

VILLAGE OF DRESSER VILLAGE BOARD PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Village Board meeting was held on Monday, November 1, 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, Darren Peterson, Joe Peterson, Yvette Varner, Grace Bjorklund, and Jeff Gutzmer were present. Elina Kuusisto Absent. Attorney Paul Mahler – Bakke Norman Absent. Also, present were Jodi A Gilbert - Clerk/Treasurer, Matt Koch-Public Works, Rob Thompson-Public Works, Ryan Haass-Police, Sharon Kelly, Terry Hauer, Gene & Sharon Hendricks, and the Osceola Sun Newspaper. Salute to the Flag was given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion Bjorklund/Varner to dispense with the reading of the minutes. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Motion Darren Peterson/Gutzmer to approve minutes of the Village Board Meeting, October 4, 2021. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Motion Joe Peterson/Darren Peterson to approve minutes of the Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting, October 13, 2021. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Motion Bjorklund/Varner to approve minutes of the Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting, October 27, 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: Sharon Kelly was present to give an update from the Polk County Board. Kelly stated I am on several different committees and we cover a wide variety of topics. Environmental Services – we review projects from the parks and trails advisory group. They have 6 projects they are working on. They have taken the time and have gotten citizen comments from a lot of groups. The land and water group has been doing well water testing. They just finished the Lake Wapogasset water shed area. People can get their well tested and we had about 87 people out of 586 do this. After the testing comes back, they offer a workshop on the results and what people can do regarding the results. My concern is that people are going to have questions and we should have some answers. There are 42 watersheds in Polk County. Their goal is to get all of the watersheds tested - doing 1 or 2 a year. They have a \$10,000.00 budget. As the word gets out more people will take advantage of this testing. Right now, people may have some concerns. There is a new Solar Farm going in by Clear Lake. National Grid Renewables is the company working on this. I was told winter of 2022 construction would take place. They are developing 1,200 acres. One concern that I had was that the solar panels are made in China with a life expectancy of 20 years. Where do you recycle them – you are supposed to bring them to a special site. The State of WI told them they can go in a local land fill if they want to. I didn’t like that answer. One company acquires the land and builds the solar panels and another company is created to sell the electricity. They offer to give so much to the school districts, the townships, and to the county to defer the taxes. Right now, it is all farm land and they are putting a 8-foot fence around it. Hauer stated they will be the largest Solar Array in Western WI. There is a fact sheet from National Grid that I could get to anyone – also I believe the time frame will allow crops through next season. It is outside of Range along HWY 8. Health and Human Services is looking at the 2022 budget. Staffing remains a concern at Golden Age Manor. There are beds sitting empty because of no staff. Covid testing and booster shots will be given thru Polk County Health. The County will be having a public hearing on November 9th to review the proposed redistricting plans. There were minimal changes. The County has been focusing on the ARPA funds of \$4.2 million that they are getting. How do we spend this money? \$1.6 million will be going to the Polk County Recycling Center. I feel that

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the Recycling Center looks horrible. We need to have a place that people want to go. It can be clean. They are short staffed also. The \$1.6 million is a good start. There is a lot more to do. I will be bringing forward Resolution #57-21. Everyone wants a piece of the \$4.2 million dollars. We have a roof at the Justice Center that needs to be fixed, for the Sheriffs Department they need upgrade on radios and batteries, an additional tower is needed in the Valley Area, our priorities need to be public safety. The roof of the Bell Tower Museum also needs fixing. We have a museum and we need to keep it up. It is a tourist spot. Any other questions? Thank you.

