

VILLAGE OF WRIGHTSTOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE Village Board of the Village of Wrightstown was held at Village Hall, 352 High St, on **Tuesday, 12/18/2018.**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Village President Dean Erickson and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Present –Village President Dean Erickson, Trustee Sue Byers, Trustee Dan Segerstrom and Trustee Keith Wendlandt. Absent: Trustee Andy Lundt, Trustee Scott Reignier and Trustee Terry Schaeuble

Also present: Ed Byrne (Brillion News), Brian Roebke (Wrightstown Area Spirit), Village Administrator Travis Coenen, Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Seidl, Deputy Clerk Shelia Bowers, Deputy Clerk Patti Leitermann, Public Works Superintendent Andy Vickman, Police Chief Greg Deike, Fire Chief Mike Schampers, Haley Beniller (Green Bay Press Gazette), Robin Oguinye (Channel 5) William Verbeten (Chairman, Town of Wrightstown) John Brittnacher (Supervisor, Town of Wrightstown) Ronald Diny (Supervisor, Town of Wrightstown) Jesse Juedes (Supervisor, Town of Wrightstown), Residents Mara Welnetz, Michelle Miller, Richard Savela, Troy Wright, Tim Doe, Kimberly Nagan, Pandora Larson. Town of Wrightstown Resident Randy Geurts and Sandra Chlike

MINUTES – Motion by S Byers with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve the December 4, 2018 board meeting minutes. **Motion carried.**

VOUCHERS - Motion by S Byers with a second made by K Wendlandt to approve the vouchers, as submitted, in the amount of \$-11,519.24 from November 29, 2018 through December 13, 2018. **Motion carried.**

SCHEDULED APPEARANCES - None

WALK-INS – Resident Mara Welnetz, 806 Broadway St. provided dog statistics and vicious dog ordinance information from surrounding communities. She asked that the Village ordinance be changed to include behavioral language only and to judge dogs by their actions rather than their appearance or breed.

Randy Geurts, Town of Wrightstown resident, asked why Ms. Welnetz was not informed about the Village’s vicious dog ordinance at the time she licensed her pit bull mix.

Resident Richard Savela, 239 Peterlynn Dr. voiced his concern over the increased tax rates for the residents in the Village of Wrightstown. Reassessment information due to revaluation, received earlier in the year, didn’t adequately identify the cost impact of higher assessments combined with the 2018 increased tax rate. He also indicated that he is in support of a light trespass ordinance. How will light be monitored and violations be measured? Existing businesses that Mr. Savela spoke to have been amicable and willing to change light angles. A request for an update regarding the potential build of senior living facility in Royal Saint Pat’s subdivision was made. Administrator Coenen indicated that no new information is available.

Michelle Miller, 215 Theunis Dr. spoke. Although she does not own a pit bull, she spoke in support of Mara Welnetz. A year ago, her three animals were attacked by a mixed breed dog without pit bull blood. She has never known pit bulls to be other than loving, amazing animals.

Pandora Larson, 400 Fair St., lives with her daughter and son in law and she and they have pit bulls. She understands pit bulls to be loyal and loving. As a past mail carrier, she was bitten three times by other dog breeds. Her understanding is that the pit bull is the latest dog breed being discriminated against. Ms. Larson requested that the Village Board repeal the vicious dog ordinance because it is considered discriminatory.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- Thank you to DPW for ringing bells at for charity at Dick’s Family Foods
- Ribbon cutting ceremony at Tweet Garot. Thank you to everyone that was there. This facility will be a great asset to the community!
- Looking to get the Spring Tour scheduled for Village leadership, the school district and the business alliance. Great time to catch everyone up on our accomplishments and areas of struggle.
- March 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. is the family movie at the High School

