

Village of West Salem  
Regular Meeting  
September 3, 2024

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Village President Scott Schumacher. Trustees present: Anderson, Hennessey, Lautz, Leicht, and Twining. Excused: Curtis. Also present: Public Works Director Loren Schwier, Police Chief Scott Alo, Village Attorney Bryant Klos, La Crosse County District 26 Supervisor Dave Hundt, Carl Colsch, Jay Christianson, Village Administrator Teresa DeLong, and Village Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Bohl.

Public Comment

La Crosse County District 26 Supervisor David Hundt thanked the Board for use of Leonard Street from Memorial Drive to Elm Street for the West Salem Cares Street Dance held September 1, 2024. More than \$15,000 was raised. Mr. Hundt strongly recommended the Board draft another letter to La Crosse County that solidifies where the Village stands with regard to the County Farm property.

Minutes

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

Claims

Claims were presented for payment totaling \$101,788.74.

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

Vacant Land Offer to Purchase

Carl Colsch of Kenrich Foods addressed the Board to present his Offer to Purchase ten acres of land in the Lakeview Business Park.

Flags of Honor

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to approve use of the Village Park and Shelter September 4 through September 8, 2024, as requested. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Special Event Application

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve the Special Event Application submitted by Chia Lee on behalf of Hmoob Cultural and Community Agency in order to hold the Hmong New Year Event at Veteran's Memorial Park from September 21 through September 22, 2024. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Electric Underground Distribution Easement

An Electric Underground Distribution Easement request submitted by Northern States Power Company was reviewed by the Village Board. Village Attorney Bryant Klos explained Northern States Power wishes to locate within the Village-owned drainage ditch located between Amerhart and the new First Supply location on Industrial Drive.

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Lautz to approve the Electric Underground Distribution Easement request for Village-owned parcel 16-1046-303 submitted by Northern States Power Company as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

#### Law Enforcement Committee

Trustee Lautz reported on the August 20, 2024, Law Enforcement Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review for recommendation to the Village Board an Application to Exceed Pet Limit submitted by Jay and Jenny Christianson, 465 Franklin Street West, who recently purchased their home and presently keep a spayed female Golden Retriever, a spayed female Black Labrador Retriever and a neutered male Springer Spaniel. Additionally, the Committee reviewed for recommendation to Village Board, a Special Permit Application to Own, Keep, or Harbor Chickens submitted by Lizette Steiger, 217 Lincoln Avenue North, to keep five chickens.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve the Law Enforcement Committee meeting minutes of August 20, 2024, as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve the issuance of a Permit to Exceed Pet Limit to Jay and Jenny Christianson. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to approve the issuance of a Special Permit to Own, Keep, or Harbor Chickens to Lizette Steiger. Roll call vote: Lautz – abstain; remainder of Board – aye. Motion approved.

Public Works Director Loren Schwier reported on the newest hire to the public works department, that the downtown streets have been repainted, and that his department now has arrow stencils.

Police Chief Scott Alo presented a report on calls-for-service. Arrests are currently up over last year (217 vs. 183). Chief Alo was able to purchase used traffic control barrels that will be used for the Hmong New Year and any future needs for traffic control. Currently, the Axon contract is being reviewed for clarity and understanding.

#### Closed Session

Motion by Trustee Leicht, seconded by Trustee Twining to convene in closed session at 7:26 p.m. pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate for purchase of public properties, investment of public funds, or conduct of other specific public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session to-wit: real estate offer to purchase. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Hennessey to reconvene in open session at 8:15 p.m. Motion approved by voice vote.

Motion by Trustee Hennessey, seconded by Trustee Lautz to authorize Village Administrator Teresa DeLong and Village President Scott Schumacher to sign and accept

the Vacant Land Offer to Purchase submitted by Carl Colsch/Kenrich Foods, subject to a development agreement. Roll call vote: Unanimous aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Lautz, seconded by Trustee Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Motion approved by voice vote.

Ashley M. Bohl, Clerk/Treasurer