Terry Hauer, Polk County Economic Development Corporation was present to give an update to the Board. I started in this position prior to Covid. It has been an interesting couple of years. I would like to give you an update once a year – you support us and we appreciate that. Right now, we are looking for replacement board members. All board members are volunteers. We are supported by Municipalities, Polk County, and private businesses. The unemployment rate in Polk County right now is 3.2%. There are 778 people unemployed. The overall labor force in Polk County is 24,340. We are active in a lot of other committees such as the St Croix Valley partnerships, Youth Apprenticeship program, and the Osceola Industrial Park to name a couple. During the pandemic we helped people/businesses respond to COVID. There were jobs retained due to grant program that was offered. The recovery task force was set up giving guidelines on how to get reopened. The PCEDC has a web page. Deliverables – there is a business park tool on our site. You can see Industrial Land by Communities and what is available. The available property is in red. We are trying to be more accountable so we have set up the customer resource tool – hubspot. We want to be more deliverable to Polk County. We have the St Croix Valley legislative day where we present key ideas for our area. The main issues right now are workforce, housing, and broadband. Housing is a big issue. We have had speakers come in and discuss how to get housing infrastructure started. There is the Main Street Bounceback Grant – a new business comes in they can get a \$10,000.00 incentive to do that. With the microenterprise grant program Polk County did quite well. The new web site is to attract a work force to Polk County – All About Life Style in Polk County. It is a social media campaign. It shows statistics for the County. Business Logos are listed and you can click on them for job listings. There is also another listing of employers in Polk County. We want to let people know the opportunities we have. There are connections to the tourism site. There will be a press release announcing this. We are trying to be deliverable within the PCEDC. I hope to be sending out an index report – a quick report in 2022. We are working to getting housing and work force in Polk County. Raddatz commented that Terry has done very well in his position. I was against this for years. We are now seeing the fruits of the labor. We have met with Sweet Additions once and are trying to connect with them again. Living in Polk County people have access to the cities but they don't want that life style and move here. They want country living. Raddatz commented we have to be careful or there will be less and less country living. We need to have controlled growth. Thank you for coming.

FINANCE: Motion Bjorklund/Varner to approve monthly Voucher/Payroll Checks #40589-#40674 Payroll \$14,461.40 plus Vouchers \$390,916.54 for a Total of \$405,377.94. No further discussion took place. Raddatz called for a Roll Call Vote. All members of the board present voted yes. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held regarding the recommendation from the Finance/Personnel Committee to have the Village Board review/approve the revised Dresser Community Hall Contract. Raddatz stated this started when we had people come and asked to use the Hall for Commercial uses. Bjorklund stated we met 3 times at the finance committee level – we have some points that Gilbert has pointed out. 1. the word deposit is used twice and means two different things. Leave

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damage deposit and change the other deposit to down payment. 2. Put a period after the word Hall. 3. The committee had decided on the fees hourly residential and hourly non-resident and then to do a full day rental for residential and a full day rental for non-resident. Was it everyone's opinion that a Commercial/Industrial/Private Enterprise would pay the fee that was already established? Do Commercial/Industrial need to come to the board? Gilbert is suggesting put in rates for them and eliminate them coming to the board. Raddatz what does every one think - do you want to have an additional rate or keep it the same. They would be either a Non-resident or a business in the Village of Dresser – they would be the resident fee. Darren Peterson asked do you want them to provide insurance – they don't have to come to the board. 7. Take out the first sentence they don't need to come to the board. 4. The words pay with a separate check – we need to have a paper trail. The auditors need a paper trail. Take that wording out. 5. change other usage to other rental fees. 6. Send to the attorney to review the hold harmless paragraph. 8. On the preapproved list take out the second line at the top – you can't expect a damage deposit from these groups. There have been no problems with those groups. 9. On the last page – add in purpose of the rental. We need to know this information. Make that change. Bjorklund continued in the old contract under rental fee if we had an event on Saturday, they could pay an additional fee and decorate the day before for \$75.00. That is not addressed in this new contract. We should have an additional day rental charge – add that \$75.00 under full day rentals. So, I would like to get this finalized. I can make the changes. When do you want this to go to the attorney? Raddatz stated make the changes and send to the lawyer. If the attorney is ok with it - either way it is coming back to the board in December. Varner – I have a question on the police shutting the party down. If things are out of control. Varner stated the wording in the new contract needs something. We have Ordinances that cover that stuff. Security – they can enter the premise. Due to violations things could be terminated. Joe Peterson stated the wording is fine as is. Using their discretion. Leave as is. Haass stated it was originally too restrictive. Leaving discretion – you are granting any law enforcement authority. They can't enforce our Ordinances. We already took out probable cause. Joe Peterson asked have you ever had to shut it down. Haass stated there have been some issues, but usually the families take care of it. Motion Darren Peterson/Joe Peterson to approve the changes as outlined tonight to the contract and then to send to the Village Attorney for review and to bring back to the December Board meeting. No other discussion took place. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Update was given on the Application of the Village of Dresser, Polk County, WI, as a Water Public Utility, for Authority to Change its Method of Cost Recovery for Providing Public Fire Protection Charge. The board approved the Resolution moving the Public Fire Protection Charge from the tax roll to the water bills over a three-step process. The PSC is agreeing with the first two steps. The third step will be reviewed when we apply for a conventional rate case again by July 8, 2023. The handout shows the monthly rates per meter size for each year. There will be a public hearing on this proposed change. As soon as I get that information, I will get it out to everyone.

