

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

DATE: Monday, June 7, 2021

LOCATION: 250 Elm Street

TIME: 6:00 PM

**Fire Department Training Room
Thiensville, WI**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

President:	Van Mobley	
Trustees:	Jennifer Abraham	Rob Holyoke
	Angelina Apostolos	Ken Kucharski
	Kristina Eckert	David Lange
Administrator:	Colleen Landisch-Hansen	
Attorney:	Tim Schoonenberg	
Staff:	Director of Community Services/Public Works	Andy LaFond
	Fire Chief Brian Reiels (excused)	
	Police Chief Curt Kleppin	
	Village Clerk/Deputy Treasurer	Amy Langlois

III. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Open to any resident or taxpayer on items not subject to a public hearing: Please be advised per §19.84(2), information will be received from the public. Village policy limits a three (3) minute time period per person, with time extension by the presiding official's discretion or a vote of 2/3 of the Board or Committee; be further advised that there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action will be taken under public comments. Written comments on agenda items are encouraged to be sent and addressed to the intended body by noon on the day of the meeting. Comments received timely will be forwarded to all members of the body. If you wish to speak, you **must** pre-register by emailing the Village Clerk at alanglois@village.thiensville.wi.us by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting or by signing in immediately prior to the meeting.

There was no one present to be heard.

IV. BUSINESS

A. Review Capital Expenditures List

Administrator Landisch-Hansen reported that there are no new capital expenditure requests.

B. Review and recommendation to Amend Class B Beer and Class B Wine License for Gatherings on the Green, Inc. to Include Kids From Wisconsin Event on July 23, 2021 In Village Park, 251 Elm Street

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Kucharski to recommend to the Village Board to approve Amended Class B Beer and Class B Wine License for Gatherings on the Green, Inc. to Include Kids From Wisconsin Event on July 23, 2021 In Village Park, 251 Elm Street. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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C. Presentation and recommendation regarding 2020 Thiensville Fire Department Annual Report Presented by Fire Chief Brian Reiels

The 2020 Thiensville Fire Department Annual Report was presented by Assistant Chief Joel Deutsch.

MOTION by Trustee Eckert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to recommend to the Village Board to accept the 2020 Thiensville Fire Department Annual Report Presented by Assistant Chief Joel Deutsch. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. Discussion regarding Fire/EMS Study

President Mobley opened up a discussion regarding the Fire/EMS Study and the Open House that was held last month.

Trustee Lange believes the discussion was good, appreciated hearing from those residents in attendance and would like to hear from more. Trustee Lange is interested in exploring the hybrid program and how this would fit in Thiensville and would also like to look at how the Village currently compensates the Fire Department.

Trustee Apostolos would also like to hear from more residents and questioned if it would be possible to email a survey and information to residents and inquire if they would be willing to attend a meeting. Village Voice does not reach every resident in the Village; about 475 people subscribe to the weekly email which also is sent to facebook and twitter.

Trustee Abraham suggested creating an ad hoc committee that could generate questions for a survey and to research the Fire Department options.

Trustee Holyoke would like to see the Fire Department stay here in Thiensville and suggested a county-wide paramedic service.

Trustee Kucharski noted there will need to be an investment from the community.

Trustee Eckert added that planning should begin now because anything that is done will come at a cost.

President Mobley added that Administrator Landisch-Hansen will continue to work with other communities and stay informed of what is going on with their decisions regarding consolidation and also noted that a timeline should be followed to look into the hybrid option starting as soon as possible.

Trustee Eckert inquired, starting as soon as tomorrow, if everyone that comes to the Village Hall could be informed about Village Voice. Administrator Landisch-Hansen stated that this is currently done. President Mobley suggested asking Police Chief Kleppin to reach out to other communities to get more information regarding the hybrid option i.e. costs, personnel, etc. Administrator Landisch-Hansen will also reach out to other communities that have implemented the hybrid option to see how this would fit in Thiensville.

Trustee Holyoke suggested not losing track of what other communities included in the Fire/EMS Study are doing so Thiensville is not left out resulting in higher costs for the Village. There is an Administrator's meeting on Thursday of this week for all those communities involved. This will be the first time a meeting will be held since the results of the Fire/EMS study were shared with all the communities.

