

**Village of North Hudson  
Regular Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, December 5, 2017 @ 7:00 P.M.  
Village Hall, 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Hudson, WI 54016**

**Minutes**

**Call to order; Invocation; roll call**

President Stan Wekkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Invocation read by Wekkin. Answering the call were Trustees Head, Leaf, Pike, Zais, and Zappa. It was noted that Trustee Nelson was absent. A quorum was present and the meeting had been duly noticed. Also in attendance were the Police Chief, Mark Richert; Public Works Director, Patrick Moos; Village Engineer, Kevin Oium; Village Attorney, Terry Dunst; Village Administrator/Clerk, Melissa Luedke; and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Jessica Lehman.

**Approval of the minutes: Regular Board Meeting of November 7, 2017**

**Motion (Zappa/Leaf) to approve the Regular Board minutes of November 7, 2017. Motion carried.**

**Comments from the floor**

No comments from the floor.

**Citizen Recognition by Police Chief Mark Richert**

Michael (Mike) Perucca was presented with a certificate of recognition by Police Chief Richert for an incident that happened on November 12, 2017 at 10:21 pm. On that night, Perucca was responding to a St. Joseph First Responder call from the residence of a 56 year old male who had fallen down some stairs. While in route, Perucca saw smoke coming from the garage of the Tony & Jane Zappa residence. Perucca stopped, pounded on the door until the couple awoke and got them out of their house. Perucca took command of the scene and assisted his department to save the home and lives of Tony and Jane. It was later determined that the home had no smoke detectors and the outcome could have been far worse. Perucca has been involved in EMS or fire fighting for the past four (4) years and a sub-firefighter for many years before that. He is a member of the Hudson EMS, Hudson Fire, St. Joe Fire, Hudson & St. Joseph First Responders and has been the Hudson Fire Inspector for the past two (2) years. In 2010, Perucca was recognized as firefighter of the year, along with eight (8) of his fellow firefighters. Perucca stated that this recognition was unnecessary as no one in public safety does the job for recognition. He also stated that he was happy that the outcome was as good as it could have been given the circumstances and everyone was able to go home. Scott St. Martin, Hudson Fire Chief, thanked Perucca for his services to the community. St. Martin said it was rewarding to be able to help and give back to the Zappa family who has given so much to the community for years and years. St. Martin also thanked everyone for their support because without this support the fire department wouldn't have the needed equipment and training that allows them to do their job.

**2018 Proposed Budget**

***Open Public Hearing: Wekkin declared the Public Hearing open at 7:09 p.m.***

*Presentation of the 2018 Proposed Budget by the Village Administrator:* Luedke reviewed the recommended 2018 Village budget. The proposed levy is \$1,594,629.00 which is an increase to the Village property tax levy of \$29,829.00 (total of net new construction of 0.14% and principle/interest on new loans payments of \$27,887.00). The Village mill rate is 4.6 per \$1000 of assessed value with an overall mill rate 18.48 which includes all taxing jurisdictions. The anticipated balance of the unassigned fund is \$721,595.00 at the end of 2017 which is within the 25% of expenditures policy. Shared revenue remains consistent with 2017. There was a slight increase to the State Transportation Aid. Health Insurance premiums will also see a 19.6% increase. By staying on current plan, it was still cheaper than other available plans. There will be a 3% increase in wages for represented and non-represented employees. The 2018 EMS contract shows a \$5.25 per capita increase but may come in lower at \$3.00 per capita. \$67,000.00 from the 2017 year end surplus is included for the construction of a possible salt shed for the municipal garage property and the purchase/installation of a new server for the general government department. Luedke reviewed the mill rate worksheet which showed a comparison of taxes paid in 2016, 2017 and 2018, including all taxing jurisdictions. In 2018, the State portion is 0% due to the State using property taxes to levy funds for forestation and with the new budget bill that money will be obtained from other sources. The Hudson School District makes up 56% of the taxes, followed by the Village at 23%, the County at 19%, and WITC at 2%. The overall mill rate is 20.31 minus the school levy tax credit leaves the final overall mill rate at 18.48 per \$1000 of assessed valuation.

*Public Comments:* No one from the public had any comments.

*Close Public Hearing:* Wekkin declared the public hearing closed at 7:15 p.m.

