

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Charles Fischer, Village President.

Invocation

President Fischer called for a moment of silence.

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

President Fischer led members in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of Trustees

PRESENT: Charles Fischer, Village President
John Elrick, Trustee
Jason Leicht, Trustee
Skip Smith, Trustee
Steve Ransbottom, Trustee
Don Van Deurzen, Trustee
EXCUSED: Janet Verstegen, Trustee

Roll Call of Officers and Department Heads

PRESENT: Charles Kell, Village Administrator
Erik Misselt, Police Chief
Dale Haug, Finance Director
Jim Moes, Community Development Director (6:35)
Tom Flick, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
Roy Van Gheem, Director of Public Works
Charles Koehler, Village Attorney
Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk

Public Appearance for Items Not on the Agenda

Don De Groot, President of LC Windmill, Inc., addressed the Board and stated the article that appeared in the *Times/Villager* had caused some members of the Windmill Committee to become very upset as the Windmill Committee has been working with the Village for years on the Windmill project. D. De Groot stated he was upset about the comments made about parking complaints and he requested to see the complaints that were filed during the last year, how they were addressed, and who was the complaining party. R. Van Gheem stated that not all complaints are recorded. Trustee Elrick stated through ALC he does know that complaints are reported in the winter. Trustee Elrick stated there was a lot of conversation at the meeting regarding the parking lot and some items in the article may have been taken slightly out of context. D. De Groot stated that three years ago the windmill plat plan was presented to the Village and at that time they were told a minimum of three stalls were needed, some things were changed and then it was changed to eight stalls and now they were told 13 stalls are required. D. De Groot commented on the history of the Village installing public parking lots. D. De Groot stated that he counted 538 lined parking stalls within 2/10ths of a mile from the Village Hall. D. De Groot stated that last week Friday, on a school day, 354 stalls or 66% were empty. D. De Groot stated that 34% of the stalls being used were being used by teachers and he also commented on downtown businesses that use public parking. D. De Groot stated he supports public parking and he sees an abundance of available parking in the Village and the goal of the Windmill is to bring in tourists to fill those parking spots. D. De Groot stated he also had concerns about the parking lot the Village is proposing to

construct on the library grounds as at some point in the future, the library may need to expand.. Trustee Elrick commented on the Village's ordinance that requires off street parking for new businesses. Trustee Ransbottom stated he has concerns about busses unloading passengers and busses parking in the downtown. D. De Groot stated they are planning to have a bus drop off site and they currently have agreements with three business owners to the north to allow busses to park on their property and the busses will not be parked in public parking areas downtown. Trustee Smith stated he had concerns that visitors will take parking stalls in front of the downtown businesses. D. De Groot asked the Board if 13 stalls make a difference when there is available parking throughout the downtown. Trustee Elrick stated that there seems to be a communication breakdown between the Village and the Windmill Committee. D. De Groot thanked the Board for allowing him to appear and present this information. D. De Groot stated in summary he wants to plead to the Board to not throw sand in the gears of our Windmill, let's work together and get this done as we need each other. D. De Groot asked the Village to waive the requirement for the Windmill to provide 13 parking stalls.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 2, 2009

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2009

Moved by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to approve the Regular Board Minutes of September 2 and Committee of the Whole Minutes of September 9, 2009 as presented.

Ayes 6, Nay 0-Motion Carried

Action – Entertainment Permit – Kermis Dutch Festival – October 10, 2009

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to Approve the Entertainment Permit for the Kermis Dutch Festival on October 10, 2009.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Action – Parade Permit – LCHS Homecoming Parade – October 2, 2009

Moved by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to Approve the Parade Permit for the LCHS Homecoming Parade on October 2, 2009.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Update/Possible Action – Windmill View Park Project

C. Kell reported that the Eagle Scout that worked with CABOB and constructed the picnic tables for the Windmill View Park was only allowed by the Boy Scout Council to complete that part of the project and another Eagle Scout was going to take over laying the concrete but that scout is no longer able to do the project. C. Kell stated as he believes the concrete has been donated and asked the Board if they agreed with having the Public Works staff install the concrete slabs. Discussion took place and Board members agreed that Trustee Van Deurzen can check with the Jaycees to see if they are interested in installing the concrete and he will report back at next week's meeting.

Request to Use Village Hall Community Room for Private Event

President Fischer stated that the Village's policy does not allow for private functions at the Village Hall but the Board has the authority to make an exception and waive the policy and in this case he favors allowing the family to hold an anniversary function at the Village Hall. Board members concurred with President Fischer.

Moved by Trustee Elrick, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to Allow the 50th Anniversary Celebration for Gene and Virgie Janssen to be held at the Village Hall on Sunday, October 11, 2009.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried

Operator's Licenses:

None

Department and Officers Progress Reports

Chief Misselt – no report. D. Haug reported that next week he plans to present an overview on options staff is considering as they move forward with preparing the 2010 proposed budget. Board members indicated approval to spend approximately \$13,000 for asbestos removal in the properties the Village purchased. C. Kell stated the asbestos needs to be removed before the buildings can be taken down. C. Kell reported that the DOT has agreed to allow the Village to proceed with finding a new consultant for the design of the Mill Street Bridge and the DOT will be a part of the selection process. Board members indicated that staff should bring a draft of the north side park proposal and the Board should take official action on the proposal for the park at a future meeting. C. Kell reported on the Public Hearing that was held before the Plan Commission for the Van Dyn Hoven rezoning. C. Kell stated Mr. Van Dyn Hoven will not be requesting that the Village Board hold a rezoning hearing at this time. C. Kell stated he is meeting with Mr. Van Dyn Hoven to discuss possible alternatives to the development that take into account the concerns of the neighboring residents. C. Kell reported that late this afternoon, staff received an email from the DNR that stated the permit for the Heesakker Pond had been denied and no specific reasons were listed as to why the permit was denied but they did indicate they will work quickly with the Village to resolve the issues so the Village doesn't lose the stimulus funding and grant money. J. Moes reported that there is a proposal by the State to eliminate the Department that takes care of setting municipalities' equalization rates and they are proposing a single-value system. J. Moes stated that this would result in municipalities having to assess at 100% every year and more staffing at the Village level would be needed to perform these duties. T. Fick asked Board members how they wanted to move forward with the Deer Herd Control issue and stated that if a managed hunt is supported by the Board, it would not be implemented until spring because of all the requirements that have to be followed to set up a hunt. Board members indicated that next week's agenda should include an item for the Board to discuss the options and possibly select an option that was proposed by the DNR. T. Flick reminded Board members that the Pedestrian/Bike Plan will be presented at next week's meeting. R. Van Gheem stated he will be scheduling a meeting with the DNR to go over the Heesakker Park pond project permit denial. R. Van Gheem reported he had met with the Drainage District that encompasses the north side of the Village and there are issues as the District wants to raise the Village's fees and he will keep the Board updated on the status of the discussions with the District. R. Van Gheem reported that Tim Wegand has been hired as the new laborer to replace an opening in the Department and he also reported that the Department has hit a milestone of four years with no lost time claims. R. Van Gheem reported that the Single-Stream Recycling carts were delivered over the weekend and everything went well. V. Schneider reminded Board members that the early bird deadline for registration for the League Conference was on Monday. Attorney Koehler – no report.

Disbursement List

Trustee Elrick requested to abstain from voting on the disbursement list.

Moved by Trustee Van Deurzen, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the disbursement list as presented and authorize the Finance Director to draw from the respective funds.

Ayes 5, Nay 0, Abstained 1 (Elrick) – Motion Carried

Call for Unfinished Business

Trustee Ransbottom stated the League Letter lists a bill that is being proposed by Representative Ott concerning municipalities adopting ordinances to allow operating electric vehicles on County Highways and Board members may want to make comments to the League regarding this bill.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2009

Items for Future Agenda

Board members agreed to Deer Herd Control options on next week’s agenda so the Board can discuss and make a decision as to whether to move forward with one of the options that was presented by the DNR. Trustee Van Deurzen suggested that the Windmill’s parking issue be discussed at a future meeting. J. Moes stated the three options for the Windmill parking issue are that the Village Board grants the Windmill the use of limited or unlimited public parking to meet their required off-street parking and the Plan Commission has to authorize this option; option two is that a variance from the Code be granted by the Plan Commission; and option three is the Board would get a recommendation from the Plan Commission to change the Code reducing the number of required on-site parking stalls for that type of use. J. Moes stated that 18 parking stalls are required under what the Windmill’s architect gave him for capacity. Staff stated that the parking lot that the Village had proposed for construction would allow for the 13 parking spaces for the Windmill and it would open up parking for visitors in the current lot between the Library and Village Hall.

Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Van Deurzen, seconded by Trustee Ransbottom to Adjourn the Regular Board meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Ayes 6, Nay 0 – Motion Carried Unanimously

VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

By: _____
Charles Fischer, Village President

Attest: Vicki Schneider, Village Clerk