President Mobley suggested that the Board think about an ad hoc committee, that the staff work on gathering information and for the staff to visit Ashwaubenon and Palmyra ahead of forming the ad hoc committee. Also, suggested was that Chief Kleppin look into the hiring of future officers to fit the hybrid option and inquire if any of the current officers are interested in more training.

Trustee Lange offered to develop a five question survey to distribute.

Staff will report back to the Board at the August Committee of the Whole meeting. Administrator Landisch-Hansen suggested doing a more detailed study that would examine options for going independent or hybrid in the Village. Trustee Apostolos inquired if the Village information that was compiled from the Wisconsin Policy Forum could be extracted with recommendations for the Village presented as a separate report. Administrator Landisch-Hansen will look into this.

Trustee Abraham stressed that she would not like any staff or facilities lost in Thiensville; and if there is consolidation, the Village should be a hub.

E. Review and recommendation regarding Ordinance 2021-02 Amending Chapter 42 of the Village of Thiensville Municipal Code Relating to Historic Preservation

Director of Community Services/Public Works Andy LaFond presented a draft Ordinance based on recommendations and suggestions from the March 15, 2021 Village Board meeting. Director LaFond noted that in this proposed Ordinance is language giving the Commission some flexibility. The previous language was more of an absolute.

Another change to note are staff approvals wherein staff can approve items such as roofs, painting, windows, etc. The Commission will work on a set of staff guidelines – the Board approves the Ordinance and the Commission makes the guidelines for staff to follow. If staff is uncomfortable with an unusual request, the item will be brought to the Commission for their consideration.

Attorney Schoonenberg noted a correction to Sec 42-31 stating that it should read – Vacancies caused by death, resignation or removal shall be appointed by the Village President and confirmed by two-thirds vote of the Village Board to fill the remainder of the term of the member being replaced. This makes this appointment consistent with other appointments to Village Commissions.

The Board also discussed changing the Ordinance to include two Trustees instead of one (one of which is the Chair) and five citizen members instead of six. Trustee Holyoke's concern was getting a second Board member to commit to serve and questioned if the Ordinance could state that a minimum of one, not more than two Trustees shall serve on the Commission. Trustee Abraham, who now sits on the Historic Preservation Commission, likes the idea of two Trustees serving. Trustee Apostolos agreed to serve as the second Trustee. The Commission may not meet every month if staff will be approving some of the proposed projects; anything approved by staff will be included on a Staff Report submitted at every meeting. When the HPC meets in June, guidelines to follow will be considered for staff.

Trustee Holyoke supports the seven member HPC and all decisions going through the Commission as opposed through one or two staff members. Concerns regarding consistency among staff approvals was expressed. Now that the HPC has a few new members, Trustee Holyoke would like to see all Certificate of Appropriatenesses go through the HPC.

Trustee Abraham stated that the guidelines for most Historic Preservation Commission and Landmark Commissions are based on a Department of the Interior document written in 1963. The HPC will need to create guidelines for staff to follow.

Trustee Holyoke is not in favor of the proposed Ordinance.

Trustee Abraham shared concern regarding Sec. 42-59 (4) e. 1. All buildings, structures, and sites are recognized as products of their own time, and the alterations have a historical basis. Trustee Abraham believes what we are getting at is that the beauty of our Village is based on buildings that were the first one at their location and believes this is redundant and may defeat the purpose of the Historic District stating beauty is in the eye of the beholder and we can only assume that our predecessors saw beauty in the buildings which initially made up the Historic District. For that reason the HPC exists. Certain time periods produce buildings that do not blend with the older buildings. Some of the buildings look have

been enhanced, others have been replaced and others have been turned into green space. This guideline suggests looking at buildings or sites as a product of their own time i.e. the flat top cement building should be recognized as it is.

Trustee Abraham noted two buildings: 200 Green Bay Road – when the HPC was trying to recognize the building as a product of its own time, it did not blend with the older buildings in the area, HPC felt that the building was over 50 years old and was historically significant and truly a product of its own time and was not significant, only the site. This addresses that the building would have value.

