

# **VILLAGE OF WRIGHTSTOWN**

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Committee of the Whole, of the Village of Wrightstown, was held at Wrightstown Village Hall, 352 High St., Wrightstown, WI, on **Tuesday, May 2, 2023** and began at 6:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Present – Village President Dean Erickson and Trustees Sue Byers, Mark Leonard, Andy Lundt, Terry Schaeuble, Dan Segerstrom and Julie Sigmund

Also present: Brian Roebke (Wrightstown Spirit); Administrator Travis Coenen; Public Works Director Andy Vickman; Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Seidl; Fire Inspector Nathan Helbing; Police Chief Greg Deike; Business Owners Janet & Todd Coenen; Attending due to Wrightstown School District Debt Pay Down Initiative agenda item: Maggie Boland, Amber Cox, Robert Ehlebrecht, Bob Gerend, Jason Gerend, Kathryn Lich, Claudia Martin, Dalton Rupiper, Brad Sigmund, Keith Wendlandt, Gordon T. Wilker Jr.

A motion was made by Trustee A Lundt with a second made by Trustee J Sigmund to open the Tuesday, May 2, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting. **Motion carried.**

A Motion was made by Trustee S Byers with a second made by Trustee T Schaeuble to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, as submitted, from Tuesday, April 18, 2023. **Motion carried.**

#### **WRIGHTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT DEBT PAY DOWN INITIATIVE**

Administrator Travis Coenen suggested that since there is no action that can be taken by the Village Board of Trustees, in regards to Wrightstown School District's budget and spending decisions, that Village meeting discussions on this subject be discontinued unless new pressing information becomes available.

Trustee Andy Lundt noted that although concerns regarding tax increases were originally raised to the Village Board, and Board Members were able to determine the parameters that the School Board had agreed upon to establish the tax rate and to pay down additional debt, the best course of action is really for tax payers to attend school board meetings and raise their concerns in that setting. He does feel, though, that a joint meeting between the Village Board and School Board would be beneficial in monitoring tax impacts on residents.

Trustee Dan Segerstrom indicated that the Village Board did their due diligence in determining why property taxes have dramatically increased since the 2020 School Referendum and informing the public of the findings. However, because no action can be taken by the Village Board, future discussions may drive a further wedge between School and Village Board members.

Village President Dean Erickson agreed that discussions were had as a result of inquiries made by Village residents, however, he feels that these extreme annual tax increases must be brought under control.

Trustee Sue Byers stated that the purpose of the conversations is to shine a light on the issue so information can be shared. She did ask that the Wrightstown School Board consider reverting back to the debt payment schedule as written, to ease the burden on tax payers.

Trustee Mark Leonard agreed that there is no reason to rehash old information.

There may be an opportunity for more collaboration with the hiring of the new District Administrator.

Motion made by Trustee A Lundt with a second made by Trustee D Segerstrom to close the Committee of the Whole meeting. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Michelle Seidl

Clerk/Treasurer

*Posted: 05/17/2023 MS*