

**VILLAGE OF DRESSER  
VILLAGE BOARD PROCEEDINGS**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Village Board meeting was held on Monday, May 1, 2023 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, Grace Bjorklund, Jeff Gutzmer, Mark Kuhl, Elina Kuusisto, Darren Peterson and Joe Peterson were present. Attorney Paul Mahler – Bakke Norman Absent. Also present were Jodi A Gilbert - Clerk/Treasurer, Luke Loescher – Public Works, Matt Koch – Public Works, Ryan Haass – Police Chief, Sarah Kobs, and Neil Kline. The Osceola Sun Newspaper and the Inter County Leader Newspaper were absent. Salute to the Flag was given.

Raddatz welcomed and introduced Mark Kuhl - new Village Board Member.

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES:** Motion Joe Peterson/Darren Peterson to approve all Committee and Board/Commission Appointments as presented. No discussion took place. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion Bjorklund/Kuusisto to dispense with the reading of the minutes. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Motion Darren Peterson/Joe Peterson to approve the minutes of Village Board Meeting, April 3, 2023. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

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

**PREREGISTERED:** The 2022 Audit Results were presented by Sarah Kobs – CliftonLarsonAllen LLP. Brock Geyen was unable to attend the meeting. Kobs reviewed the Audit Report Notations. Item #1 – Auditor’s Report. The Financial Statements are fairly stated. Continued approach to qualify opinion due to GASB 8 impact of pension disclosures. Implementation of GABS 87: Leases. We had to analyze any leases that the Village may have. The report is otherwise unmodified. Management Letter is the same as last year. Due to small staff, there is a lack of Segregation of Duties. Item #2 – General Fund. This is a summary of the balance sheet. Advances to other funds went down. You have paid down the water and sewer utilities. The assigned fund balances went down from 2021. The unassigned funds went up due to operations of the General Fund. There was a decrease in revenues – in the prior year you had insurance recoveries. Net Other Financing Sources – you had an estimated \$66,000.00 to the Capital Projects Fund for engineering for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Project. Item #3 – Special Revenue Fund Balances. CDBG Housing Rehab Fund end of year balance \$34,635 and the Library Fund end of year balance \$12,779. No major changes. Item #4 - Debt Service Fund. The loans for street maintenance go into this section so for instance this past year you took out financing of \$30,000.00 for street maintenance and it was paid off before the end of the year. You also took out financing for engineering for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street project that was moved to the Capital Projects Fund. Item #5 – Capital Projects Fund. Engineering costs for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Project - ending balance was \$9,694.00 Item #6 – Enterprise Funds. Water Utility – the change in net position was positive. Water rates increased in August of 2021 so you now have had a full year on the new rates. The Water didn’t have to borrow this past year from the General Fund. Sewer Utility – you did have a rate increase in October 2021 so 2022 was a total year on the new rates. You have paid off the Village of Osceola additional sewer debt. Item #7 - Long Term Obligations. You paid down principal and interest this past year. Kobs asked for any questions on the 2022 Audit. Gilbert stated as for the Water Utility the PSC is requiring us

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to go thru a Full Rate Increase again and that has to be submitted by July. They will determine the water rates going forward. Does the board need to be considering a Sewer Rate Increase? Kobs stated the Sewer Utility does have cash. You had a positive net position. What if any projects is the Village planning to do in the Sewer Utility? Bjorklund stated we would have new debt with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Project. For the Sewer Utility you will want to make sure you can cover future debt. Raddatz stated it is easier to see smaller increases then one big one down the road. Kobs concluded that the Audit went really well. Kuhl asked where are you located out of? Kobs stated the main office is in Eau Claire and my office is out of Hudson. Kobs was thanked for coming to the meeting.