The second building is 137 Green Bay Road – this is an example of mid-century modern. This building will be before the Plan Commission and HPC with aesthetic changes that Trustee Abraham believes clash with the older buildings in the District. The HPC will have a decision to make regarding this and suggests that the Ordinance change suggests that the owner make no effort to blend.

The Historic Preservation District is not so dependent on the individual buildings – only one is on the National Registry – but it is the feeling of the District and when the HPC looks at things, it looks at how it blends in. Trustee Abraham believes that the focus is on the District and how they go together.

Trustee Abraham suggested striking Sec. 42-59(a) 4. e. 1. and 2. as this is addressed in (4) a. which states: Whether, in the case of a designated historic landmark structure or site, the proposed work would detrimentally change, significantly destroy or adversely affect any important exterior architectural feature of the improvement upon which the work is to be done.

Also, shared by Trustee Abraham was that the State Historic Preservation Commission discourages, when hardship is used as an excuse, the word economic. Trustee Schoonenberg agreed with Trustee Abraham and will amend the Ordinance.

Trustee Holyoke does have concerns regarding staff approving projects. Trustee Abraham noted that the staff will make decisions that are intuitively obvious – the HPC will do the thinking. No projects will not be seen by the HPC. A staff report will be shared. Trustee Abraham noted all staff approvals will be objective with the HPC decisions being subjective. For any projects that are approved by both HPC and Plan Commission, Trustee Abraham noted that their decision and how/why HPC ruled would be good for the Plan Commission to know. Within the past year the schedule of meetings has changed and now HPC meets prior to Plan Commission.

MOTION by Trustee Abraham, **SECONDED** by Trustee Eckert to recommend to the Village Board to approve Ordinance 2021-02 Amending Chapter 42 of the Village of Thiensville Municipal Code Relating to Historic Preservation with the Following Changes: Commission Shall Consist of Two Trustees One of Which Who Shall be the Presiding Officer and Five Citizen Members, Vacancies Caused by Death, Resignation or Removal Shall be Appointed by the Village President and Confirmed by Two-Thirds Vote of the Village Board, Striking Sec. 42-59(a)(4)(e.) 1. and 2. And Striking the Word Economic When Referring to Hardship.

Ayes: Trustees Abraham, Apostolos, Eckert, Kucharski, Lange and President Mobley

Naes: Trustee Holyoke

MOTION CARRIED.

F. Discussion regarding Future of Thiensville Business Renaissance Committee (TBRC)

President Mobley opened discussion regarding the Thiensville Business Renaissance Committee (TBRC) and their role in the Village suggesting to abolish the TBRC and create a new committee that is focused on communication and reaching out to new families in the Village. The TBRC has not met since 2015. The new committee could hold an event or two and be a resource to new residents and inform them on ways to get involved.

Trustee Lange shared that the TBRC was created years ago by himself and Kim Beck, who was a Trustee at the time, to recognize and stimulate business activity, and then the Thiensville Business Association (TBA) with the help of Executive Director Rob Kos became a strong resource. Trustee Kucharski commended Trustee Lange and Kim Beck for a great starting point for the TBA.

This will be discussed at a future meeting.

G. Discussion regarding adding a Thiensville Citizens Committee and their Role in the Village

President Mobley stated that an ad hoc committee could be tasked with Fire Department discussions as well as being a new resident resource. Trustee Holyoke likes the idea of a citizens committee being first tasked with the Fire Department and then moving on to other issues.

This will be discussed at a future meeting.

H. Presentation and discussion of TID District Vision and Marketing Materials

Director LaFond shared a presentation of the TID District #2 vision and marketing materials created by himself and Administrator Landisch-Hansen.

The goal is to create a vision for not only redevelopment sites within the district but to also plan public enhancements for the entire Freistadt and Main Street corridor which include improvements such as streetscapes, bike and pedestrian facilities, increase connectivity, enhanced crosswalks, new public spaces, new Freistadt street lighting and additional amenities such as planters and benches.

In regards to TID District #2, Director LaFond shared the suggestion of referring to the District as Thiensville Crossing. It is hoped that the District will have its own distinct feel while incorporating materials that are already in the Village such as cream city brick, stone and wrought iron. The Board was supportive of referring to the District as Thiensville Crossing.

