

**VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA
REGULAR BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS
March 12, 2024**

The Village of Osceola met for a Regular meeting on March 12, 2024, at Village Hall. Village President Lutz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brad Lutz, Bruce Gilliland, Neil Kline, Van Burch, Marsha Hovey, Arvid Maki and Bill Chantelois IV
Staff present: Devin Swanberg, Carie Krentz, Ann Miller, Todd Waters, Andrew Bach, Rick Caruso and Paul Elfstrom

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Hovey to approve the agenda.
Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Maki to approve the consent agenda.
Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Public input and ideas (Limit 5 minutes per speaker)
n/a

Reports: Staff reports

- Library: Miller reviewed Library Director memo.
- Fire: Elfstrom went through runs for the month of February with 9 runs total last month, 7 in Village of Osceola and 1 in Town of Farmington and 1 mutual aid with St. Croix County and reviewed his memo. Fire inspection letters to hangars were sent out this month to be completed in April.
- Building Inspection: Swanberg stated it was a busy month with 3 new home permits along with 2 finished basements for the month February, that will help with tax revenue.
- Administration: Swanberg has been working with multiple developers for new housing and reaching out to others to address our childcare needs. Also working with Economic Vitality made of Chamber, Main Street, Hospital, school and village all working together to address these issues. Also, getting ready for the Election in April.
- Police: Bach reviewed his memo to the board, highlighting that they have been able to use their Flock LPR cameras to help identify a retail theft suspect.
- Public Works: Waters reviewed his memo to the board, pointing out that the braves structure and safety project is 100% complete as of today. Was asked if we have a tree replacement program and he stated currently we don't have one. One of the reasons he went after the Forestry Grant and planted 54 trees and worked hard to keep them watered and alive. Feels it is important to implement a take a tree/replace a tree program in budget since typically they removed a dozen dead or dying trees a year.
- Utilities: Caruso reviewed his memo to the board.
- Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet: Steinhoff-Yates stated first B2B event will be held on March 14th from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm at OMC. Created a new committee the Economic Vitality Committee, committee to work as one versus each working alone for same goals. Reviewed memo to the board. Osceola Skate Park is just shy of 75% funded.
- BID Annual Report: Project highlights were the Cascade Falls sign and lights downtown. Members went to the capital on February 21st for St. Croix Valley legislative days and advocated for key regional issues including housing, work force retention, childcare, and tourism.

**Other business – discussion and possible action re:
Contract Police Agreement with St. Croix Fall**

Swanberg has recently been working with St. Croix to how we can better serve our community with times we do not have officers working, which then the County comes and takes our calls. Issues we are facing are the County does not write municipal citations nor do they respond to non-emergency issues within the Village. This contract will help with our open shifts with getting responses quicker and if necessary citations will be issued. At this time, they will not be a car on patrol, it is on a as needed basis. The rate will be \$64.10/hour, which is wages, fringe benefits, and a small portion for wear and tear on their vehicles.

St. Croix has more adequate staffing than the Village does, helping with 24 hour coverage. There is a national shortage of personnel in this field. Discussion on final contract being included in packet. Swanberg stated draft was all we had at time of getting packets out and it would not have been included if any key factors were still needing to be worked out. The draft in packet shows the changes that were being made. With our short staff, there are funds in the budget to cover the cost of agreement.

Motion by Burch and seconded by Gilliland to approve the contract with St. Croix Falls Police Department as presented. Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

VoIP phone system

Swanberg have been looking at voice over internet phones (VoIP). This has been looked at for some time, with issues the Village has had with phone service (last year without phones for approx. 2 ½ days). The Village switched over a fiber internet connection last year, which allows us to move forward with VoIP. This service will allow staff to work from home if the need arises and still be able to take phone calls. This will also save the Village money month to month on its phone bill. However, there is an upfront cost and that will take 4-7 years to realize the cost savings. Discussion on how this will affect the residence calling into the office. Funds will be coming from the Admin CIP that were not used. Lutz has a personal connection with company and will be abstaining from the vote.

Motion by Kline and seconded by Gilliland to approve the contract for VoIP with EvergreenTel as presented. Ayes-6 (Lutz Abstained) Nays-0 Motion carried

Ordinance #24-01 to Amend multiple chapters, repeal Chapter A22 and create a Fee Schedule

Swanberg stated this was before the Board last month and have provided the redline copy to see what will be changing. This amendment is taking all fees out of the ordinances and will refer to the Fee Schedule, which will be reviewed annually and approved by resolution. Allowing us to be more efficient and change fees when needed. Discussion on code book and it was stated there are three full, updated copies in the office. Not ordering full updates when completed. Kline asked about Chapter 59 being updated. Swanberg recommendation was to do that in a separate resolution at a later date.

Motion by Maki and seconded by Gilliland to adopt Ordinance #24-01 to amend multiple chapters and repeal Chapter A222 as presented.

Roll Call: Aye: Hovey, Maki, Gilliland, Lutz, Burch, Chantelois and Kline Nay-0 Motion carried

Resolution #24-03 Adopt a Fee Schedule

Swanberg stated this the Fee Schedule presented last month with no changes other than the increase implemented by West Wisconsin Inspection Agency. Their prices have not increased since they became the Villages building inspector back in 2018.

Motion by Burch and seconded by Gilliland to approve Resolution #24-03 to adopt a Fee Schedule as presented.

Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Community Fair Building Update

No representatives from the fair board. Swanberg gave a quick update, Village is looking to get a survey for the borders of Oakey Park not just for this project, getting questions from the cemetery because part of baseball field could be on their property. Asking Fair Board that they abide by all required setbacks. The survey was supposed to be done today and will check on that. Building plans will be presented to Planning Commission next month.

Future agenda items and updates

Burch – discuss skate park, yellow house and carriage house next month.

President Lutz adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Carie Krentz, Village Clerk