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/PERSONNEL - -

- **2019 Calendar** – Motion made by S Byers with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve the 2019 Village calendar with the January 1, 2019 Village Board meeting rescheduled to Wednesday, January 2, 2019 due to the New Year holiday. **Motion carried.**
- **January 1, 2019 Village of Wrightstown Debt Capacity** – Review of the 2018 Brown and Outagamie County Debt Limits and the remaining capacity as we begin 2019.
- **Annual Review of TID #3 & TID #4** – TID #3 is doing very well and we are still expecting a 10 year closure. We are estimating a 15 year closure in TID #4 but due to the large infrastructure project on CTH U, we are expecting additional projects.
- **Employee Personnel Manual** – Motion made by K Wendlandt with a second made by S Byers to approve the Employee Personnel Manual, last revised 12/17/2018, with a 1/01/2019 effective date. **Motion carried.**
- **Operator License Application for Alexander M. Grover** – Motion made by S Byers with a second made by K Wendlandt to approve the operator license application for Alexander M. Grover, 2312 N. Shore Dr., Delavan, WI 53115, for Royal St. Patrick’s Golf Course. **Motion carried.**
- **Advance Construction, Inc. – Application for Payment No. 2** – Motion made by S Byers with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve Application for Payment No. 2, from Advance Construction, Inc., for \$260,469.69, for the 2018 Utility Improvements. **Motion carried.**
- **2018 Christmas Gift List** – Motion made by S Byers with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve the 2018 Christmas Gift List (*\$25 gift cards from Dick’s Family Foods*) as presented, for Village volunteers and committee members. **Motion carried.**
- **Wrightstown Fire Department Christmas Party** – Motion made by S Byers with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve a check to be cut for \$250.00, for the Wrightstown Fire Department Christmas party. **Motion carried.**
- **2018 Tax Bills** - Administrator Coenen addressed tax rate concerns. Tax payment increases are due to higher assessments from the recent revaluation and the increase of the net mill rate in Outagamie County. The Village was unable to review each adjusted assessment, from the revaluation, to determine the cost impact when the budget was established and the Village mill rate was being calculated, and used a consistent home value of \$300,000 instead. In future years, we will need to look into specific properties to be more cognizant of the effect of changed rates. The goal going into 2019 is to protect our Tax Incremental Districts so our obligations can be met. All budget documents are now on the Village website and are available for viewing. Administrator Coenen is working with surrounding municipalities to determine cost of living comparisons.

PARKS, RECREATION & REGIONAL PLANNING - -

- **Bruce & Lea Vande Hey Dividing CSM** – Motion by K Wendlandt with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve the dividing CSM for Bruce & Lea Vande Hey, 417-419 Prairie Way, Parcel

VW-J32-1, Village of Wrightstown, per the Planning Commission recommendation. **Motion carried.**

- **Gerald & Carol Calnin Combining CSM** – Motion made by K Wendlandt with a second made by D Segerstrom to approve the combining CSM for Gerald & Carol Calnin, 421 Main St., Parcels VW-298 & VW-298-1, Village of Wrightstown, per Planning Commission recommendation. **Motion carried.**

Motion made by S Byers with a second by D Segerstrom to move discussion of Chapter 75 of the Village of Wrightstown Animal Ordinance before the Downtown Draft Study. Motion carried.

- **Chapter 75 of the Village of Wrightstown Animal Ordinance** –An inquiry by a potential resident regarding the Village’s vicious dog requirements, as well as a review of current municipal code, brought to attention that Article II of Chapter 75 was not being enforced. Because the Village begins annual dog licensing renewal in December, it was decided that letters be immediately sent informing dog owners of the ordinance and requesting compliance. The original ordinance, created in the 90’s, stemmed from a fatal incident involving a pit bull and a smaller breed dog. At the time, many communities had proactive breed specific legislation and the Village decided to follow suit. Statistics from 2005 through 2017 show that pit bull breeds cause more fatalities than any other large dog breed. The Village Board has two options. The ordinance can be left as is, with the Village doing what it can to prevent incidents, as noted above, from happening. However, the ordinance will then include discriminatory language. Or, the ordinance can be updated to be “reactive” with language defining a vicious dog by its behavior only. Counsel from the Village Attorney as well as legal counsel from the League of Wisconsin Municipalities indicates that there are no federal regulations or state statutes prohibiting the Village from the current language in the Municipal Code regarding vicious dogs, however, the League attorney did provide a sample of a “reactive” ordinance they recommend. Case law involving the City of Milwaukee states that specific breeds can be prohibited/banned altogether. Our code is looser, allowing bully breeds, but it regulates their contact with humans and pets outside of their immediate family. The main goal of the Village is the safety of the residents. Feedback from Village residents, regarding how the ordinance should read, is welcome.

Motion made by K Wendlandt with a second by D Segerstrom to table. **Motion carried.**

- Respond to question by resident Richard Savela regarding light pollution monitoring: Planning Commission reviews the photo metrics of all new Village developments. A specific amount of light is allowed to leave the building so neighboring properties are not affected. However, there is currently no regulation on relighting of existing structures because this update does not require a building permit. The Village is currently reviewing how to handle moving forward.
- **Downtown Study Draft** – Review of Performa Downtown Study. Goal is to revitalize the downtown area and create a destination point. Architectural styles and business types will be predetermined so property owners are aware of the vision and develop accordingly. This area must also have connectivity to the rest of the community by bike and walking paths. Apartment complexes, residential and recreational spaces to surround. Area to be revitalized is part of the Village’s Tax Incremental District #5. Design drawings and maps of downtown area presented.

PUBLIC SAFETY - -

Fire Department – No additional comments or questions. Merry Christmas!

Municipal Court – No questions.

Police Department – Congratulations to Officer Sullivan for being chosen for the Brown County Fire Investigator Task Force!

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES - -

Public Works – West bank utility project to wrap up this week.

ADJOURN - - Motion made by K Wendlandt with a second D Segerstrom to adjourn. (7:41 p.m.) **Motion carried.**

Michelle Seidl

Clerk/Treasurer