

Village of Balsam Lake

Sewer/Water/M&E Committee

Monday October 25th 2022

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jim Duncan at 4:30 p.m.

Members present on roll call: Jim Duncan, Jamey Flaherty, Kellie Flaherty

Public Comments: Michael & Patty Allyn, property owner of 408 Fourth Ave East. Mr. Allyn expressed his concerns regarding year-round refuse services. Mr. Allyn stated it is unconstitutional to force seasonal homeowners to pay for refuse services. The Allyn family has owned their property for 11 years and has never had refuse service. In owning a seasonal property they take their refuse and recycling back home to their Minnesota property. Also Mr. Allyn noted being on a fixed income, this additional cost for services they would not use would be waste of money. Mr. Allyn would like the committee to reconsider year-round refuse services for seasonal homes as it is his opinion it is not right, and it is unfair. Mr. Greg Bannie, property owner of 416 Fourth Ave E also stated the new changes are extreme. Mr. Bannie reviewed other Village meeting minutes and commented on how it would create more work for the Village shutting waters off and will damage water lines turning the valves on and off at the street. In coming to past meetings, he was surprised that the board made such a change moving from a minimum of one quarter a month for seasonal refuse services to now year-round refuse services for all residents.

Discussion and possible action regarding Water Treatment Plant. Jeff Nussbaum and Isaac Steinmeyer from SEH were in attendance. At the last committee meeting the committee produced two project alternatives to be reviewed for summary of cost estimates. Mr. Steinmeyer spoke on project alternatives and prices. There were challenges relating to estimating material costs due to variable market costs. There currently is up to a twenty percent contingency meaning the costs could be up to 20 percent more for the overall project based on the current variable market. Chair Jim Duncan asked the SEH engineers based on the costs estimates how would that impact the current water rates. Jeff Nussbaum noted based on an estimation using a calculation from the PSC, water rates could increase from 100-150%. Chair Jim Duncan also asked the SEH engineers as the public inquiries about the potential increased rates what would the alternative be if the Village chose not to complete this project. Jeff Nussbaum shared challenges the Village could encounter by not treating the water services for manganese. **Motion by Jamey Flaherty to recommend to the Village Board a Water Treatment Plant Design incorporating Project Alternate 2 and Project Alternate 3 with a total Project Estimate of \$8,610,000.00. Second by Kellie Flaherty. On Roll Call; Kellie Flaherty, yes; Jamey Flaherty, yes; Jim Duncan, yes. Carried.** For funding options, Jeff Nussbaum shared with the committee the Safe Drinking Water (SDW) Loan Program is a viable option and based on WDNR's scoring of the project application, MHI, population and poverty levels that the Village could qualify up to \$1,500,000.00 for principal forgiveness. Also, SEH will also complete the Community Development Block Grant that offers grants up to \$1,000,000.00.

Discussion and possible action regarding Five Flags campground. Owners of Five Flags campground were not in attendance. No action taken.

Discussion and possible action on refuse service. Chair Jim Duncan would like to meet with the owners of Lakeview Park in November to discuss how to best move forward with the new refuse services. More concerns were made from the Allyn family and Greg Bannie. Chair Jim Duncan noted the committee will bring their concerns to the next Village Board meeting. No action taken.

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Discussion and possible action on purchasing E-One Pumps. Director of Public Works David Patterson conveyed the E-One pump inventory. In anticipation of E-One pump issues this winter and into 2023, DPW David Patterson is seeking approval to purchase two E-One pumps as needed. The E-One pumps removed for service this year, were not able to be repaired, thus new E-One pumps were installed. The average E-One pump costs the Village \$2,800 and come with a one-year warranty. **Motion by Jamey Flaherty to recommend to the Village Board increasing the Director of Public Works spending allotment to \$3,500 without Village Board Approval. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

Discussion and possible action on purchasing a work truck. DPW Dave Patterson presented a bid from Larsen Auto Center in Fredric for purchasing a new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado. Upon trading in the 2015 white Chevy pickup the cost for the 2022 pickup would be \$17,760.50. **Motion by Jamey Flaherty to recommend to the Village Board purchasing a new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado from Larsen Auto Center for \$17,760.50 with the cost split three ways between water, sewer, M&E accounts. Second by Kellie Flaherty. All in Favor. Carried.**

Motion to adjourn by Kellie Flaherty. Seconded by Jamey Flaherty. Carried. 5:59 pm

Unapproved Minutes

Lori Duncan, Village Clerk Treasurer

Amy VanDeBrake, Deputy Clerk Treasurer