**Resolution No. 2017-08, adopting the 2018 Annual Village Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy, approval requested**

Motion (Zappa/Leaf) to approve Resolution No. 2017-08, adopting the 2018 Annual Village Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Leaf-yes, Zais-yes, Zappa-yes, Wekkin-yes, Pike-yes, Head-yes.

**Resolution 2017-09, Confirming the Dedication of North End Rd as a Public Street and Right of Way, approval requested**

Motion (Zappa/Leaf) to approve Resolution 2017-09, Confirming the Dedication of North End Rd as a Public Street and Right of Way. Motion carried.

**Election Inspector appointments for 2018-2019 term, approval requested**

Motion (Zappa/Pike) to appoint the following Republican and Democratic Elections Inspectors: Cheryl Anderson, Meredith Berg, Robert Cizek, Kathy Coulter, Betty Goodwin, Joyce Law, Kathryn Long, Jolayne Mehr, Cecelia Phillips, Nancy Walz, Margaret Webb, Sandra Whalen, Carol Worrell, Karen Crawley, John Borup, Jennifer Borup, Mary Ann Hanley, Jean Schneider, Margaret Wopat, Sandra Luedke, Mary Kay Hunt, Deb Monicken, Kathy Roberts, John Krizek, Sara Dobyns, Judy Seguin, and Carol Hardin for the term of January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019. Motion carried.

**Request for a Holiday Display at Pepper Fest Park, discussion and possible action.**

Motion (Zappa/Zais) to approve the application of a temporary Seasonal Display at Pepper Fest Park.

Wekkin has been approached by citizens asking if a Nativity display could be set up in Pepper Fest Park if they themselves bought the decorations. Wekkin stated that anyone interested in putting up a display in Pepper Fest Park would need to complete an application and include a \$75.00 deposit, if using electricity. Dunst added that he and Luedke put together a policy regarding temporary seasonal Holiday Displays at Pepper Fest Park. The policy states that the Village will not be liable or responsible for any displays put up. Any burden would be on the applicant and not the Village. Robert Cizek, resident of North Hudson, asked if electricity would be provided; if a Nativity scene is allowed; and, if an applicant can request a certain area of the park so that no opposing display would be near. Wekkin explained that electricity will be deducted from the \$75.00 deposit and that no specific areas of the park can be designated for any display. Dunst explained that there would be no restrictions or prohibition on any displays. Dunst added that there were four (4) displays at the State House in Florida that were all near each other. Those displays were a Nativity scene, a pentagram by the Church of Satan, a Festivus pole (from Seinfeld) and a display by the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster. Dunst explained that this is what could happen. Meredith Berg, resident of North Hudson on Sally's Alley, spoke next. She said that everyone knows that some groups or people will put up displays that others do not like. She said that there's a Nativity scene display at the State Capital and next to that is a Church of Satan display. Berg thinks that since the State Capital allows it, then the Village should too. Trustee Pike doesn't recommend that the Village allow displays based on his previous experience dealing with separation of church and state issues. In his experience, allowing displays may be opening up a can of worms that the Village wouldn't want to face. Trustees Leaf and Head agreed. Head stated that it's not that we don't want to decorate or celebrate Christ's birth. He said it's for the continuation of separation of state and church and to not bring a burden to the Village. Trustee Zappa stated it would be worth it to implement as it could be rescinded if any issues came up. Zappa welcomes diversity and hopes that the policy would be used properly. Trustee Zais asked if only North Hudson residents participate. Dunst replied no, its government property and is open to anyone. Pat Sabin, resident of Town of Hudson, stated that these displays have been ruled as free speech and free speech can't be restricted based on content. As long as it's open to anyone, Pat believes that Meredith should be able to put up a display. Luedke stated that she reached out to other clerks in the state to see if they've had any experience with this. The Clerk from Saukville advised against it. Saukville allowed displays to be put up which lead to a special interest group threatening to sue them. Saukville no longer allow displays. Wekkin stated that he's for allowing displays and that we should use this as an experiment. Zappa concurred with Wekkin and says we shouldn't run scared of the potentials that could happen. Pike stated that it's the outside interest groups that he's worried about because they are just looking for these types of things. Mary Kane, resident of St. Joseph, stated that we shouldn't live in fear. We shouldn't have this taken away from us just because of what possibly could happen. **Motion failed on a 3-3 tie vote. Head-no; Pike-no; Wekkin-yes; Zappa-yes; Zais-yes; Leaf-no.**

### **New Business from the Board or Staff**

*President's Remarks:* Wekkin reiterated that residents should not be flushing "flushable" wipes. The wipes clog the lift station pumps that keep the sewer system flowing. Wekkin wished people a Happy Hanukkah, a safe & Merry Christmas and well wishes to everyone that doesn't celebrate the holidays.

