

**VILLAGE OF DRESSER**  
**POLK COUNTY**  
**VILLAGE BOARD PROCEEDINGS**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Village Board meeting was held on Monday, July 1, 2013, in the Municipal Office, 102 West Main Street. Bryan Beseler, Village President called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Beseler called for Roll Call: Bryan Beseler, Jim Rochford Jr., Darron Nelson, Kristi Scheet, Wayne Moberg, Neil Gustafson, and Richard Durand were all present. Also present was Jodi Gilbert – Clerk and Officer Ryan Haass. Gilbert gave a brief update on the Village Parks/Recreation Areas in the Village. The Village Board toured the Dresser Public Library. The board adjourned and proceeded back to the Municipal Building at 6:55 PM.

Bryan Beseler - Village President called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll Call: Bryan Beseler, Jim Rochford Jr., Darron Nelson, Kristi Scheet, Wayne Moberg, Neil Gustafson, and Richard Durand. Also present: Clerk Jodi A. Gilbert, Ryan Haass – Police, and Tiffany Meyer – Library Director. Attorney Tim Laux was absent. The Osceola Sun and The Inter County Leader Newspapers were all present. Salute to the Flag was given.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion Rochford/Sheet to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion Carried. Motion Rochford/Moberg to approve the minutes of the Village Board Meeting, June 3, 2013. Motion Carried. Motion Scheet/Durand to approve the minutes of the Board of Review, June 4, 2013. Motion Carried. Motion Durand/Gustafson to approve the minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting, June 25, 2013. Motion Carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Beseler called for any citizen comments. None made.

**PREREGISTERED:** Nobody was preregistered for tonight's meeting.

**ACTIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Discussion was held in regards to the recommendation from the Public Works Committee to stay with a Sensus Meter product and approve replacement of all meters in the Village and to go to a Radio Read System. Beseler stated I hope you have had an opportunity to read the minutes – I was told reading the minutes you feel like you are at the meeting without being at the meeting. Beseler continued I would like to thank the other two committee members for a productive meeting. We had two presentations on meters and one on the installation process. We heard a lot of information and felt good about putting a recommendation to the board. You see that the committee is recommending the Sensus product and to go with radio read. The advantages with that are in the packet. I would like to open this up for discussion. Scheet asked if we had any final pricing for the projects. Beseler stated both companies were not prepared to give final numbers that night unless we decided to go with them. Jodi, Dan & Mike met with Sensus this morning and I think we have some numbers. Scheet asked were we putting out a request for proposals to get some estimates. Beseler stated we talked with different people and we are not required to go out for bids on this. We reviewed the information looking for the better fit for Dresser. Pricing was not an issue that we considered. Gustafson stated we were more concerned with compatibility to our current system. Rochford stated Sensus is the current product we are using. Things would be very similar. We don't need to purchase or to learn new software. Nelson stated shouldn't we be a little concerned about cost – we got early numbers before. The final numbers are going to be within a \$100 of each. We did have the early numbers which we did review. We looked at the advantages between the two products when making our decision. There is an annual fee for support. Gilbert stated we are paying that annual fee now. Gustafson stated we are doing what is right for Dresser. Beseler stated the other product would be more expensive. For any resident who uses a deduct meter with the other project we would have to purchase two hook ups for the radio read. With Sensus we would have one box and the cost goes from \$120 up to \$150 for dual hook up. We would be able to use the dual port in duplexes that other building with

