

**VILLAGE OF FALL RIVER  
BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, March 13, 2024 ~ 6:00 PM**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Village has received a petition to rezone a property in the Village. Jeremy Meierdirk requests that Lot 24 of the Sunset Hills Second Addition be rezoned from R3 Multi-Family Residential to R2Z – Two Family Zero Lot Line Residential. This hearing is to hear comments from the Public. The rezoning ordinance is to be on the agenda following the public hearing.

President Slotten called the Public Hearing to order.

Trustee present: Ninmann, Robbins, Gould, Dykstra. Absent: Pawlisch, and Birr (arrived @ 6:18)  
Village representatives: Julius Weisensel (DPW), Marie Abegglen (C-T), Kenny Beal (C-T), Ron Spurbeck (PD).

Guests: Matt Remus, Jeremy Meierdirk, Brent Van Gysel.

President Slotten provided information on the rezoning request from Jeremy Meierdirk. The area is predominantly either duplex or multi family residential. This request is moving to a lower density. The hearing was open to the public for comments. No comments were received. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Gould to close the Public Hearing. All Member present – aye – motion carried.

**AGENDA**

**(Agenda is subject to change, Items are for discussion and possible approval)**

**President Slotten called the meeting to order.**

**Approve Agenda** – President Slotten suggested moving to a Closed Session at the end of the meeting to discuss the candidates for the Public Works position per WI. Stat. 19.85(1)(c). The Board will not reconvene to Open Session. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Gould and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to approve the agenda with the addition of a Closed Session at the end of the agenda per WI. Stat. 19.85(1)(c). All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**ENGINEERING/ATTORNEY/FINANCIAL ADVISOR**

**Draft CSM from Jeremy Meierdirk for Lot 24, Sunset Hills Second Addition** – The standard easements and language will need to be added to the final CSM. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Robbins and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to approve the Draft CSM. All Member presents – aye – motion carried. The covenants will also need to be provided. President Slotten conveyed to Meierdirk and Van Gysel that the sidewalk will need to be completed and they will have to figure out how to go around the power line tower base.

**Amend the Zoning Map of the Village of Fall River by Ordinance 13-1-240, Lot 24, Sunset Hills Second Addition, Parcel 11126 272.024, from R3 Multi-Family Residential to R2Z Two Family Zero Lot Line Residential.** A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Gould to approve the amendment to the zoning map and Ordinance 13-1-240 (240313). All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**Designate Julius Weisensel as Interim Department of Public Works (DPW) Director** – Interviews were held last night. Julius is more open to accepting the Director position depending on the help he may receive. Until then there may be a need for someone to take on the position of director. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Gould to designate Julius

Weisensel as the Interim Director of Public Works until a full-time position is filled. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**Request from Brent Van Gysel to put a well on his property at 337 Prairie Street** – Brent does not plan to hook up the well to his house or his shed. He wants to maintain the level of his pond. The well would be dug to 100 feet. He is planning to grow fruit trees for himself and needs irrigation and try to attract more wildlife. Sara Johnon has given him permission to put a well on her property in Fountain Prairie. He said his proposal was the same as the last time he approached the Board. In general, once a community provides its residents with a source of water, wells are not allowed. It can be a potential source of contamination. Brent said the DNR said that is not true. Brent said the Village is the only one stopping him from doing it. The DNR does not care. Julius would like to talk to Sophia (our DNR Water representative). Trustee Birr is concerned that others may want to put a well on their property also. Brent has asked those that have a well whether they test them. Trustee Gould would like more information. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Dykstra to table this until more information can be received. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**Recommendation from Judiciary Committee on hiring for DPW** – This will be discussed in Closed Session.

**Inventory Small Bridges and Culverts in the Village Limits** – The State has a program to inventory small bridges and culverts. One option is to have Columbia County collect the information. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Birr and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to have Columbia County do the inventory for an amount not to exceed \$2,500. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

Julius reported that he has been very busy. He is trying to check off a few things from his list every day. He has community service help for 4 hours in the morning. It has been a big help. The landscaping project for the Village Hall building could be put on hold if necessary to help with the budget. There are still issues with the gas supply at the Kane Street Well. The Sewer budget included upgrading the Church Street lift Station to modern standards. We should budget to do one lift station or well every year. Trustee Dykstra questioned why all of a sudden there is overtime on the weekends. President Slotten replied that it is not all of a sudden. It has been like that for many years. Trustee Dykstra has received calls from residents that the DPW should be working all day. They should not come in at 5 – 5:30 and leave by 2 – 2:30.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Monthly Report** – The PD has been very busy. They have been attending a few training courses. He is looking into dealers for a new squad next year. There is an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The two new officers are doing well. Lexipol is a useful tool. The Dodge Durango was taken to the Dodge dealer in Beaver Dam. The repairs are \$3,100.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Judiciary Committee Recommendation of Changes to the Employee Handbook** – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Gould and seconded by Trustee Birr to approve the recommended changes to the Vacation Policy. All Members present – aye – motion carried. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Birr and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to strike the last sentence of the Sick Time Policy. All Members present – aye – motion carried. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Birr and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to approve the on-call compensation as presented. All Members present – aye – motion carried. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Birr to approve the change to personal days from 3 days to 24 hours. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**Bartender Applications: Sara Shields, Alexis King** – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Robbins to approve the bartender applications on file. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

## **MINUTES, BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Minutes from 02/14/24** – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Robbins and seconded by Trustee Gould to approve the minutes from 02/14/24. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**Bills for Payment** – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Gould to approve the bills for payment except for the United Electric as the work is not completed. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**Financial Report from February 2024** – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Birr and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to approve the Financial Report as presented. All Members present – aye – motion carried.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT** – The ECCJMC may be able to move the office and court to Wyocena. They have a very nice office available and enough room to hold court. The Clean-up Day is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>. The location is still up in the air.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Reminders:**

**April 2 Election**

**June 1<sup>st</sup> Clean Up Day**

**July 18<sup>th</sup> Concert In The Park**

**ADJOURNMENT** – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Dykstra to adjourn and convene to Closed Session per WI Stat 19.85(1)(c). All Members present – aye – motion carried.