

VILLAGE OF REDGRANITE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – February 20, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Municipal Building on February 20, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. Roll Call: Laurie Oltesvig, Mark Juslen, Jim Erdmann (via phone), Gina Smukowski, Matt Knollenberg (via phone), and Belinda Passarelli. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM – Tom Markowski presented an email from the PSC regarding his 25% surcharge for public fire protection fees on his utility bill because he lives out of the Village but is hooked into the Redgranite Utility Department services. Once the PSC has approved the Village request to transfer the public fire protection fees to the quarterly utility bills, the Village will remove the 25% surcharge from his bill beginning with the first quarterly billing period the fire protection fees are added to the utility bills. He also had an issue with a recent mailed out with the last utility bills which mentioned the property owners need to shovel snow out from the fire hydrants. He stated when he was working for the utility department, the employees shoveled all fire hydrants if the property owner did not and feels the Village should not bill property owners who do not shovel out the fire hydrants on their property. Village president will investigate the situation. Nancy Dushinski reported a neighbor has five (5) dogs who are at large sometimes. The Redgranite Police Department will investigate.

Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting on January 16, 2023 and the special Board meeting on January 31, 2023. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT – Christy directed the Board to the emails, found in their meeting packets, from Chief Tarr about Governor Evers announcing initiatives to build 21st century infrastructure, expand high speed internet, improve roads, highways and bridges and Governor's proposal to send 20% of state sales tax back to local communities and fund essential service like public safety; the annual Municipal Services Program payment of \$25,539.16 was received along with an additional \$2,195.91 from State ARPA funds for a total of \$27,735.07 (the same amount received in 2022); February tax settlement for TID is \$118,514.16 and the Village received \$150,972.51. Christy mentioned this Board meeting was her last as the Village Clerk and expressed her appreciation for being able to serve the Board and residents of the Village of Redgranite for the past 8 1/2 years.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – President mentioned there is a Wautoma Area School District referendum information flyer available for interested residents.

FINANCE, PERSONNEL, INSURANCE – President vacated the position to act as a Trustee. Motion by Belinda, second by Mark, to approve general fund disbursements – checks 14160 through 14235 (BankFirst) for a total of \$464,184.79; water fund checks 6205660 through 6205681 (BankFirst) for a total of \$15,404.60; sewer fund disbursements – checks 6306421 through 6306446 (BankFirst) for a total of \$48,842.21; ARPA disbursements – check 2021003 through 2021004 (BankFirst) for \$238.80 and payroll of \$62,359.22 creating a grand total of \$591,029.62 and approval of financial reports for general, water and sewer as printed. Motion carried. She returned to president position. The Board reviewed the Fess Schedule as presented. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Sandy Lyles feels the Village should not charge for meeting minutes if they are not on the website. The Clerk's Office does not charge for copies of Board meeting minutes. Jim Fredrick mentioned the \$100.00 charge for lawn mowing does include a machinery charge so there is no reason to have a separate machinery charge. Kyle suggested \$3.00 per page, \$40.00 per copy of video/audio and \$40.00 per hour for administrative charge with a 1/2 per hour minimum charge. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to approve the Fee Schedule as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to purchase 20 street pole 24” x 24” banners and brackets for \$152.10 each for a total of \$3,042.00 using ARPA funds. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve the purchase of 75 water meter radios from Midwest Meter for \$19,125.00 using ARPA funds. Motion carried. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to purchase flags and PCV piping, if needed, for the crosswalk on Highway 21 by the Redgranite Elementary School. Motion carried. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to approve health insurance and enrollment in the Wisconsin Retirement System to the Library Director when working full time hours only and the Library Board to reimburse the Village for said cost of the benefits. Motion carried.

