

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2024

President Stalewski called the Village Board meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Ragonese, Schuettke, Edgar, Schaefer, Hill, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearing.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Resident Jerry Somrude of 1230 S. 45th Street commended the Village Board for internal promotions within the Village Hall and Police Department and for the development at 3900 W. Lincoln Ave. He raised concerns regarding the maintenance of the apartment buildings on 45th Street, across from the rectory, and requested that Administrator Egan reach out to Ogden Property Maintenance regarding the deterioration of the buildings.

He further noted that pick-up and drop-off traffic at Notre Dame has been managed well. Mr. Somrude stated that the vacant lot west of the Parker Store is a weed-infested eyesore and believes a property on 45th Street sells used cars illegally. He also explained that 4623 W. Beloit Road has overgrown weeds and continues to feed birds and rats.

Mr. Somrude also raised concerns regarding illegal parking in the alleyways and the deterioration of alleyways and sidewalks throughout the Village. He further noted that he is interested in joining the West Milwaukee Historical Society and requested that the Historical Society President, Craig Schaefer contact him regarding his participation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Hill moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke to approve the Village Board Meeting minutes for Monday, September 16, 2024.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Schuettke, Schaefer, Ragonese, Hill, Stalewski

Edgar: Present

Excused: Greenfield,

The motion carried.

FINANCE, CLAIMS, AND PURCHASES COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON JOHN RAGONESE

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the 2025 payroll increases for non-represented employees in the amount of \$119,780: this is a combination of cost-of-living, step and merit pay increases.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hill, Schuettke, Edgar, Schaefer, Ragonese, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke to approve the resolution to borrow from the Trust Funds of the State of Wisconsin in the sum of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of financing TID #5 creation, public projects, and development incentives.

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, by the provisions of Sec. 24.66 of the Wisconsin Statutes, all municipalities may borrow money for such purposes in the manner prescribed; and,

WHEREAS, by the provisions of Chapter 24 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin is authorized to make loans from the State Trust Funds to municipalities for such purposes. (Municipality as defined by Sec. 24.60(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes means a town, village, city, county, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, town sanitary district created under Sec. 60.71 or 60.72, metropolitan sewerage district created under Sec. 200.05 or 200.23, joint sewerage system created under Sec. 281.43(4), school district or technical college district.)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of West Milwaukee, in the County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, borrow from the Trust Funds of the State of Wisconsin the sum of Three Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$3,000,000) for the purpose of financing TID #5 creation, public projects, and development incentives and for no other purpose.

The loan is to be payable within 10 years from the 15th day of March preceding the date the loan is made. The loan will be repaid in annual installments with interest at the rate of 5.25 percent per annum from the date of making the loan to the 15th day of March next and thereafter annually as provided by law.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that there shall be raised and there is levied upon all taxable property, within the Village of West Milwaukee, in the County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a direct annual tax to pay interest and principal on the loan as they become due.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that no money obtained by the Village of West Milwaukee by such loan from the state be applied or paid out for any purpose except financing TID #5 creation, public projects, and development incentive without the consent of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that in case the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin agrees to make the loan, that the president and clerk of the Village of West Milwaukee, in the County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, are authorized and empowered, in the name of the Village to execute and deliver to the Commission, certificates of indebtedness, in such form as required by the Commission, for any sum of money that may be loaned to the Village pursuant to this resolution. The president and clerk of the Village will perform all necessary actions to fully carry out the provisions of Chapter 24 Wisconsin Statutes, and these resolutions.

RESOLVED FURTHER, the president and clerk of the Village of West Milwaukee, in the County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, are authorized and empowered, in the name of the Village to execute all closing and other documents related to this purchase pursuant to this resolution.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this preamble and these resolutions and the aye and no vote by which they were adopted, be recorded, and that the clerk of this Village forward this certified record, along with the application for the loan, to the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Ragonese, Hill, Schuettke, Edgar, Schaefer, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to reject the W. Greenfield Ave. reconstruction project window well change order.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Schaefer, Ragonese, Hill, Schuettke, Edgar, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the 2025-2026 Baker Tilly Engagement Letter.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Edgar, Schaefer, Ragonese, Hill, Schuettke, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the 2025-2027 West Allis Agreement for Information Technology (IT) Services.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Schuettke, Edgar, Schaefer, Ragonese, Hill, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the purchase of the used replacement police chief vehicle and the outfitting of the detective and police chief vehicles, for \$49,000.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Schuettke, Edgar, Schaefer, Ragonese, Hill, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve commercial vouchers dated September 18, 2024, through and including October 7, 2024, checks numbered 33707 through and including 33765 in the amount of \$322,950.84.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Ragonese, Schuettke, Hill, Edgar, Schaefer, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the biweekly payrolls dated September 20, 2024, in the amount of \$131,921.12 and October 4, 2024, in the amount of \$122,184.38.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Schaefer, Ragonese, Schuettke, Hill, Edgar, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the July 2024 Treasurer's Report.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Edgar, Schaefer, Ragonese, Schuettke, Hill, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Chairperson Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the 2.5% salary increase, \$516 annually, for Judge Jodi Sanfelippo for the 2025 budget year.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hill, Schuettke, Edgar, Schaefer, Ragonese, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

Trustee Ragonese held item h, regarding the salary compensation review request for Administrator Kim Egan in committee.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON SCHUETTKE

Administrator Egan stated that I94 East-West Freeway Project representatives will attend the next Village Board meeting to discuss plans for National Avenue. Village Engineer, Ben High will also attend the meeting to review plans for the 38th and Grant St. public improvement project.

The City of Milwaukee awarded the bid for the 38th and Scott Street area traffic circles and will begin construction on the speed humps shortly.

