

Village of West Salem
Regular Meeting
March 5, 2024

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl. Trustees present: Anderson, Hennessey, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Excused: Curtis and Schumacher. Also present: Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano and Village Administrator Teresa DeLong.

Due to Village President Scott Schumacher's excused absence, the Village Board should approve the appointment of a Village Board Trustee to preside over the regular meeting of the Board pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 61.32.

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Twining to appoint Trustee Leicht to preside over the Regular Meeting of the Board pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 61.32. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Minutes

Motion by Trustee Twining, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, regular meeting as written. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Claims

Claims were presented for payment totaling \$58,230.75.

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

Ordinance No. 528

The Village Board was asked to review a proposed revision to Chapter 16 Stormwater and Erosion Control. The updated draft ordinance will delete the current stormwater and erosion control ordinance and re-create the same as directed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and according to the requirements of the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit under NR 216, Wis. Adm.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to schedule proposed Ordinance No. 528 for a public hearing on March 19, 2024, beginning at 6:55 p.m. Roll Call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Recreation Committee

Trustee Anderson reported on the February 28, 2024 Recreation Committee meeting. Ken Harwood (Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission), Stephen Cohen (WS Park & Rec Committee Chair), Tony DeGaetano & Cierra Wannemuehler (WS Park & Rec staff) have been working on writing an updated five-year Outdoor Recreation Plan over the past few months. Will need to find a day and time for a public forum to present the final plan. When complete, the plan will ultimately go to the West Salem Village Board to be passed as a resolution. The survey was completed by over 300 respondents – roughly half that have lived in West Salem. The most highly supported

project is the addition of trails which can be used for various outdoor recreation options (walking, hiking, biking, cross country skiing) by all age groups and abilities. Multiple projects that were recognized in the survey would require partnerships with other groups, specifically La Crosse County (Trails along Lake Neshonoc, improvements to Veteran's Park, beach/access to Lake Neshonoc would fall on La Crosse County land.) Trail support was acknowledged over multiple survey questions and categories Adult programming was discussed as an area of program planning that could be improved on in the future. Goals of the plan directly relate to and are supported by the survey results. Will look to include a new additional goal referencing the need for open communication with the public about the West Salem Park & Recreation Department needs, programs offered through our department, as well as outdoor recreation options outside of West Salem Park & Recreation Department organized activities/programs/leagues. Discussed the United States grant database which is open for review through the League of Municipalities. This is a new free resource we will be able to utilize to look up both public and private grants. Ken, Stephen, Tony and Cierra will continue to work on completing the 2024-29 Outdoor Recreation Plan and include Kat and Tom on updates for review and input. Will look to meet again in person when the plan is complete to discuss and solidify plans for a public forum and West Salem Village Board resolution.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve the February 28, 2024 Recreation Committee meeting minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Public Works Director Loren Schwier reported on some of the tree maintenance that his team is currently under-going, with seven trees already having been cut down. Their next focus are the trees around the Lion's Shelter. The water lines to the chicken pit in Village Park are complete. Director Schwier also advised the Board that residents were asked to complete a water survey to determine the types of pipes present in their home a while back and his team must now visit each household that did not reply to do inspections based on State requirements

Park and Recreation Director Tony DeGaetano reported that his team is finishing up the spring activity brochure. He also reported that the interior of the Lion's Shelter has been completely re-painted.

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Lautz to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. Approved by voice vote.

Ashley M. Bohl, Village Clerk/Treasurer