

**VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
July 9, 2024**

The Village of Osceola met for a Regular meeting on July 9, 2024, at Village Hall. Village President Lutz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brad Lutz, Neil Kline, Van Burch, Arvid Maki, Ron Pedrys, Mike Sine, and Marsha Hovey  
Staff present: Devin Swanberg, Carie Krentz, Ann Miller, Todd Waters, Andrew Bach, and Paul Elfstrom

Motion by Burch and seconded by Hovey to approve the agenda amended by moving 8f to 8a.  
Ayes-7                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

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

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

Adam Pieri Johnson at 405 Ridge Road – attended planning commission meeting and spoke on the CUP on agenda with concern about fire down in area, no plan for single family home, and applicants application. Looking for some conditions to be put on the CUP as stated above.

Holly Walsh 405 Ridge Road – spoke on two items: (1) CUP application at 399B Ridge Road, they stated they have a permit from DNR, which they do not. Feels should be denied until approval from DNR and Canadian National Railroad, not able to cross railroad tracks because it is illegal. Also concerned with fire in the forest and looks like they intend to camp down there. (2) Rockslide at Cascade Falls – wants significant signage due to the danger and to get reputable engineers to fix this situation.

**Reports: Staff reports**

Public Works: Waters reviewed his memo to the board and informed members of the loss of use of the street sweeper. He expects it to be down for a month. Burch asked if bull thistle was intentionally planted up at the hospital on Hwy 35, Waters stated this runs rampant and his department works diligently on these invasive species throughout the summer.

Utilities: Swanberg highlighted their lead and copper reporting and reviewed memo.

Library: Miller reviewed Library Director memo.

Fire: Elfstrom went through runs for the month of June with 7 runs total last month, 5 in Village of Osceola and 1 in Town of Farmington and reviewed his memo. Burch brought up the recycling bins located in Fire Hall parking lot – will be looked at by staff.

Police: Bach stated the PD generated 372 calls, 63 incidents and traffic reports with 2 arrests, 1 emergency hold, and 3 criminal referrals. Officers had 55 traffic stops and issued 35 municipal citations. St. Croix Falls responded 21 times with 2 criminal referrals under our agreement and reviewed his memo to the board.

Building Inspection: Swanberg stated building permits were slow last month, apologized for not having a comparison to last year and stated we are behind last year numbers with only 5 new homes to date this year.

Administration: Swanberg stated an audit review should be next month, thanked staff for working tirelessly with his absence, he is working on possibility of setting up new TID on south side of Village.

Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet: Wyatt Yager, Main Street Director, reviewed the memo to the board.

**Public Hearing – Resolution to discontinue the undeveloped and unpaved alley located between Lots 2 & 3 and Lots 10 & 11, Block 1 of the Plat of Staples Addition in the Village**

Swanberg reviewed how this request came before the board. There are trees that are dead and need to come down, current homeowners are using land, with a fence located on alley parcel. There were other options presented that were not agreed upon by all parties. Village Attorney, stated this would be the cleanest and least expensive way to move forward.

It was asked if owners were agreeable to a three-way split on tree removals (est. cost of \$4,000 to \$6,000) – possibility. Sine asked if Village had a dead tree removal ordinance, fall under nuance property, and feels if there is rule to follow it. The parcel will get split down the middle and go to each land owner. It was stated that both

adjoining land owners are using the property as their own, with a fence, cloths lines, patio blocks and wanted to acquire. Staff has been working on a solution for all parties involved. Swanberg also stated there are other of these parcel that will need to be vacated and he will move forward on those in the future.

President Lutz open Public Hearing at 6:45 pm

Jeff Rapp at 718 Cascade Street, brought up issue over a year ago and is interested in the proposal being presented. However, not interested in splitting costs at a rate \$4,000 to \$6,000. He would like to remove trees himself and save on that cost. Does not want to take on what is currently the Villages responsibility.

Alan Barrett at 711 Chieftain Street, these are tall trees and are dead. Has had to clean up some already and is currently on Village property. Willing to work with the Village on this matter.

Public Hearing closed at 6:48 pm

Discussion took place on all information presented. These trees are a hazard. All members felt need to move forward and directed Staff to work with the homeowners to get the tree removal issues settles that works for all parties.

Motion by Sine and seconded by Burch to adopt Resolution #24-10 Approving Undeveloped Alley Vacation as presented. Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

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

**Cascade Falls Update**

Swanberg stated the insurance denied our claim, however this allows us to contact County and State for disaster relief funds. Discussion among members, including Angela Popenhagen, on options to move forward.

**Appoint Jessi Kruger to the BID Board as a temporary member until hiring of Chamber Director**

Motion by Sine and seconded by Burch to appoint Jessi Kruger to BID Board as temporary member. Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

**Allowing ATV/UTV traffic on the streets of Osceola**

Discussion on updating Village code to match state statue. Swanberg would like to go through code and link it back to state statutes throughout. Pedrys stated that when code was created it did follow state statues with the main concern of residence being the noise of vehicle. More discussion among members.

Motion by Lutz and seconded by Sine to direct staff to update Village Code to model State Statue. Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

**Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for 399B Ridge Road to install two stairways and pier**

Popenhagen went over CUP application that is specifically for two stairways and pier. She reached out to DNR again and has not received a response at this time. According to Village code and NR-118 the applicant has met all criteria (do not know regarding DNR stance at this time), except getting a permit before construction begins. Lutz stated Planning Commission had a lengthy discussion on this application and if no issues with application board is compelled to approve the CUP. The DNR was given the 30 day notice and the absence of a response is an absence of rejection. Planning commission recommended approval with a double fee of the permit fee due to starting projected without permit. Discussion on issues that were raised and those are to addressed at another time and should not be considered in this approval.

Motion by Sine and seconded by Lutz to approve CUP for 399B Ridge Road to install stairs and pier as presented. Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

**Write-offs for uncollectable delinquent personal property taxes**

Swanberg stated this is a standard practice and staff as exhausted all resource and these are uncollectable. These are

businesses that are no longer in business or under new ownership and were not updated during tax preparation for those years. The total amount is \$6,316.78.

Motion by Sine and seconded by Maki to approve writing off uncollectable delinquent personal property taxes as presented. Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

**Yellow House Demo BIDs**

Popenhagen stated given timeline for project this was sent out for quotes, which have to be between \$5K and \$25K. This was asked with alternative options and received 4 quotes with lowest quote from Minocqua Grading. This company has worked on a lot of WI DOT projects, however not a local company. Discussion on quotes and Popenhagen stated if want to publicly bid can be done but will make timeline even tighter due to publishing requirements. Project has to be completed by September 6<sup>th</sup> and all companies were notified of this timeline. Disposal is on the vendor; they were given what is required and it on them on disposal of all materials. Any repair to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue has been omitted due to Village doing that with another project and all appliance must be removed before project begins. More discussion.

Motion by Maki and seconded by Pedrys to accept quote with Minocqua Grading for \$23,000 as presented.  
Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Hovey, Maki, Pedrys, Lutz Nays-Sine, Burch Motion carried

**Future agenda items and updates**

Klien will miss next meeting.

President Lutz adjourned the meeting at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Carie Krentz, Village Clerk