

JANUARY 9, 2020 VILLAGE OF EMPIRE WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Aylsworth at 7:00 p.m. Council members Carpenter, Rademacher, Davis, Bacon, Stier and Skrocki were present. Clerk Smith, Treasurer Ronkaitis, and Engineer Graf were also present,

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – Aylsworth moved Old Business #1-2 after New Business so that Engineer Graf could answer questions before budget discussion.

PRESENTATION – David Diller provided an update on Glen Lake Community Library Progress. He reported that they are on schedule with the facility. He described it as a new community space that is twice the size of the old facility and they hope it will become a destination.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Meg Walton commented on 9.1 and 11 in the Rules of Procedure. Val Dalton commented on the minutes posted online, on budgets that reflect greatest public need and is glad to see the outlet on the agenda. Ella Skrocki commented on the beach remediation and is concerned about the engineering. Chris Frey commented regarding the outlet. He feels John and Tim (DPW) deserve a shout out on the work they have done. He also suggested a larger size outlet may be needed. Karen Baja spoke regarding the Rules of Procedure and the responsibility for maintaining the outlet.

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE FROM ENGINEER ON BEACH PARK REMEDIATION – Engineer Graf passed out the revised drawings of the work being completed. Graf reviewed a conversation with Friend, who thought new handicap access might be in front of the lighthouse. He suggested a cost of 5-10K for boat launch remediation. He stated that Elmer's plans to construct steps or, more likely, paths through the rip rap for access. Bacon questioned the total cost of the proposal for \$20,500 for the wall remediation. Graf agreed the cost was high and urged the Council to wait until spring and see if additional contractors might submit a proposal. Carpenter asked how the distance between the sheet pile and seat wall changed from 3 ft. to 18 inches. She referred to 2 different plans provided. Graf said Elmer's originally felt that distance was needed for their driving equipment, but at an onsite meeting they felt it was not needed and distance could be reduced. Bacon asked if the drawings she had provided (from a village resident) with higher water height projections had been reviewed by Graf. He stated they had reviewed the but the contract for work had already been signed. Carpenter asked if the lighthouse was in any danger if the water rises next season. Graf did not feel it would be at this point.

NEW BUSINESS

UNION STREET PROJECT – Bacon asked if the proposed plans could be modified to shift walks, provide islands and a crosswalk to new library. Aylsworth asked about a puddle that forms on the SE corner of Niagara. Graf welcomed input and suggestions so that plans could reflect these before being finalized. Bacon asked about the cost for adding the remainder of Niagara St. which may be approximately 43K. Bacon also asked about costs for construction contingencies, engineering and management. Graf felt an additional 20% of construction costs should cover those. Carpenter asked about the location of drainage basins and they were reviewed. Bacon asked about Graf's suggestion to pave the parking space near the Masonic

building so that a puddle doesn't form. Graf feels it will direct it towards the catch basin around the corner on Front St.

UPDATE ON OUTLET WALL – Bacon asked if Rademacher could update on his meeting with Chris Bott of Gosling/Czubak and John Friend. Rademacher stated they had reviewed the 1986 study and felt an adequate flow could not be achieved in that southern location. The possibility of a different design that includes doors was also discussed. There was discussion regarding temporary solutions. Options for Outlet Wall will be placed on regular meeting agenda. Aylsworth called a 5-minute recess.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED -

2020-21 BUDGET – It was noted that no numbers for wages have been provided, so at this point it is not possible to evaluate whether revenues would be enough to cover expenditures. Aylsworth asked that the cost of an additional DPW worker for summer be considered. Bacon asked that such cost be compared to quotes for contracting services. Carpenter noted that Election costs will need to be added. She also noted the Fund Balances from the previous year's audit for each fund. There was discussion regarding the expense for the beach remediation project and clearing the outlet. The remediation is budgeted and charged to the Parks department, and the Equipment costs and payroll costs for clearing the outlet are charged to Administration via the timesheets completed by Friend. Aylsworth asked about additional monies paid to reduce the Water Fund debt principal and payments to the Lions Club and the Airport. Smith said these are checks that will be written for approval at the regular meeting. It was noted that a public hearing will be scheduled for February 25, 2020 for final approval.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Aylsworth stated that he met with Attorney Figura and he did not appoint the committee on Rules of Procedure, so the current rules will stand. He stated that if the correct committee, Personnel, would like to review and make recommendations, they should do so. Bacon asked if he was saying the committee was formed illegally. Aylsworth replied yes. Carpenter felt the committee was formed legally according to the Rules of Procedure and the law.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE – Karen Baja commented on the fishing pier and spending public monies on a private drive. Chris Frey commented on the changes regarding Presentations in ROP, budget worksheets, and drainage district process. Ella Skrocki commented on beach park remediation and the Village Engineer. Mark Oberschulte commented on the relationship between the culvert and the road at the outlet.

BOARD COMMENTS – Bacon asked that Contract for Outlet Clearing be added to the Regular Meeting agenda. Rademacher and Carpenter would like to see the opinion from Attorney Figura regarding the ROP committee. Rademacher asked if the Council would like to pursue additional drawings from Bott for a drawing. This would need to be discussed at a regular meeting as there would be a cost. After discussion, Aylsworth said he would call the Drain Commissioner and ask whether they might use engineering the Village had commissioned.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Derith Smith, Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approved at the January 28th, 2020 Village Council Regular Meeting.