

**Village of North Hudson
Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, November 29, 2016 @ 7:00 P.M.
Village Hall, 400 7th Street North
Hudson, WI 54016**

Minutes

Call to order; Invocation; roll call

President Stan Wekkin called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Invocation read by Wekkin. Answering the call were Trustees Nelson, O'Brien-Berglund, Pike, Zais, and Zappa. A quorum was present and the meeting had been duly noticed. It was noted that Trustee Head was absent. Also in attendance were the Police Chief, Mark Richert; Village Engineer, Kevin Oium; Village Attorney, Terry Dunst; Village Administrator, Gloria Troester; and Village Clerk, Melissa Luedke.

Approval of the minutes: Regular Board Meeting of November 1, 2016

Motion (Zappa/Pike) to approve the Regular Board minutes of November 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Comments from the floor

No comments from the floor.

2017 Proposed Budget

***Open Public Hearing:* Motion (Zappa/O'Brien) to open the public hearing. Wekkin declared the Public Hearing open at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried.**

Presentation of the 2017 Proposed Budget by the Village Administrator: Troester reviewed the major items included in the 2017 proposed budget. Troester stated that there was \$8739 added to the levy. This amount keeps the levy the same as last year and results in no tax increase from the Village side. The increase in assessed value allowed for the \$8739 to be added with no effect on the mill rate. The shared revenue from the State was about the same as last year, and there was an increase in State Transportation Aid of approximately \$2500. There was a 24.5% increase in health insurance, which was offset by an increase in interest on investments and change in employee dynamics. A 2% wage increase was included for represented and non-represented employees, excluding the Administrative staff. There was a .50 per capita increase to the EMS contract. There was an amount of \$225,000 put in the budget for a potential loan for the purchase of a new Public Works Plow truck and catch basin repair project. Both of these items will still need Village Board approval. There was some money from the projected year end put aside for the future purchase of a new police squad and public works vehicle. The required three (3) year average for the library is also included in the budget. Troester reviewed the mill rates for each taxing jurisdiction. The largest increase came from the Hudson School District. The overall mill rate with all taxing jurisdictions will be 17.80. The Village kept the mill rate the same as last year at 4.51. It is anticipated that there will be approximately \$32,000 to the good at the end of 2016. Troester reviewed the different fund balances. There is some concern with the sewer fund due to lift station repairs that have been done this year.

Public Comments: No one from the public was present.

Close Public Hearing: **Motion (Zappa/O'Brien-Berglund) to close the public hearing. Wekkin declared the public hearing closed at 7:25 p.m.**

Resolution No. 2016-07, Adopting the 2017 Annual Village Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy

Motion (O'Brien-Berglund/Zappa) to approve Resolution 2016-07, Adopting the 2017 Annual Village Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Nelson-yes, Pike-yes, Wekkin-yes, Zappa-yes, O'Brien-Berglund-yes, Zais-yes.

Wekkin thanked the staff and department heads for all their hard work on the budget. Zappa echoed Wekkin's remarks and also thanked the staff.

Disposal of Abandoned Personal Property Being Held by the Village

Motion (Zappa/Zais) to have the Village contact a salvage company of the Village choice to arrange for the disposal of the abandoned personal property being held by the Village for the least cost possible. Motion (Zappa/Zais) to have the Public Works Foreman contact a salvage company to arrange for the disposal of the abandoned personal property being held by the Village, from 712 Pine St N., for the least cost possible. Motion carried.

Resident Request for Nativity Display at Village Hall

Wekkin was approached by a resident requesting to purchase and donate to the Village a nativity display for the Village Hall. Dunst stated that this could prove problematic. He gave examples of other municipalities that had issues with allowing displays. If one is approved, the Village could be approached by other organizations which would want to display scenes as well. Dunst stated that he strongly advises against the Village taking ownership of the display. It may be permissible to allow someone to come and set-up, display, and take-down a display, but others would need to be allowed to do this as well. The City of Hudson denied this resident's request in 2014 for a display there. The Village should have a policy and timeline in place to address these requests. The Village needs to treat everyone fairly and government cannot favor one religion over another. Wekkin stated that a policy and timeline makes sense so there is some control over displays. The Board discussed the possibility of looking into this and addressing it in the future. Trustee Nelson agreed to look into this item.

New Business from the Board or staff

President's Remarks: Wekkin wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and a safe and Happy New Year.

Administrator's Remarks: None.

Village Clerk's Remarks: Luedke thanked the Election Officials that worked the General Election on November 8, 2016. The voter count was 2241, with 720 of that number being Absentee voters. A petition for recount was been filed by Green Party Candidate Jill Stein. The County will begin the recount process on Thursday, December 1, 2016 and it is expected to take 1 week. Luedke stated that it is time to start thinking about the 2017 Elections. Individuals interested in getting on the ballot for the Spring Election can pick up the paperwork from the Village Clerk. The first day to circulate nomination papers is on December 1, 2016. The deadline to file all paperwork with the clerk is 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 3, 2017. The Spring

Election will be on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. The municipal offices that will appear on the ballot will be Village President-Incumbent Stan Wekkin, 3 Village Trustee Positions-Incumbents Colleen O'Brien-Berglund, Marc Zappa, and Kirk Nelson, and Municipal Court Judge-Incumbent Ben Wopat.

Plan Commission

Chair update: Plan Commission did not meet.

Personnel and Finance Committee recommendations

Claims - Review and recommendation: **Motion (Zappa/O'Brien-Berglund) to approve the November 2016 non-recurring claims of \$51,634.04. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Zais-yes, O'Brien-Berglund-yes, Zappa-yes, Wekkin-yes, Pike-yes, Nelson-yes.**

2017 Contracts: **Motion (Zappa/O'Brien-Berglund) to approve the Animal Warden Services contract with Kathi Pelnar. Motion carried.**

Motion (Zappa/O'Brien-Berglund) to approve the Animal Impounding Services contract with Woodbury Animal Humane Society. Motion carried.

Motion (Zappa/O'Brien-Berglund) to approve the Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator contract with Brian Wert. Motion carried.

Motion (Zappa/O'Brien-Berglund) to approve the Tree Removal contract with SavATree for two (2) years. Motion carried.

The Village Engineering Services Contract with Cedar Corp. will be addressed at next month's meeting. The Village Attorney will be reviewing the current contract.

Public Works Committee

Chair update: Pike stated that Public Works did meet but there were no actionable items.

Public Works Director Position Opening: Troester stated that there is some guidance needed due to Mark Ekblad's retirement. She provided some different options to the Board. Dunst stated that there may be some duties that are done where the title, Public Works Director, may be needed and important. Troester gave the other possible options for a replacement. Dunst stated that the Village is not required to open the position up to the public for applications, and can hire from within. An interim Public Works Director can be appointed for a specified length of time. Troester stated that she is looking for some direction. The Village Board discussed the current Public Works Foreman and the possibility of appointing him as interim director. Zappa asked if Troester and Pike could meet with the foreman and do some preliminary interviews. **Motion (Zappa/Nelson) to approve Patrick Moos as interim Public Works Director, and for the Public Works Chair and Administrator to speak with Moos regarding the position and report back to the board. Motion carried.**

Public Safety Committee

Chair update: Zappa stated that Public Safety did meet but there were no actionable items. The Public Safety committee has been discussing ATV use in the Village.

Public Welfare

Chair update: Public Welfare did not meet.

Park Board

Chair update: O'Brien-Berglund stated that Park Board did meet but there were no actionable items. Additional trees have been planted by Public Works in Village Parks.

Adjournment

Wekkin declared the meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Melissa Luedke
Village Clerk