PUBLIC WORKS, RECYCLING AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON DOMINIC GREENFIELD

No report.

LICENSES, ZONING, PARKS, AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON CRAIG SCHAEFER

Trustee Schaefer moved, seconded by Trustee Edgar, to the Beverage Operator License applications for Devon Baker and Debra Singleton.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hill, Ragonese, Schaefer, Edgar, Schuettke Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

HEALTH, HOUSING, SOCIAL SERVICES AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON JANE EDGAR

Chairperson Edgar reported that the Board of Health passed the \$3,000,000 health department budget for 2025 on September 9th. West Milwaukee will retain its voting status through 2025 when the current contract ends. Bob Leischow is the Health Commissioner and City Sealer. Chairperson Edgar clarified that the city sealer enforces and administers the weights and measurements program within the Village of West Milwaukee and the City of West Allis.

Chairperson Edgar asked if the Village received any money from the Opioid Settlement. Administrator Egan explained that the Village may receive a settlement, but the information that she found indicated that it was a very small amount.

PERSONNEL AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON TODD HILL

Chairperson Hill held item a. regarding amendments to the Recruitment and Selection Policy in committee.

Chairperson Hill moved, seconded by Trustee Schuettke based on the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve the title change for Kayla Casto from Administrative Assistant to Assistant Administrator.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Edgar, Schuettke, Hill, Ragonese, Schaefer.

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON JOHN STALEWSKI

Trustee Ragonese moved, seconded by Trustee Edgar, to approve the White Cane Day proclamation.

Discussion: President Stalewski read the White Cane Day proclamation.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Schaefer, Edgar, Ragonese, Hill, Schuettke, Stalewski

Excused: Greenfield

The motion carried.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stalewski will attend the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Fall Conference in Madison from October 23rd through October 25th.

WEST MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (WMCDA) REPORT

Administrator Egan provided the Board with an update on TID No. 5. During the process of creating the TID, the Dickman Company and Hennes Trucking did a lot line adjustment that resulted in new tax key numbers, mismatched legal descriptions and incorrect maps. This held up the process of the TID creation but, it has since been resolved and the Village anticipates it will receive the creation letter from the Department of Revenue shortly.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Police Chief Shaundra Randolph provided an update regarding the fatal motorcycle accident at Miller Park Way and National Avenue. The District Attorney's office is charging the driver of the car involved in the accident with knowingly operating a motor vehicle without a valid license causing death.

Police Chief Randolph reported two (2) fires in the village, at the 1200 block of 52nd Street and the 1300 block of 53rd Street. A neighbor on 53rd Street noticed the smoke coming from the residence on 52nd Street and was able to get the occupants out of the building. There were no injuries. The Red Cross was on the scene to help find placement for the occupants. The Fire Department believes the cause of the 52nd Street fire was electrical, and the 53rd Street cause was due to something, like a cigarette, being placed on a second-floor windowsill. Chief Randolph suggested that the citizen who helped the occupants get out of the 52nd Street fire be recognized at a December meeting. She would like to continue recognizing citizens and officers for exemplary acts of service as they arise.

As previously mentioned, Corporal, Kevin Eade resigned, and the department ran a hiring process to fill the open position. The current Sergeant has chosen to resign from his position and will return to patrol. Detective, Brian Chic was promoted to Sergeant, and Officer, Javier Reyes was promoted to Corporal. The hiring process will continue to fill the now open detective and officer positions.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Egan reported that following several failed pre-employment screenings, the Department of Public Works has offered two (2) full-time equipment operator positions to new candidates. One new employee started today and the other will start in two (2) weeks. There will now be one (1) equipment operator/laborer position open. Trustee Schuettke suggested a review of the current drug and alcohol policy and the possibility of giving second chances for pre-employment and/or random drug tests. There was a brief discussion regarding the pros and cons of offering a second chance for pre-employment drug screens. Administrator Egan will discuss this with the DPW Superintendent.

Administrator Egan encouraged the Board to review numbers two (2) and three (3) in the packet regarding the recent KK River and Jackson Park Task Force meeting and upcoming changes to the park. The Plan Commission will meet on October 8, 2024, to discuss a PUD request for 3912 W. Greenfield Ave. The property owner has a second tenant who would like to open an art gallery in the space. Notre Dame is planning a new exterior entrance and elevator which will be reviewed by the Plan Commission at an upcoming meeting. The Board of Review on September 23rd ran smoothly, there were no appointments.

The contractor for the W. Greenfield Ave. reconstruction project has agreed to fix the large hump in the road at 50th Street due to the adamancy of the Village. Trustee Hill stated there is a 2'' + drop in Greenfield Avenue at 56th St. Administrator Egan explained that this can be reviewed during the Greenfield Ave. walk-through scheduled for Thursday. Traffic will be shifted to the correct side of the road this week.

Lastly, Administrator Egan reported that bids for the carbon reduction grant project will be advertised in November.

NEW ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMITTEE DELIBERATION

Trustee Schaefer suggested the Board review the elected official salaries again. Trustee Hill stated that he will be absent from the October 21, 2024, meeting. Trustee Schuettke reported that the shovel on the Komatsu site at Miller Park Way and National has been removed. There was a brief discussion regarding the progression of the pickleball courts at West Milwaukee Park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 8th at 6:00p.m.....Plan Commission Meeting
Monday, October 21st at 7:00p.m.....Village Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 28th at 6:00p.m.....Community Development Authority Meeting

There being no further business before the Village Board, Trustee Edgar moved, seconded by Trustee Schaefer to adjourn. Time 8:26 p.m.

Voice vote.
The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Casto, Assistant Administrator