Neil Kline – Executive Director of Family Friendly Workplaces – present to give presentation on workforce challenges in Polk County. Raddatz turned the floor over to Kline. Kline stated we are a 501c5 nonprofit organization. Our focus is on employers trying to retain talent. Kline reviewed the printed power point he had given to the board. What We Believe – Families are essential to communities. We look at the projection of net work force entrants. People coming into and people going out of the work force that gives us a net entrance number. For the State of WI by 2030 we are looking at only 129 people adding to the workforce. Covid was a big factor and families not having as many kids. In Northwestern WI looking at 5 counties by 2030 we may add only 200 people into the workforce. Polk County by 2030 will be losing workers. More will be exiting then entering. The overall take home point to all of this is long term there is going to be a human resources shortage. Not figuring it out is not an option. The challenges are that it is going to get worse before moderating. So, the question is how might we address the shortage. We have built a program to address 3 categories – Immediate/Medium Term/Long Term. We have a certification program where right now we already have 24 employers who are certified. Sweet Additions just applied. The immediate term is to help with recruitment. When certified employers can use our logo employees do notice this. We are creating a program for all businesses – big and small. Our Big Hairy Audacious Goal for Western WI is this is the place to raise your kids. We are close enough to the cities to use that area and on the other hand you have safety and cost of living. Family support is a reputation. We want Family Friendly Communities. We are so close to the twin cities to tap into that pool of talent. For the Long Term – early childhood is looked at. We want all kids to enter the work force on time and have the skills needed to do so. As an employer you work with your employees who in turn take care of their kids. We are funded thru private donations/grant monies. Does anyone have any questions. Darren Peterson asked how long have you been operating? We were originally under the United Way – 2018/2019. In 2022 was the first time we did a full-time employee. Last month we just added 5 employers. Raddatz stated it is good to get this information out to the public. Terry at the Polk County Economic Development Corporation is a supporter.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Motion Raddatz/Darren Peterson to approve the purchase of a pallet of All Weather Road Patch in the amount of \$757.80 plus estimated shipping of \$100.00. Darren Peterson asked why not get cold patch. Koch stated this is patch we use mostly in the winter. Loescher stated it lasts a lot longer than the cold patch. In the past we have been getting ½ pallet. We are already on our 2<sup>nd</sup> load of cold patch from Monarch. No further discussion took place. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held regarding the Vandalism/Graffiti in the Village of Dresser. Raddatz asked if there has been any other vandalism since Monday/Wednesday. Nothing else new. Most of the paint was able to come off with the good Graffiti cleaner we have. Well House #3 – bare concrete – that has caused damage. It will need to be treated/sealed/painted. Everlast is getting us a quote. There is a certain type of paint that if Graffiti was done again, it would wash right off

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in the future. Bjorklund asked what about insurance – need to wait until you get your estimates. We don't know if we can fix the Tennis Court yet. Haass stated in regards to enforcement – due to the age of the offenders it will be community service to pay off the debt. Labor included. Waiting to find out if the homeowner wants restitution. The Municipal Court will determine the final citation/community service/restitution. Koch stated we have already spent over \$300.00 on the Graffiti Cleaner.

Public Works Monthly Report – April 2023. Loescher read the report that was presented to the board. Kuhl asked what is the Lead and Copper Inventory. Koch stated the DNR is requiring us to have an inventory of all Lead and Copper pipes by October 2024. Diamond Maps has already created a template we can fill out. We are going thru the Cross Connection inspections and putting this information into Diamond Maps. When all said and done, we will be able to print a report for the DNR.

**FINANCE:** Motion Bjorklund/Kuusisto to approve the purchase of 2 Computer Monitors for Public Works with a cost not to exceed \$600.00 to be paid for from the Assigned Funds Office Equipment Account. No discussion took place. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**LICENSE RENEWALS:** Schedule of License Applications was presented to the Board for review. All licenses will come back to the Board in June for approval.

