

Regular Meeting

October 15, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Village President Dennis Manthei. Trustees present: Brown, Hennessey, Lautz, Leicht, Schumacher, and Wee. Also present: Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Police Chief Jeremy Randall, Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, LADCO Economic Development Coordinator Sam Bachmeier, Village Attorney Bryant Klos, Executive Director for La Crosse Area Planning Commission Peter Fletcher, and Village Administrator Teresa DeLong.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2019, Regular Board meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Claims

Claims from the following funds were presented for payment:

<u>General Fund:</u>	\$200,399.39
<u>Water Utility:</u>	\$32,909.06
<u>Sewer Utility:</u>	\$58,211.80
<u>Storm Water Utility:</u>	\$5,317.79

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

MPO/LAPC Director

Executive Director for the Metropolitan Planning Organization Peter Fletcher appeared before the Village Board to introduce himself and provide information regarding the La Crosse Area Planning Commission. The La Crosse Area Planning Committee (LAPC) has been designated by the governors of Wisconsin and Minnesota as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to perform transportation planning activities for the La Crosse and La Crescent urbanized area in accordance with Federal regulations. The LAPC is a bi-state MPO whose [planning area](#) includes twelve communities in La Crosse County, Wisconsin (the cities of La Crosse and Onalaska, the villages of Holmen and West Salem, and the towns of Campbell, Medary, Barre, Holland, Greenfield, Onalaska, Shelby, and Hamilton), a tiny part of the town of Bergen in Vernon County, Wisconsin, and three communities in Minnesota (the city and township of La Crescent in Houston County and the township of Dresbach in Winona County). Although all of these communities are within our planning area, they are not all members of the LAPC. The LAPC is required to develop and maintain a long-range [Metropolitan Transportation Plan](#) (25 year planning horizon) and a short-range (4 year) [Transportation Improvement Program](#) of state- and federally-funded projects as well as other regionally significant projects. The LAPC also serves as a forum for transportation and land use planning

discussions and decisions by the elected leaders in the planning area. Other area-wide projects are conducted as the LAPC deems necessary. The type of research to be undertaken, the type of plans to be prepared, and the method and cost of conducting the programs are determined annually with the preparation of the LAPC [Planning Work Program](#). The [Technical Advisory Committee](#) (TAC) and the [Committee on Transit and Active Transportation](#) (CTAT) are the LAPC standing committees that provide input on plans and studies, prioritize STP-U and TAP applications, and recommend actions to the Policy Board. The Policy Board is made up of the highest ranking elected official of each member community.

Special Event Application

Motion by Trustee Schumacher, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the Special Event Application submitted by the West Salem Business Association to close South Leonard Street and South Mill Street from Hamilton to Elm Street in order to safely conduct the annual Downtown Trick or Treating event and Trunk or Treat event in the Village Park. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Trustee Leicht reported on the October 1, 2019, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed 2019-2020 West Salem Fire Protection District budget request and the proposed 2020 Parks and Recreation Department budget. Based on equalized values, West Salem's share of the West Salem Fire Protection District budget request to the Village is \$113,783.14, a decrease from last year's amount of \$114,562.41. Dave Tauscher explained each expense request. Increased expense items include fire equipment and protective clothing additions and replacements, increased computer software support for new response phone applications, and building maintenance and repairs. Other expense items were reduced accordingly. The rescue squad is the next truck in the fleet needing attention. The department is proposing to replace the chassis and reuse the body of the truck instead of purchasing a new vehicle. Director Tony DeGaetano presented his proposed 2020 Parks and Recreation Department budget request. Most expense items remain unchanged with increases noted in employee fringes and supplies. Parks expenses, capital expenditures, and capital set asides were decreased. Revenues remain consistent with set aside sinking funds utilized for tree replacement and future roof repairs and computer replacements.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Schumacher to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2019, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Trustee Leicht reported on the October 10, 2019, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed 2020 Public Works Department budget and the proposed 2020 Police Department budget. Public Works Director Loren Schwier presented the proposed Public Works Department budget. Most expense items remain unchanged from last year. Mr. Schwier noted he increased the machinery repairs line item due to the age of the public works department vehicles and equipment, repairs are going to be more frequent and expensive. Because a major street project was completed in 2019, no street reconstruction projects are planned for

2020. Therefore, the street repair expenses have been increased to \$60,000 in order to perform chip and crack sealing. Mr. Schwier has been working with the County Highway Commissioner to apply for various matching grant funding programs for future street reconstruction of East Hamilton Street, City Loop, and North Mark Streets. Highway equipment capital items include the final payment on the loader and the annual skid steer lease. Mr. Schwier is proposing purchase of a 2500 HD truck with plow and creating a set aside for purchase of a tandem dump truck in 2022. Police Chief Jeremy Randall presented the proposed Police Department budget. Chief Randall noted many of the normal expense accounts remain unchanged from 2019, with small increases for police supplies, squad car maintenance, and office supplies. Many line item increases are the result of the police officers transition to a twelve-hour work shift and the School District increasing its funding toward the school liaison officer position in order for the Village to hire a patrol relief officer to replace the hours the school liaison officer will be spending in the School District facilities. The Police Contracts expenses are increased because the La Crosse County Information Technology Department is upgrading its software system for all police agencies. The Village is required to pay an increase in annual maintenance fees. WatchGuard squad car and body camera maintenance and software fees are increasing along with phone systems maintenance. The need for school crossing guards continues, and Chief Randall would like to increase the hourly pay slightly in the hopes additional crossing guards will apply. A new squad car and equipment borrowing is included in the budget with applicable principal and interest payments, a replacement speed radar sign, a replacement desktop computer, and two additional body cameras. The Committee then proposed wage and salary increases so a draft 2020 operating plan can be completed for review at a future Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. Health insurance premium increases appear to be in the 8 to 10 percent range.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Schumacher to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2019, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Wee to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Teresa L. DeLong, Village Administrator