CADOTT VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES

MARCH 20, 2023

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

The regular meeting of the Cadott Village Board was called to order by President Anson Albarado. Trustees present were: Bart Chapek, Russ Falkenberg, Les Liptak, and Eric Weiland (Phoned in). Absent: Randy Kuehni and Terry Licht. Public Present: Jeremy Kenealy (DPW), Todd Seeley, Julia Wolf (Reporter), and Timothy Drehmel. The next regular Board meeting will be April 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Weiland to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2023 Board meeting. MC.

A motion was made by Chapek and seconded by Liptak to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2023 Special Board meeting – Information meeting for the Referendum. MC.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Chapek to approve the bills dated March 20, 2023. Motion by roll call. MC.

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

A motion was made by Falkenberg and seconded by Liptak to open the Public Hearing on zone change request for Bart Chapek. Chapek abstained from voting. MC. Chapek stated the house on Main Street was already made into two units. There was no need for it being separate units before with it being an adult family home. The renters now want it two separate units with a separate mail box added. Albarado asked if notices were sent out to the surrounding home owners. Clerk Bruhn stated yes. Weiland asked if it will still be an adult home. Chapek stated probably but it is not part of the guarantee.

A motion was made by Falkenberg and seconded by Liptak to close the Public Hearing. Chapek abstained from voting. MC.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Weiland for the approval of the zone change from an R-1 Single Family Residential to an R-3 Two Family Residential at 825 N Main Street. Chapek abstained from voting. MC.

Ordinance 2023-2 – An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Cadott, Chippewa County, WI was introduced and read by title only by President Anson Albarado. This is the first reading.

A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Falkenberg to approve suspending the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2023-2. Chapek abstained from voting. MC.

A motion was made by Falkenberg and seconded by Liptak to approve Ordinance 2023-2. Chapek abstained from voting. MC.

Agenda #12 was discussed in regard to the amendments with purchasing power with AEP. Chapek stated AEP wants to sell the Village electric capacity for 2032 and 2033. Basically electricity is going way up. The prices are going to be higher than what it is right now as we have pretty great rates. The Village will buy power in 10 years with a higher rate but spread the cost increase over 5 years. Falkenberg stated nobody at this table has the expertise to understand all of this and the Village should be engaging an outside engineering firm to review these contracts. But energy is changing by the minute, there are shortages, and we have to do what is needed to do. A motion was made by Chapek and seconded Liptak to approve the 17th and 18th amendments with AEP. MC.

Agenda #13 was discussed in regard to Transferring capacity for wind allocation to AEP. Chapek stated taking .1% and transferring it to AEP with them selling it for us to put it back into the electric rate. A motion was made by Chapek and seconded by Weiland to approve transferring capacity with forwarding the letter to Great Lakes Utility. MC.

Agenda #14 was discussed to fix the plow truck. Kenealy stated after bringing the plow truck to Chippewa County Highway Department to fix a lever that broke on the plow, they also found a broken leaf spring on one side. They don’t just fix one side, both need to be fixed. There is no cost estimate back from them yet but approximately $4,000 to $5,000 is expected. A motion was made by Liptak and seconded by Falkenberg to approve the County repair the leaf spring on the plow truck. MC.

Agenda #15 was discussed in regard to concrete work on the Village Office parking lot. Albarado stated he discussed with Kenealy the quality of the black top and something needs to be done. Weiland stated there isn’t really a choice. It needs to be fixed. A motion was made by Weiland and seconded by Chapek to approve going forward with repairing the walkway to the Village Office within reason. MC.

A motion was made by Falkenberg and seconded by Liptak to follow the same wage scale salary that was agreed upon in the beginning of the year for the Clerk and Deputy Clerk contract. MC.

A motion was made by Weiland and seconded by Liptak to add all holidays to vacation for the Chief of Police. MC.

Timothy Drehmel was present during public comment. Drehmel stated “first of all I want to know where all the property tax money goes”. Albarado stated the portion for the Village goes into the General Fund account. Drehmel stated as far as the hydrant rental, it shouldn’t be included on the same bill as light and water. Albarado stated the Public Service Commission figures out all of the information to bill the customer. That $10 is the approximate cost until the Public Service Commission calculates all the information. The Public Service Commission will come back and adjust the water rate including the rental for the hydrant. In the past the Village used to spend $80,000 for the fire hydrant rental that would come right out of the budget. Drehmel stated the water rates are going up. Chapek stated we are raising the water rates as it is coming from the auditors to raise the rates.

Liptak stated there was a committee meeting regarding potential issues with security with the police building. The Chief of Police is to provide a checklist of items with descending order of importance within a week to bring back to the Committee. Also, checking into a Safety Officer as the School would like to have a full-time Officer. There is a grant with a 3 year sunset that could be applied for.

The Village Board approved closing the Village Office on Wednesday April 12, 2023.

The Library Board would like to set a time to meet with the Village Board in regard to the Library Building Project. The Clerk will see if the Library Board is available to attend one of the regular Village Board meetings in April.

Reminder the Village Board will have a Closed Session Financial meeting for the road projects on March 27th at 5:00 p.m. with the Information Referendum meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Falkenberg and seconded by Weiland to adjourn the meeting. MC.

April Bruhn, Clerk