*Administrator/Clerk's Remarks:* Luedke stated that there are two (2) new elections that were recently added due to Sheila Harsdorf's resignation from her Senate seat. There will be a special primary election for State Senator, District 10, on Tuesday, December 19, 2017. The special

election is on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. In-person absentee voting has begun for the December election. The spring election will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018. Individuals interested in being on the ballot for the 2018 spring election can pick up the necessary paperwork at the Village Hall. The deadline to file all the paperwork is 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. There will be three (3) Village Trustee positions on the ballot. Incumbents are Ted Head, Bryan Pike and Tim Zais.

### **Plan Commission**

*Chair update:* Plan Commission did not meet.

### **Personnel and Finance Committee recommendations**

*Claims - Review and recommendation:* **Motion (Zappa/Head) to approve the December 2017 non-recurring claims of \$33,413.75. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0.**

**Leaf-yes, Zais-yes, Zappa-yes, Wekkin-yes, Pike-yes, Head-yes.**

*Assignment of remaining funds from the Public Works Garage loan and Public Works truck and Catch Basin Loan:* **Motion (Zappa/Leaf) to approve the transfer of \$10,520.00 remaining from the Public Works Truck and Catch Basin project loan to an assigned fund to be used for future catch basin repairs, and transfer the remaining funds from the Public Works garage loan to an assigned fund to be used for future improvements to the property. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Head-yes, Pike-yes, Wekkin-yes, Zappa-yes, Zais-yes, Leaf-yes.**

*2018 Contracts, discussion and approval requested:*

1) *Animal Impounding Services – Woodbury Animal Humane Society:* **Motion (Zappa/Leaf) to approve the Animal Impounding Services Contract. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Leaf-yes, Zais-yes, Zappa-yes, Wekkin-yes, Pike-yes, Head-yes.**

2) *Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Contract – Brian Wert:* **Motion (Zappa/Pike) to approve the Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Contract. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Head-yes, Pike-yes, Wekkin-yes, Zappa-yes, Zais-yes, Leaf-yes.**

### **Public Works Committee**

*Chair update:* Pike stated that the Public Works did not meet and updated the Board with the 2017 year end review. All fire hydrants have been flushed & serviced in 2017. Fifteen (15) of the hydrants have been painted and the rest will be painted as weather and time permits. Sixty-eight (68) catch basins were patched in and cement work was done on many of them. The drainage issue in Woodcrest Park was repaired. The storm sewer catch basin on Deerpath & Sommers was cemented and repaired. All the Public Works employees will have their Water Operator licenses by the end of 2018.

### **Public Safety Committee**

*Chair update:* Zappa stated that the Public Safety Committee did not meet and there is one (1) actionable item to bring forward for approval.

*Purchase of capital equipment for the police department:* **Motion (Zappa/Leaf) to approve the purchase of four (4) tactical helmets, four (4) tactical vests, and two (2) ballistic shields in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.00. Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0. Leaf-yes, Zais-yes, Zappa-yes, Wekkin-yes, Pike-yes, Head-yes.**

### **Public Welfare**

*Chair update:* Public Welfare did not meet.

**Park Board**

*Chair update:* Wekin stated that the chair was not here but the committee did meet. There are no actionable items. Wekin said the drainage issue in Woodcrest Park has been repaired. He explained that the water drain pipe which helped the water flow from pond 9 to Lake Mallalieu had separated which slowed down drainage. The water was still draining, just slowly.

**Convene into Closed Session**

Wekin added that the ad hoc committee for sewer & water with Hudson did not meet. **The board did not convene into closed session.**

**Reconvene into Open Session**

**The board did not convene into closed session.**

**Adjournment**

Wekin declared the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jessica Lehman  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer