

Regular Meeting

August 17, 2021

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Village President Schumacher. Trustees present: Curtis, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Excused: Hennessey. Also present: Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, Police Chief Jeremy Randall, County Board Supervisor Dave Hundt, Nicole Vidal, Jed Olson, Stephen Cohen, and Village Administrator Teresa DeLong.

Public Comment

County Board Supervisor Dave Hundt reported he has requested La Crosse County contribute \$1,000,000 to the Lake Neshonoc Dredge Project. The La Crosse County Executive Committee voted to recommend a \$500,000 contribution to the dredge project. Supervisor Hundt requested the Village Board contact La Crosse County Supervisors and encourage support for this contribution.

A resident then asked the Village Board what its policy is regarding the publication of a person's name and address in the official committee meeting minutes and Village Board meeting minutes. The public may feel more encouraged to speak and participate in public meetings if their name and address were not published in the minutes. The Village Board agreed to seek legal opinion on this question.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve the Village Board minutes of the August 3, 2021, meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Claims

Claims from the following funds were presented for payment:

<u>General Fund:</u>	\$78,276.89
<u>Water Utility:</u>	\$13,710.76
<u>Sewer Utility:</u>	\$322,109.87
<u>Storm Water Utility:</u>	\$1,513.80

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Lautz approve the payment of all claims as listed. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Special Event Application

Dave Hundt appeared before the Board to request approval for closing South Leonard Street from the alley north of Village Hall to Memorial Drive for a Labor Day Street Dance to benefit Paws Park. Paws Park will be located in Veterans Memorial Park off Highway 16. Rahn Pischke has led the initiative to create the dog park in Veterans Memorial Park. To date, \$17,000 has been raised toward this three to four-acre dog

park. Total costs are estimated at \$36,000 to \$40,000. There will be no charge to the public to use the new park. The Labor Day Street Dance will begin at 5:00 p.m. and conclude at midnight.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve the Special Event Application pending receipt of the application form. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License

Nicole Vidal appeared before the Village Board to request approval of a Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License to hold a wine walk on Thursday, August 26, 2021, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. This is the third wine walk organized by the Berg Hemker Olson American Legion Post 51 Building Committee. There are nineteen businesses participating at twelve locations in downtown West Salem. The maximum number of participants has been capped at 250, and so far 130 have registered.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve the issuance of a Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License to the Berg Hemker Olson American Legion Post 51 to hold a wine walk on August 26, 2021. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Bike Park Proposal

Stephen Cohen informed the Village Board the bike fix-it station has been installed at the bike shelter location on the corner of Mill and Jefferson, and it is being used. Mr. Cohen would now like to introduce the idea of a bike park and pump track for the Village. There are several bike parks in the La Crosse area, and he states this would be an asset to this community. Mr. Cohen introduced Outdoor Recreation Alliance of La Crosse Executive Director Jed Olson. Mr. Olson stated he has been involved in the creation of several bike parks and pump tracks, and bike recreation areas have proven to be a valuable asset to any community. The areas serve a broad and highly engaged user group and provide an opportunity for healthy and active recreation, increasing quality of life for the local community. There are many different types of potential pump track surfaces, such as asphalt, modular, and dirt, with costs ranging from \$30,000 to more than \$200,000 depending upon the material and size. A potential location should have easy access, and are often times a great addition to an otherwise under-utilized area. The creation of bike recreation areas is often a community-involved project. Mr. Olson and Mr. Cohen are asking the Village Board's opinion on moving forward with possible locations and proposals. The Village Board encouraged collaboration with the West Salem School District, La Crosse County, and private entities for land acquisition.

Certified Survey Map

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve a certified survey map prepared by La Crosse County Land Survey Department for a 19.92-acre parcel north of East Garland Street extended for potential inclusion in a future tax incremental finance district. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Street Committee

Trustee Leicht reported on the August 20, 2021, Street Committee meeting. At the Street Committee meeting, Police Lieutenant Kyle Holzhausen explained numerous

safety and traffic issues with pick up and drop off of students at the West Salem Middle School and the West Salem Boys and Girls Club. Village Ordinance No. 6.05(G)(3)(aa) states that no vehicle, including a school bus, shall park, stand, or stop on either side of the street along the curb lines on Mark Street from East Garland to East Hamlin from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday while the elementary school is in session nor on either side of East Avenue from Mark Street to the west one and one-half blocks. The Police Department and School District is requesting the no parking hours on North Mark Street be changed to 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to assist with participant pick up from the Boys and Girls Club after 3:30 p.m. It is also requested that consideration be given to a bus loading only lane in front of the Boys and Girls Club. Traffic on East Avenue before and after school is significant. Student safety is an issue. Vehicles are parking on both sides of East Avenue, and vehicles and buses are traveling east and west on East Avenue. Students are crossing between parked cars and are in the traffic lanes of East Avenue. The Police Department and School District are requesting that the south curb line of East Avenue be designated as no parking between the hours of 7:15 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday while school is in session. The north curb line of East Avenue from Mark Street to the West Salem Community Shelter area would be designated as pick up and drop off only from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday while school is in session. East Avenue east of Mark Street has also become a parking congestion and safety issue. The Police Department states no parking should be considered for a certain distance from the intersection of Mark Street east. The Committee directed the School District work with the Police Department to create temporary areas on East Avenue for no parking and pick up and drop off and communicate same with the public and the matter will be reviewed again for possible ordinance amendments. Excessive speed has become an issue on the School District driveway beginning on Mark Street, continuing past the Panther Den, and ending at East Garland Street. The Police Department and School District are requesting traffic control enforcement on this private driveway. Pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stat. Sec. 118.105, any school board may request local authorities to control motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic on off-highway school premises. The School District will consider a resolution and a written agreement with the Village to enforce a new ordinance and reimbursement to the Village of all costs associated with such enactment and enforcement.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve the Street Committee meeting minutes of August 10, 2021, as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Lautz to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Teresa L. DeLong, Village Administrator