Motion Bjorklund/Darren Peterson to approve obtaining long term financing in the amount of \$22,000.00 from First National Community Bank to meet the 2023 Road Maintenance Budget and to give Bryan “Fatboy” Raddatz and Jodi Gilbert the authority to sign all loan documents on behalf of the Village. This is similar to what we did last year. Last year we borrowed \$30,000.00. Raddatz called for a Roll Call Vote. Raddatz abstained from the Voting. All other board members present voted yes. Motion Carried.

Motion Darren Peterson/Gutzmer to approve the monthly Voucher/Payroll Checks #42055-#42130 - Payroll \$26,338.00 plus Vouchers \$63,015.69 for a Total of \$89,353.69. No discussion took place. Raddatz called for a Roll Call Vote. All members of the board present voted yes. Motion Carried.

**LIBRARY:** Presentation of the Library Board Minutes from the April 10, 2023 meeting was done by Kuusisto. We discussed the early riser book club. We may discontinue the club. The open knitting group is popular. Little story time might potentially be held at the day care one Saturday a month. There is still leakage in the ceiling. We are updating policies.

Geraldine E Anderson Village Library – Dresser received \$1,000.00 from Polk-Burnett's Operation Round Up – money to be used for large-print books.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The Building Inspector Report for April 2023 was presented to the board. One permit was pulled for Solar panels on a house.

Update was given from the Municipal Court Meeting held April 5 2023 – Update on Judge. Bjorklund stated you have the minutes. Judge Buberl will be resigning effective May 31 2023. 1. Could look to combine the Municipal Courts between Osceola and St Croix Falls. 2. Court will be contacting Judge Danielson to see if he will temporarily fill in. 3. Appoint a new Judge. Bjorklund stated I talked to Jen the Clerk of Courts and the St Croix Falls and Osceola Administrators will be having a meeting I believe this week to discuss combining the municipal

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courts looking at the feasibility of the courts. David Danielson the current Judge in St Croix Falls is willing to be the interim Judge in Osceola. Jessica Buberl will not be going to training and a refund will be coming back to the court. Haass commented that the time period to use an interim judge is pretty short. Can only have a substitute judge for a short period of time.

The Police Department April 2023 report was presented to the Village Board. Haass stated the monthly numbers are attached to my letter. It has been a busier month. The big thing happening is the vandalism. I have figured out who the individuals are and citations will be given. We will then have to see what the Municipal Court Judge decides to do. They are village residents. Our citations go to municipal court so we have a quicker turn around versus going thru Polk County Circuit Court. Usually, they have to complete community service. In the past individuals worked off their debt instead of mom and dad footing the bill. I still am compiling a list of who will need restitution. We had 31 dog owners not licensing their dogs and now we are down to just a couple left. I have completed emergency vehicle operation training. This is the last training I needed for the year. I did not have time to get around to all of the homes with junk - notices will go out next month. Due to the letter that was mailed out many vehicles have been removed already which is great.

Update from Allied Emergency Services Meeting held April 13, 2023 – 2022 Annual Report. Raddatz and Darren Peterson did not attend the meeting. Joe Peterson stated there was nothing new to report.

**PUBLIC WELFARE:** Nothing on the agenda.

**PLAN COMMISSION:** Nothing on the agenda.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Open Book to be held Monday, May 8, 2023 from 10am to Noon at the Municipal Office 102 W Main Street – Residents to meet with Gene Johnson, Assessor to discuss Property Values.

Board of Review to be held Monday, May 15, 2023 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM (Board members are required to attend).

Dresser Community Wide Garage Sales to be held May 11, 12, & 13 2023.

A thank you was received from Dresser Lions Club regarding the Easter Egg Hunt.

Monthly update from Village President, Bryan “Fatboy” Raddatz. Nothing was stated.

**JUNE AGENDA BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION:** Nothing was stated.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

Osceola Ambulance Board Meeting, Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Library Board Meeting, Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Village Board Meeting, Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Allied Emergency Services Board Meeting, Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM in Garfield

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion Darren Peterson/Kuusisto to adjourn at 7:29 PM. All in Favor. Motion Carried.