MACHINERY, GARBAGE, ORDINANCES – The next Committee of the Whole to review ordinances was set for Monday, February 27, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Board reviewed the abatement issues and it was reported that 511 Horne Street requested an extension until the March regular Board meeting and 504 Horne Street is now in compliance. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to send abatement letters to 945 Brian Street, 427 Horne Street and 122 Washington Street. Motion carried. They requested the ongoing abatement issues be discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 27, 2023. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Nancy Dushinski questioned if the owners would consider getting a kennel license and it was noted that is a possibility if the owners wanted to do so but the consideration now at the meeting is for permission to have four (4) dogs at their residence. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to approve the request of Bruce and Kim Brown to have four (4) dogs at their residence, 119 Chicago Drive, with the following conditions: if something happens to a dog, they not replace the fourth dog until notification to the Village, the dogs must be up to date on their shots, be licensed and if complaints from neighbors, the Board can revoke this exception. Motion carried 5 to 1 (abstain). Motion by Laurie, second by Gina, to approve the request of Jennifer Smerling and Jeremy Rhodes, to have three (3) dogs at their residence, 211 West Oak Court, with the following conditions: the dogs must be up to date on their shots, be licensed and if complaints from neighbors, the Board can revoke this exception. Motion carried.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING – None

PARKS, CEMETERY – None

POLICE, FIRE – An update on the Redgranite Area Fire District January meeting was given. A Police, Fire Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 6, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a neighborhood watch program and the scheduling/hiring of a part time police officer. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to approve the 2022 court costs to the Wautoma Area Municipal Court for \$7,174.90. Motion carried. Chief Tarr mentioned some accessories will be arriving this week for the new squad; the security trailer is being built and should be completed in March, the radio is expected to be delivered April and cameras in the parks should be installed in April, also. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to accept the resignation of Steven Kasubaski as part time police officer effective February 1, 2023. Motion carried.

SEWER, WATER – Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Diane Shafer presented her request for reduction in the sewer charges due to a leak. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to reduce the sewer usage charge to the average of the past four (4) billing quarters due to a water leak. Motion carried. Project updates were given as well as an update on the property at 404 E Bannerman Ave. Motion by Mark, second by Gina, to approve the proposal to replace the north clarifier wiers and baffles by Crane Engineering for \$19,768.00. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve the emergency repair of level transducer at old plant lift station by PJ Kortens for \$1,906.00. Motion carried. The Board reviewed the building inspection

process. The consideration of this process to be placed on a future meeting agenda. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Tim Hager stated the Village needs to get on the same page as the County.

STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DITCHES – The monthly public works department update was presented to the Board and reported the ice rink opened on January 29, 2023, with many people using it, donating ice skates/bins/blankets and fundraising by the Redgranite Lions Club is being held for a warming shelter. Volunteers are needed to help remove snow from the ice rink after a snowstorm. Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to allow the public to speak. Jim Lyles mentioned sidewalks on Foster Road are not being cleaned off by property owners. The Village will investigate. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve an emergency repair to the snowblower and snowblower tractor from Sobieski Brothers for \$1,064.03. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to gravel and grade the alley between Foster Road and Koch Street. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Amanda Thoma, Waushara County Medical Examiner, requested permission to hold the 2nd Annual Community Event on Saturday, July 15, 2023. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve the request of Tri-County Overdose Fatality Review Team and the Jake Jezwinski family to hold the 2nd Annual Community Event on Saturday, July 15, 2023. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve the Adams Columbia Electric Cooperative Annual Blanket Permit for 2023. Motion carried. Motion by Laurie, second by Gina, to approve an Operator's License for Barry Masticola (Rick's Irish Pub). Motion carried. The Village is waiting for the USDA notification of when the funds will be sent, applied for a grant to refurbish the tennis courts into a pickle ball area and applied for a CDBG grant for streets and sidewalks which is a matching grant of \$50,000.00 and the Village would have to match \$25,000.00.

Agenda Items to be Placed on Next Regular Board Meeting Agenda – Title Search for 404 E Bannerman Ave, update on 511 Foster Road abatement progress and Redgranite Lion's Club Bunny Hop request for donation.

Motion by Laurie, second by Mark, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Groskreutz
Village Clerk