

VILLAGE OF DRESSER VILLAGE BOARD PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Village Board meeting was held on Monday, August 2, 2021 in the Municipal Office - 102 W Main Street. Bryan “Fatboy” Raddatz called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Roll Call: Bryan “Fatboy” Raddatz, Joe Peterson, Yvette Varner, Grace Bjorklund, Elina Kuusisto, and Jeff Gutzmer were present. Darren Peterson Absent. Also, present were Attorney Paul Mahler-Bakke Norman, Jodi A Gilbert-Clerk/Treasurer, Matt Koch-Public Works, Ben Wasmund, Anne Schaffer, Brian Voss, Hannah Peterson, and 2 other people. Reagan Hoverman – InterCounty Leader Newspaper and a representative for The Osceola Sun Newspaper were also present. Salute to the Flag was given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion Bjorklund/Kuusisto to dispense with the reading of the minutes. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Motion Gutzmer/Joe Peterson to approve minutes of the Village Board Meeting, July 5, 2021. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Raddatz called for Citizen Comments. Raddatz called for Citizen Comments. No comments were made. Raddatz closed Citizen Comments.

PREREGISTERED: Discussion was held regarding entering into an Ambulance Service Contract for 2022-2025 with St Croix Valley Emergency Medical Services. Ben Wasmund with Lakes Region EMS was present. Attorney Mahler reviewed the contract from the last meeting and submitted his thoughts for discussion. Bjorklund stated you’re asking about defining the service area. In the past it has always been County Road F/State Street that divided the Village. Wasmund stated for invoicing we take the populous census number and divide it in half. Trollhaugen is the exception to the rule they have always requested the North service. We haven’t defined service area in contracts before. Raddatz stated I don’t know if it needs to be in the contract. Polk County has the map. A person can request who ever they want and Polk County calls on mutual aid when one or the other service is busy or not available. Bjorklund stated Section 2 where it says “SCVEMS will maintain mutual aid agreements with surrounding ambulance service providers” Wasmund stated we are required by the State to have mutual aid agreements. That is mandated by the State. Bjorklund moved onto Section 4. Attorney Mahler suggested having them come before the Board quarterly or every 6 months to give a status update and answer questions. Raddatz stated up to this point there has been horrible communications. Osceola Ambulance gives quarterly updates. Wasmund stated we are usually invited to the annual meeting. We are a Village and Village’s don’t have annual meetings. Bjorklund stated there should be some type of requirement. Raddatz stated it should be quarterly reports submitted to the board. Wasmund stated we can do that quarterly. Attorney Mahler stated you want to keep the lines of communication going. Wasmund stated we have operated in good faith with not having a contract signed. Raddatz stated that is not really a fair statement. On the last page Attorney Mahler suggested maybe setting response time goals and/or supporting First Responder Programs. There is a First Responder Program with the Allied Emergency Services Fire Department. Wasmund stated we have supported the local First Responders. We provide supplies when they are needed. For Polk County dispatch – they have to have a medical director and we provide that for Polk County. We have given money in support of the St Croix Falls K9 program. We have given money to the IAM responding service which is used by Allied Emergency Services. We currently have very strong partnerships with First Responders. Do you have a goal for response time? Wasmund stated 2 minutes. Our goal to be on scene is within 10 minutes. We don’t usually have that in our contracts. Response times are important. Bjorklund had one last change to the contract. Raddatz is Village President not a Chairman. Attorney Mahler stated so in terms of making changes to this document. The contract terms are for 4

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years and putting quarterly reporting into the contract you are comfortable with. Wasmund stated we would need to get a new contract and it will have to go to our board in September. Gutzmer asked what is Osceola Ambulance's response time goal? Is it written anywhere? Gutzmer continued response time goals really need to be county wide. This is only a goal. Attorney Mahler stated it is a goal and it keeps communication open. 10 minutes is fairly standard. Wasmund stated if you want it in the contract you will need to write out the wording before I bring it to my board. Attorney Mahler stated I can provide that and make the proposed changes. I got my direction Attorney Mahler stated.

