

VILLAGE OF REDGRANITE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – December 19, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Municipal Building on December 19, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call: Gina Smukowski, Matt Knollenberg, Laurie Oltesvig, Mark Juslen, Angie Ralls, Jim Erdmann, and Belinda Passarelli.

Motion by Matt, second by Mark, to approve moving agenda items Sewer, Water and Streets, Sidewalk, Ditches after Finance, Personnel, Insurance and approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM – Jim Lyles wants to know why the alley/right of way was not plowed after the big snowstorm, what is the Village Board calling this property and who is taking care of it. He also stated the County told him it is an improved right of way. Christine Hagar inquired about the status of the AT&T cell tower and why is the Village paying overtime for employees to attend board meetings. AT&T has postponed their search for properties in the Village until next spring and the Village President has requested full time employees attend all board meetings to answer any questions from the public which board members may not be able to answer. Tad Lebreck wondered why Kelly Sand and Gravel was plowing some Village streets. They are called in when there is heavy snow falls so the roads can be plowed faster. Amanda Yahr requested the public works department to clear out snow from hydrants on Village property near her house.

Motion by Jim, second by Mark, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting on November 21, 2022, special board meeting of November 28, 2022, and special board meeting/budget hearing of December 9, 2022. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT – Christy announced the 2023 garbage/recycling schedule is available tonight on the back table and the Board scheduled a Committee of the Whole meeting for Monday, January 9, 2023, beginning at 5:45 p.m. to continue reviewing ordinances.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – President appreciated the employees and board members for their dedication in 2022.

FINANCE, PERSONNEL, INSURANCE – Motion by Jim, second by Angie, to approve general fund disbursements – checks 14055 through 14103 and 40114083 (Hometown Bank) for a total of \$56,701.47; water fund checks 6205626 through 6205641 (Hometown Bank) for a total of \$8,783.54; sewer fund disbursements – checks 6306376 through 6306401 (Hometown Bank) for a total of \$101,661.20; ARPA disbursements – check 2021031 through 2021034 for \$19,373.37 and payroll of \$38,727.00 creating a grand total of \$225,246.58 and approval of financial reports for general, water and sewer as printed. Motion carried. Motion by Angie, second by Laurie, to hold the Caucus on Monday, January 16, 2023, beginning at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried. Motion by Jim, second by Angie, to approve a five percent (5%) increase in wages for Village employees in 2023. Motion carried. Motion by Angie, second by Mark, to accept the resignation of Mary Piechowski as Deputy Clerk effective April 28, 2023 and post the job opening as soon as possible. Motion carried.

The Board moved up SEWER, WATER AND STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DITCHES agenda items to now so Matt could leave the meeting early.

SEWER, WATER – Project updates were given. Motion by Matt, second by Mark, to approve the additional \$250.00 for the emergency repair by Egbert Excavating for a total of \$5,250.00. Motion

carried. Matt completed his first semester towards an associates degree. Motion by Matt, second by Mark, to approve the Independent Contract with Glen McCarty for 2023. Motion carried. It was reported that Redgranite has a lower water rate compared to surrounding areas. Motion by Matt, second by Laurie, to apply for a change in the public fire protection through the PSC PPF Docket. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Sandy Lyles wondered how many non-water customers are in the Village and it was estimated to be about 173. Mike Caswell wondered if the change in the public fire protection being on customer bills, does it lower the ISO rating insurance companies use for charging their customers and Glen said because the hydrants were replaced, it lowers the ISO rating. Christine Hager was concerned that depending on how the billing was done, the Village would lose some tax levy monies and it was clarified that if the Village charged for garbage pickup, the tax levy would be reduced. Dan Yahr wondered how often the charge would be billed and how much the charge will be on the quarterly utility bills and Glen stated about \$22.00 to \$28.00 per quarter. A question was raised if the taxpayers are still going to be paying the public fire protection on their tax bills also. By putting it on the utility bills, it is removed from the general fund budget and the monies which were used for the fire protection has been allocated in other areas of the general fund. Motion by Matt, second by Mark, to assess both water and non-water customers the public fire protection fee. Motion carried. Motion by Matt, second by Mark, to approve Resolution 2022-09, Directing the Water Utility to Change the Method it Uses to Compute the Public Fire Protection Fees to the Meter Size Method for 100% of the Charges. Motion carried.

STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DITCHES – The monthly public works department update was presented to the Board. The ice rink has been set up, weather conditions must be right before it can be filled and hopefully will be filled in January.

MACHINERY, GARBAGE, ORDINANCES – None

MUNICIPAL BUILDING – Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. The library director stated other library employees do have coverage under a municipality and the library budget would cover the additional costs. Motion by Gina, second by Mark, to send the request for the librarian to take out health insurance under the Village plan and join the Wisconsin Retirement System to the Village attorney for his opinion. Motion carried.

PARKS, CEMETERY – None

POLICE, FIRE – Kyle gave an update on the Redgranite Area Fire District – truck 402 (1982) failed the pump test and will need to be replaced at an estimated cost of approximately a million dollars with a 24-48 month time frame to build the truck, Gina volunteered to be the Village representative to the District Board if the president is not able to attend a meeting. He reminded the Board that as of January 1, 2023, the District will begin charging \$25.00 per rescue call within the Village on a quarterly basis. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Ellen Caswell feels the municipalities where the Preston Place residents came from should be responsible to pay for their rescue calls and this suggestion will be put on the next board meeting agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve an Operator's License for Aleia Hansen (Sanicker's Pub). Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to allow the public to speak. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Laurie, to approve the

request of Theresa Sahotsky to keep three (3) dogs, one of which is an emotional support dog, at her residence, 404 Horne Street, with conditions there are no complaints from neighbors about the dogs, they are not running loose and they are current with their rabies shots. Motion carried. Attorney Sondalle is working with the surveyor to point out where the property lines are located to determine if the fence is now located on the property at 421 E Bannerman Ave. Motion by Mark, second by Jim, to issue a raze order for 404 E Bannerman Ave. Motion carried.

Agenda Items to be Placed on Next Regular Board Meeting Agenda – None

Motion by Mark, second by Jim, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Groskreutz
Village Clerk