more than one meter. Gustafson stated this all started because of the lead content in the meters. The Badger meter still had lead in it but it was at the acceptable range. The Sensus meter is zero lead. Badger did have a plastic product but it was more expensive. Beseler stated the cost for the Sensus does include a warranty for 20 years. Badger based their warranty on years and gallons. Gustafson stated it was brought up with new construction or main breaks the meters can plug up. The Badger is still a mechanical meter which could jamb, but the Sensus meter has no moving parts. Badger is still moving parts. Nelson asked are both just as accurate. Rochford stated I believe one went to the 100<sup>th</sup> or the 10<sup>th</sup>. Gustafson stated actually both were accurate and definitely better than what we have now. Hopefully we will see a return on our investment in a couple of years. Gustafson stated revenue will go up with accurate readings. With the current meters we are still trying to hook up touchpads. It has been 20 years and we are still not done. Beseler stated we recommended going to radio read. This opens up the ability to go to a monthly billing cycle. Due to the readability of the new meters your bill will go higher, so if we go to a monthly bill that would help the homeowner with cash flow. Also monthly billing would even out the cash flow for the Village also. Scheet asked I have one question which I am unclear about on both of those meters can Jodi just push a button here in the office and read the meters. Beseler stated we didn't explore that possibility because of the expense for a community of our size. The new Sensus system does have that capability for us to do in the future if need be. Because of our size right now it takes two days to read meters and now we will be estimating to take 2 – 3 hours to read the Village. Neither was better on this point. Badger though didn't talk about tower read. Sensus owns its own FCC band, where Badger didn't. The Badger product would have to bounce to find frequency. Moberg asked is the location of the meters all inside. The recommendation was to put them all inside. It keeps the elements from affecting the system and everything is centrally located in the house. Gilbert stated when meeting with Sensus this morning the pricing is for inside installation with 25 foot wires. Giving us the flexibility to run it outside if necessary. The total project will be around \$150,000.00. Rochford asked do any local communities use Sensus. Gilbert stated that the City of St Croix Falls uses Sensus. We have had the relationship with Sensus for years. Motion Rochford/Scheet to accept the recommendation from the Public Works Committee to purchase the Sensus product, do a complete replacement of all meters, and to go to the radio read system. No further discussion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Beseler stated we only had one installation company give a presentation and that was Midwest Testing. We currently have a working relationship with them. I am sure they are not the only one out there, but this is their specialty. Midwest testing has done installation in many of the local communities. Motion Rochford/Moberg to accept the recommendation from the Public Works Committee to contract with Midwest Testing for the installation of all new meters and a radio read system. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**FINANCE:** Discussion was held in regards to obtaining financing for new Water Meters/Radio Read System for the Dresser Water Utility. Beseler asked where do you want us to look for financing. We have reached out to the State Trust Fund. I believe they are at 2.4%. Scheet stated what about municipal leasing with a dollar buy out at the end. I'm not sure where this financing was obtained in the past. Also I don't know if you can do a lease on Water Meters. We could present to the local banks and see if they can beat the state trust fund loan program. Our local bank can't touch the state trust fund loan rates. We went to Frandsen bank and they can't come close. This doesn't mean other Polk County banks couldn't come in less. If you want us to go to other banks we can. Just how far do you want to go with this? Beseler stated my experience from a municipal as well as county level is that the State Trust Fund would probably come in best. What about our investment accounts. Gilbert stated LarsonAllen explained at the Audit that the water utility has no cash. We need to work with Larson Allen to see how they would recommend financing this project. Beseler continued we are looking for your input on where to look and/or options for financing. How far out do we go? Rochford stated you can look at the local banks, but they are going to want our business. The leasing option is interesting, but we need to find some information on this. We also need to have some input from Larson Allen. Scheet stated leasing may need a tangible piece of equipment. Nelson stated you can lease a car and buy it when it is done. It is cheaper in the