TID funds can be used for public improvements within ½ mile of the District.

Director LaFond also shared an example of a brochure that could be used as marketing material. Thriving in Thiensville with emphasis on all the Village's great amenities are included i.e. small town charm with big amenities.

Trustee Lange thought the presentation was well done. Trustee Abraham suggested that the front page picture of the brochure not be the old firehouse as this is not in the proposed district and/or moving the location of where Thiensville Crossing is located on the page. Director LaFond will look for a picture from the District or possibly use a copy of one of the Village's entryway features.

The Board liked the idea of Thriving in Thiensville being used on marketing material and appreciated the presentation.

- I. Review and recommendation regarding Appointing the Following as New Fire Department Members:**
1. Ronald T. Brown
 2. Alexander D. Hines

MOTION by Trustee Kucharski, **SECONDED** by Trustee Lange to recommend to the Village Board to approve the Appointment of Ronald T. Brown and Alexander D. Hines as New Fire Department Members. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- J. Review and recommendation regarding Operator Licenses – Renewal for Skippy’s Burger Bar:
1. Cassie Marie Haugen
 2. Brett T. Kucharski
 3. Kenneth Charles Kucharski
 4. Samantha Rose Luedtke
 5. Alexander John Tarantino

MOTION by Trustee Apostolos, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to recommend to the Village Board to approve the Following Operator Licenses – Renewal for Skippy’s Burger Bar: Cassie Marie Haugen, Brett T. Kucharski, Kenneth Charles Kucharski, Samantha Rose Luedtke and Alexander John Tarantino.

Ayes: Trustees Abraham, Apostolos, Eckert, Holyoke, Lange and President Mobley
Naes: None
Abstain: Trustee Kucharski
MOTION CARRIED.

- K. Review and recommendation regarding the following Cigarette License:
1. Thiensville Mobil, 301 North Main Street

MOTION by Trustee Abraham, **SECONDED** by Trustee Lange to recommend to the Village Board to approve Cigarette License for Thiensville Mobil, 301 North Main Street. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEXT RESOLUTION NUMBER:	2021-05
NEXT ORDINANCE NUMBER:	2021-03

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

- A. Acceptance/Report of Gifts Received:
1. \$150.00 to the Thiensville Fire Department from Ryan Rudzinski
 2. \$1,200.00 to the Thiensville Fire Department from Junior Woman’s Club of M-T
 3. \$50.00 to Village Park Reimagined from Erin Johnston
 4. \$200.00 to Village Park Reimagined from Karl and Carol Hertz
 5. \$3,748.56 to Village Park Reimagined from Olsen’s Piggly Wiggly
- B. Review meeting date schedule:
- June 21, 2021 – Board of Trustees at 6:00 PM
- July 19, 2021 – Combined Committee of the Whole and Board of Trustees at 6:00 PM

MOTION by Trustee Apostolos, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to recommend to the Village Board to accept the following gifts with much gratitude: \$150.00 to the Thiensville Fire Department from Ryan Rudzinski, \$1,200.00 to the Thiensville Fire Department from Junior Woman’s Club of M-T, \$50.00 to Village Park Reimagined from Erin Johnston, \$200.00 to Village Park Reimagined from Karl and Carol Hertz and \$3,748.56 to Village Park Reimagined from Olsen’s Piggly Wiggly. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Trustee Lange shared that Jazz in the Park in Village Park was a fantastic event.

VI. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Trustee Apostolos, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to adjourn to Closed Session at 7:33 PM deliberating about the investment of public funds in future Village properties requiring a Closed Session due to the competitive nature and bargaining positions at risk if conducted in a public meeting. Such Closed Session is authorized pursuant to Wis. Stats. Article 19.85(1)(e).

1. Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Trustees Abraham, Apostolos, Eckert, Holyoke, Kucharski, Lange and President Mobley.

Naes: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

1. Vote of Board to reconvene in Open Session
2. Review and possible action regarding Closed Session topic

MOTION by Trustee Holyoke, **SECONDED** by Trustee Lange to reconvene into Open Session at 7:57 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Apostolos to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Submitted by,



Amy L. Langlois
Village Clerk