

**VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
October 10, 2023**

The Village of Osceola met for a Regular meeting on October 10, 2023, at Village Hall. Village President Lutz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brad Lutz, Bruce Gilliland, Neil Kline and Van Burch

Absent: Bill Chantelois IV and Arvid Maki

Staff present: Devin Swanberg, Carie Krentz, Ann Miller, Todd Waters, Ron Pedrys, and Paul Elfstrom

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Burch to amend agenda by moving item 6h to 4a.

Ayes- 4      Nay-0      Motion carried

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Kline to approve amended agenda.

Ayes- 4      Nay-0      Motion carried

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Kline to approve the consent agenda.

Ayes- 4      Nays-0      Motion carried

**Public input and ideas (Limit 5 minutes per speaker)**

Several residence and community members spoke in favor and against returning Indian statue back to downtown area. Sign up sheet attached to minutes.

**Airport Road**

Swanberg stated it has been requested from Viebrock to table topic to the November meeting.

Motion by Kline and seconded by Gilliland to table discussion to November meeting.

Ayes- 4      Nays-0      Motion Carried

**Reports: Staff reports**

Library: Miller, interim director, reviewed memo to the board.

Fire: Elfstrom went through runs for the month of September with 9 runs total last month, 7 in Village of Osceola, and 2 in Town of Farmington and then reviewed memo to the board.

Building Inspection: Swanberg stated there were no new structure permits last month. There have been 67 permits issued so far this year for a total value of \$3.9 million and looking to get a few larger permits before the end of the year.

Administration: Swanberg gave the board an update on administrative activities for the month.

Police: Pedrys reviewed his memo to the board.

Public Works: Waters reviewed his memo to the board and answered questions.

Utilities: Caruso was not in attendance. Swanberg referred to the memo in packet.

Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet: No report from Chamber this month.

**Other business – discussion and possible action re:**

**Neidermire Statue**

Jackie Neidermire, niece of Seal Neidermire, first wanted to thank everyone for showing up and sharing their opinion and agrees there needs to be open discussion. Reason for being there, a formality suggested by Administrator, Swanberg and former Village President, Rose for putting Statue back by Cascade Falls. She stated her case for getting the Statue put back. The Statue was never meant to be Chief Osceola but to represent the Osceola Chieftains mascot.

President Lutz gave an update on why here discussing the Statue and it being given back to the family on September 13, 2023. Board discussion took place on putting Statue back. Each board member gave their opinion and Lutz went over process to move forward by first establishing Osceola Heritage Committee, to foster conversation with beautifying & restoring public presence, with residence to move this process forward. Stated the ownership of the Statue would need to transfer to the Village and Village would require document of transfer with condition to return to family if ever not used by the Village. Kline wanted to know all options for getting

Statue back downtown, discussed options of in front of private business versus on Village property.

Motion by Lutz and seconded by Gilliland to create an Osceola Heritage Committee.  
Ayes-4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

Motion by Lutz and seconded by Burch authorize the reinstallation of Statue on condition Village takes ownership and conversation continues in the Osceola Heritage Committee.

MOU is to be completed and approved by the Board prior to the installation of Statue.  
Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Kline, Burch, Lutz, Gilliland                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

Neidermire requested to work out agreement tonight to reinstall Statue this evening. President Lutz and Neidermire drafted an agreement for installation this evening. Agreement will be reviewed by Village Attorney and if any changes need to be made, Neidermire will be first one contacted.

5 minute break was taken at 8:28 pm. Back in session at 8:37 pm.

**Site Plan Approval for Wurzer Brothers PID #165-00582-0200**

Swanberg introduced Russ Kivinismi, Engineer at Cedar Corp for Wurzer Brothers and stated Angela Popenhagen from Stevens Engineers here for site plan questions. Village staff and Planning Commission have both reviewed and approved site plan for Boards review. Kivinismi gave overview of 12-unit apartment building project and site plans. Working with Popenhagen on plans and to address all comments with one remaining comment which is storm water connection and addressing. As soon as building permit is issued, plan on breaking ground within a few weeks and done in the Spring 2024.