Discussion was held regarding a request from Anne Schaffer to use the Dresser Community Hall for Yoga Classes and to determine the rental fee. Raddatz stated I believe someone else has been using the hall this way. Bjorklund stated Kelsey Warndahl had been given permission to use the hall. Schaffer stated I live here in Dresser. Currently I am using the park for Yoga Classes but as it gets cold, we would like to use the hall. People in the community are coming to the classes. Currently I am doing classes at the Dresser Elementary school through Community Ed. Bjorklund asked is this year-round? Schaffer stated once summer is back, I would prefer to be outside. Bjorklund clarified you said you have a General Liability policy, which our current Hall Contract requires. You would just need to name the Village of Dresser as an additional insured. Schaffer stated that is not a problem. Raddatz stated each time you have a class there is some type of monthly report/spreadsheet that shows how much money is collected. Is that what we would need? Gilbert stated this is all new to us. I believe at the last board meeting it was discussed that the Hall Contract should be redone with wording added to accommodate businesses/rentals by the hour etc... Bjorklund stated I believe we charged Kelsey Warndahl \$100.00 for two months. Joe Peterson stated I think we are looking at an hourly fee down the road for businesses like this. A flat rate up to 2 hours for instance. Bjorklund stated we hope to do that with a new contract. The Board should lay out a flat fee for now until the contract is redrawn. How about \$100.00 a month until we have our agreement redone. You can then see participation and how it is working out. Motion Bjorklund/Kuusisto to rent the Community Hall to Anne Schaffer for Yoga Classes one night a week for a flat fee of \$100.00 per month and you are required to submit a General Liability Certificate of Insurance naming the Village of Dresser as an additional insured. Any other discussion? Nothing stated. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Schaffer inquired about keys to the Hall. Gilbert stated we can get in touch and discuss the keys and actual dates for reserving the Hall.

Discussion was held regarding a letter from the Minnesota Transportation Museum regarding the Pumpkin Express Event to be held October 22-24, 2021. Brian Voss from the MN Transportation Museum was present. Voss stated the Pumpkin Express Event has taken place for the past 15 years. It starts in Osceola and people are dropped off in Dresser. Kids get to pick out a pumpkin, there is face painting, balloon art, etc... I was asked to cochair this event and am trying to work out the fine details. I believe most of what is asked for is the standard normal items. Assistance to unload pumpkins for instance. This year we are asking for consideration for use of Soo Line Park. We could provide a vendor area for the adults. This has been a kid event, but we are looking for somethings for Moms and Dads to do. We are always looking for ways to improve logistics and operations. One of those items is the unloading of passengers in the street to alleviate platform issues. Pulling the train into the street would make things more efficient. I know that we can block a crossing for 10 minutes, but we are concerned with our volunteers it may be a little longer than that. We are suggesting possibly closing the street or discuss the times. Raddatz read the following from Police Chief Ryan Haass "In regards to the request to close State Street for the Pumpkin Train event I would not recommend allowing this. State Street has the Village's highest volume of traffic. I would not want to see it pushed onto

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side streets, especially the heavy trucks. I would rather see a manned crosswalk be used. The event personnel, in high-vis, can act as traffic direction to stop traffic as needed. The Village could provide cones if needed.” Voss stated we could work on this. Bjorklund agreed closing the road would cause a lot of confusion. Gilbert asked Voss if he was concerned that there is no electricity at Soo Line Park. Voss stated most vendors have their own capability. There are no issues from Public Works. Bjorklund stated this is a wonderful event. Voss stated the kid events could be moved to Soo Line Park and we would like to be doing Depot Tours. The Rail Road does carry General Liability Insurance. Have the Village of Dresser named as additional insured under that policy and get a Certificate of Insurance to Jodi. Motion Raddatz/Joe Peterson to allow the MN Transportation Museum to use Soo Line Park, that a Certificate of Insurance gets filed in the Village Office naming the Village of Dresser as an additional insured, State Street will not be closed/cross walk with crossing guards can be worked out, help provided by Dresser Public Works to unload pumpkins for the Pumpkin Express Event to be held October 22-24, 2021. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

FINANCE: Update was given regarding the projects completed with the Dresser Area Community Fund Grant of \$1,761.00. Bjorklund provided the board with a report. We have money remaining. Some suggestions for use of the remaining money would be 1. A second pump for the Fish Pond. The current pump just died and replaced. We were lucky to find one so it would be nice to have a backup in case the current pump dies. 2. Installation of a baby changing station in the bathroom at the Dresser Community Hall. 3. Sprinkler system over at the park is inadequate. It was put in by Warren Soderberg. We might want to look at this improvement at budget time. Maybe the sprinkler system could be done with next year’s grant money. Bjorklund stated you will see at the bottom of the report all of the items that Volunteers have done over the past couple of months. We need to thank them for their time.