PUBLIC WORKS: Motion Bjorklund/Varner to approve the quote #21-0017121 from Envirotech Equipment in the amount of \$723.76 for a Wart Hog Nozzle for the Sewer Cleaner. Koch stated we had some issues and the rebuild kit does not solve the problem - the shaft needs to be rebuilt. This is a sewer expense. No further discussion took place. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

The Public Works Monthly Report October 2021 was presented to the Board by Thompson. The Pumpkin Train was good. There are a lot of pumpkins left. Are people coming to get them? There should be no left overs. The longer they sit the more of a mess there will be. Please

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contact the train people to see what their plans are for the remaining pumpkins. Get it cleaned up. The sewer cleaning for the year is almost finished. There are two pipes left to clean.

PUBLIC SAFETY: The Building Inspector Report for October 2021 was presented to the Board.

The Police Department October 2021 report was presented to the Village Board. Haass stated the numbers are on the table. Darren Peterson asked what is fraud at the gas station? Haass stated gas drive offs. There are a lot of issues contributing to it. No other questions were asked of Haass.

Information was presented to the Board regarding the Osceola Ambulance. Raddatz stated this is a 3-part series going out in the Osceola Sun Newspaper. It is very informative and I wanted the board to get the information. It is very interesting. It is really neat. People don't realize the value of these volunteers. Like everyone else we are having a hard time finding EMTs.

Discussion was held regarding the Ambulance Service Contract with St Croix Valley Emergency Medical Services Inc. Raddatz stated see the email that was on the table from our Attorney. The Attorney had recommended that certain things be put into the contract and it came back without them. Ben Wasmund was not able to be here tonight. The contract is not what we expected, so this is a moot point. Bjorklund stated we asked for them to give us a quarterly report and there was no response to that. Darren Peterson stated I guess we wait for them to show up again.

Update from Allied Emergency Services Board Meeting that was held on October 21, 2021. The minutes are on the table. Darren Peterson is the new Vice Chair. We had a tour of the Garfield Station #2. We were looking at the needs. That is the next building in line to get improved. Bjorklund asked how did the Halloween event go for the Fire Department. Thompson stated about the same. We started busy and slowed at the end.

LIBRARY: Presentation of the Library Board Minutes from the October 11, 2021 meeting. No comments were made.

PUBLIC WELFARE: Nothing on the agenda.

PLAN COMMISSION: Nothing on the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS: Motion Gutzmer/Darren Peterson to call a Special Board Meeting on Monday, November 29, 2021 at 6:30 PM to hold the 2022 Budget Public Hearing and to adopt the 2022 Budget. Does that date work for everyone? Raddatz and Bjorklund will call that special meeting. Bjorklund stated by having this meeting it gives us the time to put everything together to get it to the county. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Spring Election to be held on April 5, 2022. Nomination papers for Village Trustee positions can be circulated starting on December 1, 2021. Papers can be obtained from the Village Clerk Office. Jeff Gutzmer, Elina Kuusisto, & Darren Peterson are up for reelection. Notification of Noncandidacy Form due December 24, 2021.

Monthly update from Village President, Bryan "Fatboy" Raddatz. Happy Thanksgiving.

DECEMBER AGENDA BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION: Nothing was stated.

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NEXT MEETINGS:

Osceola Ambulance Meeting, Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Library Board Meeting, Monday, November 8, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Finance Personnel Committee Meeting to finalize 2022 Budget, November 8, 2021 at 5:30 PM

Special Village Board Meeting, Monday, November 29, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Village Board Meeting, Monday, December 6, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Allied Emergency Services Board Meeting, Thursday, January 20, 2022

ADJOURNMENT: Motion Bjorklund/Darren Peterson to adjourn at 7:52 PM. All in Favor.
Motion Carried.

Jodi A Gilbert - Village Clerk/Treasurer

These minutes have not been approved.