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Burch to approve site plan for parcel #165-00582-0200.  
Ayes- 4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**Grant opportunity 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and River Street**

Angela Popenhagen from Stevens Engineering gave a rundown on grant opportunities and looking applying for 3<sup>rd</sup> and River Street project, due to potential development, economic and residential development and all the attributes of this area. Grant application is due by November 15, 2023. Swanberg stated we are not dictating the traffic flow at this time more just the overall scope of the project. Popenhagen stated that if Board decides not to move forward with project and are awarded a grant they can still pass on it. Not tied to completing if something arises and unable to move forward.

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Kline to direct Stevens Engineers to complete the grant application.  
Ayes-4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**DPW Sale of Equipment**

Waters stated that in 2024 DPW is up to replace 2011 Chevrolet 1 ton and have \$60,000 set aside in CIP, however with cost of inflation that will not be enough to purchase that vehicle. Looking to sell other equipment to help with the cost shortfall.

Motion by Lutz and seconded by Kline to approve the sale of three items.  
Ayes- 4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**Resolution #23-09 Designating Allocation of the West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission's Revenue Bonds to Municipalities for Bank Qualifications Purposes**

Swanberg stated this is our biosolids that are paid through our sewer fund which means it's not levy supported. This project has been planned for many years and have been put into our rates to cover the cost of this borrow. Co-op with other municipalities for dryer to improve their facility. The Village's portion is approximately 10% of total cost.

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Kline to approve Resolution #23-09 as presented.  
Ayes- 4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**Board Appointments**

Lutz stated there are current vacancies with open trustee position due to being appointed Village President, which puts him on Admin & Finance and Planning Commission. Kline expressed filling the BID Board vacancy and Swanberg stated he would fill the board spot on the Osceola Chamber of Commerce opening. Conversation between Lutz and Krentz on what needs to be filled and what the new trustee will be able move into. Board stated Kline be assigned to BID Board and Swanberg to Chamber of Commerce.

**Process for new board member**

Lutz stated the exact same process as earlier this year should be done for this opening. Notice in paper as soon as possible keeping it open for approximately a month for approval at the next board meeting. Swanberg stated we will review and set the same date structure as was done in June.

**RFP for Auditing Services**

Swanberg is looking for board direction to move forward with seeking bids from other auditing firms.

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Burch to move forward with RFP process for new auditing services.

Ayes- 4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**Process for hiring a new Police Chief**

Swanberg started with the retirement of current Police Chief, Ron Pedrys, looking to fill Police Chief position. Looking for guidance on doing the hiring inhouse, and incur some expenses (personality assessment, background, etc.) versus hiring a firm with their services being between \$5,000 to \$15,000. Discussion took place on both ways for hiring this position. It as stated to use inhouse staff to begin the process with interviews not beginning until December.

**Waste Management Contract**

Swanberg stated contract with Waste Management is up December 31, 2023. Our new service manager went over new features their trucks (all have arms, cameras, etc.) and would like to come speak at next Village Board meeting. Question for the board is if they would like to renew contract or put an RFP for new quotes? Discussion on current services and there was a consensus to see all options. Swanberg also passed the message to board to sign up for their text service for most current and accurate updates to services. Lutz directed Swanberg to put an RFP.

**Employee Vacation Carryover & Accruing**

Swanberg stated this item is not ready to be presented to the board, language needs to be finalized before presented.

Motion by Lutz and seconded by Kline to table discussion to next month.

Ayes- 4                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**Allocation of Horst Foundation Grant**

Swanberg had conversations yesterday on how to use proceed the Village receives from the Horst Foundation every year of \$15,000. Discussion on how proceeds have been used in the past and on how to use in the future. Fire Department is asking for these funds to help with their air boat purchase. Swanberg also stated that if approved he is recommending that every year a different department would get these funds. Board agrees to the \$15,000 be given to the Fire Department for purchase of air boat.

**Future agenda items and updates**

Send email to all members to confirm dates for Budget Work Session.

Kline asked if anyone would like to tour the Polk County Jail – all passed at this time.

President Lutz adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Carie Krentz, Village Clerk