

Public Hearing
2023 Operating Plan
December 6, 2022

Public hearing called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees present: Curtis, Hennessey, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Also present: Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, Police Chief Kyle Holzhausen, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Attorney Bryant Klos, and Village Administrator Teresa DeLong.

The public hearing was scheduled for the purpose of hearing any taxpayer or citizen comments or questions pertaining to the proposed Village Operating Budget for 2023. There were no citizens present to speak for or against the proposed 2023 Operating Plan.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis to close the public hearing at 7:52 p.m. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Teresa L. DeLong, Village Administrator

Regular Meeting

December 6, 2022

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees present: Curtis, Hennessey, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Also present: Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano, Police Chief Kyle Holzhausen, Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Village Attorney Bryant Klos, Marc Zettler, Norma Schmig, Pam Stetzer, and Village Administrator Teresa DeLong.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Twining, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2022, meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Claims

Claims totaling \$28,551.60 were presented for payment. Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Curtis approve the payment of all claims as listed. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye.

Palmer-Gullickson Octagon House

Marc Zettler introduced himself to the Village Board, stating he is a Preservation Architect and a volunteer for the West Salem Historical Society working with its steering committee to fundraise and make historical repairs to the Palmer-Gullickson Octagon House. The Steering Committee is currently fundraising to restore the roof and porches on the octagon house. They would like to pursue a Community Development Investment Grant through the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

Municipalities can apply for a CDI grant each fiscal year on behalf of a project in the community. The grant is a 3:1 match. Estimated costs of the restoration work are \$200,000, which would mean the requested grant amount would be \$50,000 and the steering committee would be tasked with the remaining \$150,000. Norma Schmig presented the history of the Palmer-Gullickson Octagon House, and Pam Stetzer updated the Village Board on fundraising to date.

The Village Board felt the project was worth pursuing, and the Steering Committee will update the Village Board in a few months on the fund raising progress.

2023 Operating Plan

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve the 2023 Operating Plan which calls for total expenditures of \$4,340,988 and a levy of \$1,607,084. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Resolution 7.22

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve Resolution 7.22 Authorization for Short-Term Promissory Note Borrowing and Tax Levy for Village Borrowing in the amount of \$250,000 for general and current operation expenses. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Ordinance No. 511

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve Ordinance No. 511 which will annex 2.79 acres, more or less, of County Trunk Highway B from the Town of Hamilton. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Storm Water Management Public Education and Outreach Cooperative Agreement

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Curtis to approve entering into the Storm Water Management Public Education and Outreach Cooperative Agreement with nine other municipalities for the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2026. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Planning Commission

President Schumacher reported on the November 21, 2022, Planning Commission meeting. The Commission reviewed an Application for Conditional Use Permit submitted by Tracey and Gregory Wilhelm. The Wilhelms would like to create a zero lot line townhome at 126 and 128 Susan Court. The parcel is presently a duplex, and the owner would like to convert the structure to a separate ownership townhome. A certified survey map has been prepared for review by the Commission in conjunction with the conditional use permit application. The Commission noted confirmation has been received that the duplex was constructed with the required firewall in place from the basement to the roof deck, and a proposed Common Wall Maintenance Agreement was submitted with the Application. The Commission scheduled a public hearing on the Conditional Use Permit Application for Tuesday, December 13, 2022, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a Planning Commission meeting immediately following. The Commission then reviewed an Application for Conditional Use Permit submitted by La Crosse Sign Group on behalf of Features Sports Bar & Grill. Applicants are requesting a conditional use permit in order to install two new 12' X 7' illuminated wall sign cabinets on the east and north entrance of the new fieldhouse facility presently under construction. Two

additional signs will exceed the total number of signs allowed on one premise. There are presently two wall signs on the restaurant and bowling alley. The Commission scheduled a public hearing on the Conditional Use Permit Application for Tuesday, December 13, 2022, immediately following the Wilhelm public hearing.

Motion by President Schumacher, seconded by Trustee Lautz to approve the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held on November 21, 2022, as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Law Enforcement Committee

Trustee Lautz reported on the November 29, 2022, Law Enforcement Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss with the West Salem Professional Police Association a successor agreement to the 2020-2022 contract. The Police Union presented its responses to the Village initial proposal. The Union countered with new proposals and agreed and/or rejected Village proposals. New wages, wage payment procedure, new shift schedules, work period, vacation, holidays, sick leave policies, lateral transfer language, job postings, accumulated sick leave at retirement, benefits, and relief patrol officer positions were all discussed. The Union and the Committee recessed, and then the meeting reconvened. The Union requested a compromise on shift differential pay; wage increases were discussed; the Union presented new work period language for consideration; training and in-service pay policies were discussed; holiday pay practices were agreed upon; an unused vacation carryover proposal and accumulated sick time at retirement was agreed upon; and hourly wage payments in exchange for Village-deducted Union dues were all discussed. WPPA Business Agent Mike Backus offered to prepare a proposed 2023-2025 successor contract for Village review and action.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Leicht to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2022, Law Enforcement Committee meeting as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Trustee Leicht reported on the December 5, 2022, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to begin discussions regarding a public safety referendum question for an upcoming election. In order to fund the hiring of three additional police officers, a referendum to allow the Village to exceed the State-imposed property tax limit must be approved by the electorate. The Village Board intends that the levy increase be applied on an ongoing basis. The purpose for which the increased levy would be used would be to maintain existing and future public safety and service levels for police and possibly public works, general government, and general fund capital improvements and capital purchases. Information would be distributed and public hearings held to educate and inform the public on what the additional funds will be spent on and why the additional police officers are needed. The Village is unable to afford additional police officers due to State mandates constricting the amount the Village can increase its annual budget, and those amounts will be researched and included in the information to be distributed. Extensive discussion was had regarding the wages and benefits cost of police officers, required training, uniforms, firearms, body cameras, and equipment needed. Chief Holzhausen discussed the significant increase in crime and calls for service in the Village and the fact the Village does not have 24-

hour a day, 7 days a week police coverage. Four different assessed values were used to compute a levy increase impact on a residence. If the Village Board decides to move forward with a referendum, the deadline to inform the County Clerk is January 24, 2023.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Lautz to approve the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting minutes of December 5, 2022, as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Teresa L. DeLong, Village Administrator