Motion Kuusisto/Varner to use of the remaining Dresser Area Community Fund Grant in the amount of \$363.36 for the purchase of a backup pump for the Fish Pond and the purchase/installation of a baby changing station at the Dresser Community Hall bathroom. No other discussion took place. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held regarding using Express Employment Professionals for the hiring of a Clerk/Deputy Treasurer. Bjorklund stated at the finance meeting back in June I was directed to check with Express Employment. We have tried Indeed, posting, newspapers and still don’t have an employee. The top part of the proposal of service shows what they would do for us. You then have a 3-month probation vs a 6-month probation. We would hire full time, but temporary employee. We cut a check. We are not under any obligation to keep a new employee. We only pay for what we use. Option C is a direct hire like with did when we hired Shannon. That was a part-time position at that time. Bjorklund stated that Charity is easy to work with. There is no cost until a person walks in the door and is working. The person is working for Express and Express is working for us. Motion Kuusisto/Gutzmer to use Express Employment Professionals and go with Option B 3 months. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Proposed meeting schedule for Board meetings and Finance Committee meetings to prepare and finalize the 2022 Village Budget was presented to the Board. Bjorklund stated we came up with the schedule based on last year’s and it worked really well. The Auditors have confirmed that November 8 works for them. Proposed Special Board Meeting is the Monday after Thanksgiving. Board members are welcomed to attend any of the finance meetings if they want to.

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Motion Bjorklund/Varner to approve an Operator's License – To Sell Fermented Malt Beverages and Intoxicating Liquors for Paula Porath. Background check is all good. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Motion Bjorklund/Kuusisto to approve monthly Voucher/Payroll Checks #40373-#40468 Payroll \$22,463.79 plus Vouchers \$116,619.81 for a Total of \$139,083.60. Raddatz called for a Roll Call Vote. All members of the board present voted yes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC WORKS: Update on 2021 Spring Clean Up – report was presented to the Village Board. Bjorklund stated we got the data off of the records. We went over on one dumpster costing us \$17.10 in overages. Total cost of spring clean-up was \$2,017.10. Gilbert stated it was well received by the residents and Racey Roll Off was great to work with.

Discussion was held regarding a proposal to do a 2021 Fall Clean Up on September 28th & 30th. Bjorklund presented a proposal for Fall Clean Up. There is \$1,150.00 remaining in the budget. We are proposing 2 days bringing in 2 30-yard dumpsters. Residents usually have less stuff in the Fall. Racey would have a 3rd dumpster on standby if needed. Raddatz asked where are you coming up with the extra money? Bjorklund stated we don't plan to go over budget, but there are some areas where the money could be pulled from. Raddatz stated here is my take on this 57 people took advantage of this out of 900 people. Gilbert stated you had 57 homes take advantage of this out of approximately 360 homes in the Village. Raddatz stated that is only 16% of tax payer homes and the rest of us are paying for it. Raddatz continued I am totally against this - people hoard their garbage and wait for the Village to pay for it. Bjorklund stated it is like chipping brush – how many people put out brush? The tax payers are pay for chipping. Bjorklund continued I am talking about services for our residents. Raddatz stated I don't want to argue about it. Bjorklund stated I feel like we have to give services to the residents. Joe Peterson stated I agree with Raddatz. Bjorklund stated I don't always use it and I don't mind. Joe Peterson stated I just got rid of my shingles through Cross Country. Waterman's is open on Saturday mornings. Motion Bjorklund to approve having a 2021 Fall Clean Up for residents and setting the dates as September 28th and 30th. Raddatz called for a second to the motion. No second to the motion was given. Motion Fails.

