and cannot live once released from custody. At last month's meeting of the Ozaukee County Chiefs of Police a representative from the Department of Corrections in Ozaukee County met with them. The Department of Corrections oversees the housing, the release of the sexual offenders and the follow up with the sexual offenders while they are under probation.

A sex offender under the Special Bulletin Notification is the worst of the worst. This is someone who has offended another person and has been charged with a felony. Many of these individuals are transients. This Bulletin is addressing those individuals that have been convicted, have served their time either in jail or prison and are now

released. With all the municipalities that made very stringent restrictions as to where these sexual offenders can live, this leads those people without a place to live.

The Department of Corrections along with Ozaukee County have earmarked 2 separate houses in the northern part of the county that are like halfway houses and are a safe house where these individuals can live until they find suitable housing. With this new change, the Department of Corrections is now only allowing these individuals to live in that house for 30 days. After 30 days, they can request an extension for another 30 days. After 60 days, there are no ifs, ands or buts - that person is out of the house.

Now this person has no place to live and may be in their car or park. The state's philosophy behind this was that this will give them the push to find a place to live. All these individuals work that are on this special notification list but they cannot find a place to live. They have no family, they cannot go back to where they came and now are homeless. State Representative Kleefisch is authorizing a bill to make rules statewide that will be less strict than most local ordinances.

At this point two people have been released and are monitored with GPS. The Police Department is aware of these individuals.

NEXT RESOLUTION NUMBER:	2015-13
NEXT ORDINANCE NUMBER:	2015-02

IV. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

A. Citizens to be Heard

Resident James Heyer inquired as to if the Agreement for Medical Direction and Medical Control of Emergency Medical Services is adopted by the Village, will that influence to which hospital a patient is taken. Chief Reiels confirmed that in no way does this Agreement specify this. Where a patient is taken is determined by patient preference, the closest hospital or severity of the condition of the patient. There is no cost to the Village to enter into this Agreement.

Chief Reiels shared that the new Emergency Medical Dispatch system is going live this month and stated that this is a great service. Now, instead of someone calling 911 and indicating they are having a heart attack, and sending an ambulance, now the dispatchers are trained with specific questions and have recommended interventions. This will greatly impact the survival rates. For communities that do not have their own paramedics, this will help greatly.

Marc Mrugala, President of the Thiensville Business Association (TBA), wanted to express concerns about street vendors. The TBA does not want people outside the community coming in and setting up street merchant carts. The TBA is not opposed to existing businesses or citizens in the area doing this but feel that it would result in undo competition if outside vendors would come to the Village and set up on the streets.

Also, the Village Market is opposed to inviting these street vendors as they may be inclined to come to the Village on Tuesdays and capitalize on the Village Market vendors. The Market has opened up to not only produce vendors. Products must be made in Wisconsin or are unique. It is not open to those selling teddy bears from China.

Mr. Mrugala does not want to see street vendors take away business from Village businesses.

Open to any citizen who wishes to speak on items not on the agenda. Please step to the podium and give your name and address for the record.

V. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS BY TRUSTEES AS MAY PROPERLY BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD**

1. Inter-Governmental Committee with Mequon
2. Use of 101 Green Bay Road, Old Village Hall & Fire Station
3. Acceptance/Report of Gifts Received:
Junior Woman's Club of Mequon-Thiensville, \$2,500 to the Thiensville Police Department
4. Dialog with Mequon regarding water utility service
5. Review next month's meeting date schedule

Police Chief Nicholson shared that the Police Department would like to use this donation to purchase five ballistic helmets and appreciates the donation.

MOTION by Trustee Treffert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Holyoke to recommend to the Village Board acceptance of the \$2,500 Donation to the Thiensville Police Department from the Junior Woman's Club of Mequon-Thiensville with much gratitude. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Trustee Treffert informed the Board that he will not be running for re-election in April 2016. Trustee Treffert has served as Trustee for 21 years and has been humbled by the support of the community. Many good things have happened during these 21 years with the revitalization of downtown Thiensville being the most visible. Thiensville residents are safe and receive excellent services, have streets in excellent condition, utilize the park that is truly special and have a Village that the residents can be proud of.

Trustee Treffert will miss interacting with the Village employees headed by Administrator Robertson; they are second to none. This has been a fascinating and challenging time. Thiensville is in good hands. Trustee Treffert thanked the Board.

President Mobley extended a sincere "thank you" to Trustee Treffert from the Board and the residents of Thiensville.

Trustee Heinritz expressed his appreciation for how well the tree lighting went. The tree lighting was very well attended.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

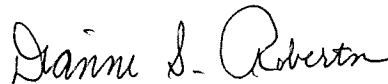
MOTION by Trustee Holyoke, **SECONDED** by Trustee Heinritz to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Submitted by,



Amy L. Langlois
Village Clerk

Approved by,



Dianne S. Robertson
Administrator