CADOTT VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES

JUNE 19, 2023

The Finance Committee met at 6:00 p.m. to audit bills.

The regular meeting of the Cadott Village Board was called to order by President Randy Kuehni. Trustees present were: Terry Licht, Les Liptak, Todd Seeley, Eric Weiland, and Nicole Whipp Sime. Absent: Bart Chapek. Public Present: Brian Chapman (Cedar Corp.), Nick Goeman (Baker Tilly), Brian Reilly (Ehlers), Josh Low (Ehlers), Julia Wolf (Reporter), Glenn Schofield, and Alynn Schofield. The next regular Board meeting will be July 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Licht and seconded by Weiland to approve the minutes dated June 5, 2023. MC.

A motion was made by Licht and seconded by Seeley to approve the bills dated June 19, 2023. Motion by roll call. MC.

A motion was made by Licht and seconded by Weiland to approve any additional monthly bills. MC.

Agenda item # 7 was discussed regarding the property at 801 N. Main Street. There was not a decision made on the Schofield property regarding Ordinance 13-1-12 (f) Preservation of Topography. The Village’s Attorney will be contacted for a solution.

Agenda item #8 was discussed regarding the Brown Street bid award. Brian Chapman (Cedar Corp.) stated the Brown Street bid came in good at $77,012.08 by Haas Sons. The engineering estimate was $69,155. Kuehni asked if it includes ditching. Chapman stated it includes ditching and culverts. A motion was made by Seeley and seconded by Whipp Sime to approve the bid results for Brown Street by Haas. MC.

Agenda item #9 was discussed regarding the State Highway 27 utilities bid award. Chapman stated this one was complicated. There were two bids: Pember Companies at $490,346.25 and A-1 Excavating at $530,530. Chapman stated the council approved $275,000. The bids provided were good for the construction. The engineering estimate came in at $460,000 as the project had to be redesigned. The original approved amount was for open cutting the water main in the roadway and now consists of a directionally boring due to traffic issues on the highway. The engineers didn’t think the State would approve the open cutting in the roadway on the State Highway as there would need to be two, 12- foot lanes open. The DOT approved the traffic with the directional boring. Liptak asked if they were told by the DOT that it would not work. Chapman stated no, but could not safely provide two, 12-foot roads as required by the State. Liptak stated they are blindsided by the bid. Chapman stated the engineering costs would be based off of the $275,000 instead of the $490,000 construction. Goeman stated the project is within the Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) 5 district with $200,000 sitting in an account to help. The Village still has to come up with the rest of the money. A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Licht to approve the bids for State Highway 27 utilities.

Agenda item #11 regarding the financial statement and audit for 2022 was discussed first as Ehlers requested that be presented first. Nick Goeman (Baker Tilly) stated the audit went really well. The modified opinion is the financial statements are stated correctly. The general fund is sitting in a tough spot. The revenues and expenses got it to that point. The expenditures increased 13.4% in 2022. Switching the fire protection service from paying out of the general fund to the customers will help but not take care of the whole issue. The electric utility rate was doing well at the end of 2022. The water utility is has a net loss of -3.81%. Which is why the Village is going through a water rate case through the Public Service Commission. The sewer utility had a net loss of $130,000 in 2022. Goeman recommended a sewer rate increase to cover operating costs. The tax incremental districts did not have a lot of changes over the last year or two.

Agenda item #10 was discussed regarding financial information with Ehlers. Josh Low stated the sewer utility owes the water utility. Low recommends a sewer rate study to be completed as a couple percent increase is not going to cover costs. Low encourages the Village to think long and hard at sewer rates for an amount sufficient to cover the debt. Low stated they are looking at a successful bond sale for the Village. With the negative unassigned fund balance there needs to be a plan and to document the why and what the Village is doing to fix the issue on the Official Statement. Low recommended to consider financing long term assets. The bond refinancing from general obligation debt to electric utility debt was put on hold until the next meeting for Ehlers to describe a plan going forward.

The Street Permit for Halfway was approved as August 12, 2023 but should be August 19, 2023. A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Weiland to approve the modification to the date. MC.

A motion was made by Licht and seconded by Liptak to approve the Transient Merchant permit for Donald Kolpien. MC.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Weiland to approve changing the regular Board meeting from July 3, 2023 to July 5, 2023. MC.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Seeley to approve the annual Liquor Licenses. MC.

A motion was made by Licht and seconded by Seeley to approve the annual Operator Licenses. MC.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Weiland to approve the annual Cigarette Licenses. MC.

Agenda item #16 was tabled regarding a sewer rate increase.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Whipp Sime to approve Chad and Matt attending the free WRWA training in June 2023.

A motion was made by Weiland and seconded by Liptak to approve selling the jetter to Jason Junker for $1,000. MC.

There were complaints about a junk vehicle in a yard on County Highway X which is not registered. Clerk Bruhn will have Chief Pries check into it.

Whipp Sime encouraged everyone to come to the Public Library meeting on June 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. A Library meeting was held with two of the Library Board members wanting the Village to be clear if they are in favor of the new building or not. Kuehni stated “I thought we were pretty clear on that”. “We don’t have any problem about a new building, just the site”.

A meeting was held regarding the SCADA systems issues. Gindt stated the issues are better but not fixed. Chippewa Valley Electric rewired well 3. Working with Krista Computers and In Control to work on the issue right now.

The State Shared Revenue passed the 20% increase to municipalities.

The State of Wisconsin approved the Water Main plan for the State Highway 27 utilities project.

The Village Office will be closed from 11:30 to 1:30 on June 30, 2023.

A motion was made by Weiland and seconded by Licht to adjourn. MC.

April Bruhn, Clerk