Motion Joe Peterson/Varner to approve the purchase of a second pump for the State Street Sewer Lift Station from WW Goetsch – total cost for two pumps \$50,138.00. Raddatz stated this was talked about at the last meeting. We will already have things tore apart. The current pumps are 30-40 years old. Joe Peterson asked are we still looking at refurbishing the current pumps? Now that we have this recovery money we should just put in new. If you leave a pump just sit then the seals all just dry up. There is a cost savings to do both right away and we have been told the cost of the pump is going up in the near future. We would then have two new pumps and would still have room for a 3rd pump if needed. Joe Peterson stated this cost for two pumps is less than one of the bids from the other companies to do just one. These guys are a dealer for this type of pump. Other municipalities use them. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Public Works Monthly Report July 2021 was presented to the Board by Koch. We will see the new Loader in another week. Bjorklund asked if the manholes are done. Koch stated no they are still working on them. The Safety Class will be held here at the hall. We will be doing Cross Connection inspections in August.

PUBLIC SAFETY: The Building Inspector Report for July 2021 was presented to the Board. We have two new homes being built.

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The Police Department July 2021 report was presented to the Village Board.

Update was given from the Allied Emergency Services Meeting, July 15, 2021. Raddatz stated we reelected officers. Added a 2nd board member as a check signer. The new grass rig is almost ready.

LIBRARY: Presentation of the Library Board Minutes from the July 12, 2021 meeting.

Bjorklund stated there seems to be a lot of good things happening at the library. Kuusisto stated it is great seeing the traffic with the summer reading program. Bjorklund stated I heard they had 50 kids at the summer reading program today.

PUBLIC WELFARE: Discussion was held – Raddatz asked to reopen the discussion regarding board members attending meetings via Telephone (January 7, 2019 Board Minutes) / zoom and being able to vote. Raddatz stated this was brought up in January 2019 but times have changed. If a board member is away on the night of a meeting, could they attend by phone/zoom?

Attorney Mahler what are your thoughts on this? Attorney Laux stated it could be done but the board at the time didn't want to pursue it. Times have changed. Attorney Mahler stated I agree times have changed. People have learned to have meetings on zoom and conference calls. For a while everyone was doing this. Attorney Mahler continued – I don't have any issue allowing it. My one concern is sometimes you find that board members find it too convenient. Raddatz asked do we have to rewrite an Ordinance or a Resolution to allow it. It is an option. There are some problems with it. For instance, if you have people want to come in and present like a land use proposal it can be very difficult with maps and drawings etc... It is not ideal in those situations. It is an option – the catch is what to do so people don't abuse it. Raddatz stated most of the time board members are out of town and they just want to stay involved. Bjorklund stated I would rather be proactive. Kuusisto stated I agree with all of these points. Is there just a way to address possible abuse of it? Bjorklund asked when you are talking zoom is there a cost involved? Kuusisto stated I think there is a free version. Mahler stated you are limited on time with the free version. The library does pay for the zoom meetings. Raddatz asked I can check with others on what is really involved. Attorney Mahler stated we can draft a Resolution – it is a good option to have. You know when you are going to be gone. Motion Raddatz/Kuusisto to direct Attorney Mahler to prepare a Resolution and bring it back to the next meeting in regards to people attending meetings by zoom, conference call, etc... and whether a board member can vote. Attorney Mahler stated remote participation. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

PLAN COMMISSION: Nothing on the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS: Information was received from Polk County Emergency Management regarding disaster funding. Raddatz stated if you read this we have to call during the storm if you're having a disaster.

Monthly update from Village President, Bryan "Fatboy" Raddatz. The Main Street stripes are looking good. Bjorklund asked shouldn't the Handicap be in blue? Koch stated it is an option but it is not required. It does look nice.

SEPTEMBER AGENDA BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION: Nothing was stated.

NEXT MEETINGS: Library Board Meeting, Monday, August 9, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Osceola Ambulance Budget Mtg, Friday, August 13, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Osceola Ambulance Meeting, Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Village Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Board of Review (All Board Members Required to Attend), Tues., Sept. 21, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Allied Emergency Services Budget Meeting, Monday, September 27, 2021 at 6:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT: Motion Kuusisto/Varner to adjourn at 7:51 PM. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Jodi A Gilbert - Village Clerk/Treasurer

These minutes have not been approved.