**Page 3 of 4 – Village Board Proceedings – July 1, 2013**

end. Nelson continued I guess find out both ways. Beseler stated we wanted to know that the board was OK moving forward with a loan. I obtain a motion to pursue financing up to \$165,000.00 to do the meters/radio read. We need to get firm numbers and what our options are. We can have the finance committee meet and come back to the board. Anybody in favor of pursuing a loan. Nelson stated a couple of percents I don't know. Motion Rochford/Durand to pursue financing for new meters/radio ready system for the water utility not to exceed \$160,000.00. No further discussion. This does include installation. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held in regards to applying for a Full Rate Increase along with going to Monthly Billing for the Water Utility through the PSC. Beseler stated this doesn't mean we are going to monthly tomorrow. This again to help give direction to move forward. I am comfortable waiting until January 1<sup>st</sup> to go to monthly billing. This is not binding us to start earlier. This is just starting the process with the PSC. When the auditors were hear they recommended us to look at the rates. I would like to clarify that this process is for the water utility only – the PSC regulates the water only. Sewer rates would be a different discussion, which we could have if you want to. We could pursue both at the same time. Motion Nelson/Gustafson to apply for a Full Rate Increase along with going to Monthly Billing for the Water Utility through the PSC effective no earlier than January 1<sup>st</sup>. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Motion Rochford/Scheet to approve an Operator's License – To Sell Fermented Malt Beverages and Intoxicating Liquors for Jenelle Linehan and Kristin M. Nicholson. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Motion Rochford/Scheet to approve the monthly Vouchers #32445-32518 totaling \$81,885.71. No discussion took place. Roll Call Vote. All members of the board present voted yes. Motion Carried.

Motion Scheet/Moberg to approve paying the Osceola Area Ambulance the 2013 Dresser Budget Allocation of \$4,028.00. No further discussion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Motion Scheet/Rochford to approve moving \$1,845.00 from the L.G.I.P. 10-11306 Capital Outlay Investment Account to 10-51450-810 Data Processing – Capital Equip. to pay for the new Village Office Computer. No further discussion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held in regards to the review and possible updating of Dresser License and Permit Fees as listed in Chapter 12 of the Code of Ordinances. Beseler stated I would like to look at the licensing fees and compare them to the other municipalities. Some may increase. Some are set by the State so we can't change them. This probably should go to the finance committee. Would like to discuss this separate from the budget. Could we see if the committee could meet in the next month or so. Scheet stated please be careful – we only have so many businesses left in town. Raising these fees doesn't bring in that much revenue to us, but it does impact the businesses. Sending this to committee to review would be a good start. This list is not all inclusive. We want to make sure we are in line with other municipalities. The fee should at least help pay for the processing.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The building inspector report for May 2013 was presented to the board. The board commented that there are actually permits taken out this month.

The Police Department Report for June 2013 was present to the board. Haass had nothing to add.

The minutes from the Osceola Ambulance Meeting that was held on June 20, 2013 were presented to the board. Moberg stated if you have any questions on the minutes let me know. I had a good time getting to know the committee.

**Page 4 of 4 – Village Board Proceedings – July 1, 2013**

**LIBRARY:** The Library Board Minutes from the June 20, 2013 meeting were presented to the board. Meyer stated we already talked about the doors earlier tonight. The Summer Reading Program is going good. The area businesses are supportive. We will be seeing 70 new children's books in the Fall. We have switched over to Charter for internet. There was a cost savings and in increased band width. Much speeder. Friends of Polk County Library are supporting a tech position to help the local libraries out. Any other questions. Beseler stated it looks good.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Beseler stated I am stepping down for the Other Business section of the agenda. James Rochford Jr. is taking my place as Village President and has signature powers for the following topic. Rochford stated we voted on this at the last meeting. Are there any questions. Nothing stated. SilverRidge Phase 3 Release – Resolution #06-2013. Motion Scheet/Gustafson to move Resolution #06-2013 into immediate consideration. Motion Scheet/Moberg to pass and approve Resolution #06-2013. No further discussion. Roll Call Vote. All members of the board involved in this section of the meeting voted yes. Beseler did not vote and had stepped down from this discussion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**AUGUST AGENDA BUSINESS:** Beseler stated we will have financing for water meters. A recommendation from the Finance Committee in regards to licensing fees. Members of the Finance Committee should look at dates approximately 3 weeks down the road. Would like to meet prior to the August meeting.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

Library Board Meeting, Monday, July 8, 2013 at 6:30 PM

DOG Fire Meeting, Thursday, July 18, 2013 at 7:00 PM

Village Board Meeting, Monday, August 5, 2013 at 6:30 PM

Osceola Ambulance Meeting, Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 7:00 PM

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion Rochford/Scheet to adjourn at 7:40 PM. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Jodi A. Gilbert - Village Clerk

*These minutes have not been approved.*