

## MINUTES OF THE ALBANY VILLAGE BOARD

April 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the Albany Village Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Albany Village Hall by President Kim Blumer. Members present were: Blumer, Eileen Althaus, Fred Johnson, Bert Hefty, Michelle Monson, Tonya Stephan, and Larry Nipple. Also present were: Robert Ritter, Lonnie Gill, Danny Mueller, and Scott Sowl.

The Pledge of Allegiance was shared.

Proof of posting was verified.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Stephan, seconded by Hefty to approve the agenda as posted. Carried.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2021 meeting as printed. Carried.

**PRESIDENT'S MOMENT:** Nothing at this time.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES:** There were none.

**LIBRARY UPDATE:** Althaus reported that they will be starting to redo the roof at the Albertson Memorial Library to be able to install the solar panels this week.

**OATH OF OFFICE:** Keepers gave the Oath of Office to the recently reelected members of the village board. They are: Kim Blumer, Eileen Althaus, Michelle Monson, and Larry Nipple.

**DAM SAFETY:** Mueller explained that he met with the person who is going to be giving them their river rescue training and they discussed the safety needs of the village's dam. The need is to have two secure poles (possible I beams) – one on each side of the river – that a cable can be attached to so that the rescuers can attach to them. Some discussion was held on possibilities to bury the poles and where or how to do it. Sowl suggested contacting the school to see when all of the equipment is coming to our village to take down the old school building, as we may be able to schedule at the same time to save costs. Gill will speak with Kramer brothers to see what the cost would be and to check with the school on the timing of their planned work. Also would need to speak with the DNR.

**MEDIATION:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to hire Trisha Huizenga as mediator with the fire department and EMS. Carried.

**EMERGENCY RIVER ACCESS:** Blumer suggested that we look into gaining access to the river below the dam. He suggested that we see about East Nichols Street being opened up near the lift station but closed off except for emergency situations. This would need to be gated and labeled. Also, need to confirm with the DNR.

Sowl suggested putting some type of surcharge on the users of tubes on the river in the amount of \$4 each. Then the village could use this money to pay to the EMS, AFD, and APD for all of their additional work and time involved with rescues of people on the river. Also, there could possibly be enough funds in the future from this collection that could help toward building some nice bathrooms at the Bowman Park along with a counter where organizations could sell food to make money. Several suggestions on how this could be done were discussed.

It was also suggested that the village purchase wheel locks to put on illegally parked cars. They will need to make arrangements to pay before the locks would be removed. Ritter will gather more information on this.

It was reported that the village crew will need to mark off more no parking areas on South Mill Street due to more and more people parking on that street in the summer.

**MEMORIAL DAY FESTIVITIES:** Keepers has received word that the Chamber of Commerce is planning on having their regular parade on Saturday afternoon on Memorial Day weekend. The school is going to have Reuben’s Run in the morning, the C of C is hoping for the kid’s tractor pull after that, and then the parade. There will be no Friday night street dance. Sowl is planning to have some new events on that day, too. In the meantime, a motion was made by Monson and seconded by Stephan to close down the streets necessary for the parade, and for North Water Street on Saturday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Carried.

**GREEN COUNTY SPLASHPAD:** Keepers reported on a letter received from the Green County Leaders reporting that they are striving to receive enough money to purchase a Splashpad at the Twining Park in Monroe that would be able to be used by all of Green County youth. They are still in need of approximately \$70,000 to make this happen and are looking for more donations. No action taken.

**GARBAGE BAGS:** Keepers reported that we are getting low on the larger sized yellow garbage bags. Since there may be some differences in the recycling program, do we want to purchase more? Motion by Monson, seconded by Johnson to not purchase new yellow bags at this time. Carried

**FENCE PLAN APPROVAL:** Motion by Stephan, seconded by Nipple to approve the fence plan for David and Samantha Venden for their property located at 202 North Mechanic Street as presented. Carried.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN:** Keepers explained that there is the possibility of some funding coming to the village through the American Rescue Plan. It is restricted as to what it can be used for, but it may be able to help with some utility work.

**IVY LANE 2018 PERSONAL PROPERTY INTEREST:** Keepers explained that Ivy Lane’s (Albany Oaks) Personal property tax did not get paid from 2018 as there were some staff changes that caused some items to not get taken care of. The owner has since paid the actual Personal Property tax, but is asking if it would be possible to get the interest amounts waived. Motion by Althaus, seconded by Monson to remove the amounts of the 2019 interest (\$42.77), the 2020 interest (\$51.13), and the 2021 interest (\$9.45) – totaling \$103.35. Carried.

**COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION:** The following Committee and Commission reports were acted on and filed:

Building, Grounds, Cemetery	3-09-21
Police, Fire, and License	3-23-21
Plans	4-01-21
Street and Utility	4-05-21

**CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT:** Motion by Blumer, seconded by Monson to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Flora Conley to run her Buttermere Bakery at her home located at 604 Sixth Street. Carried.

**BUSINESS LICENSE:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to approve the annual Business License for local businesses at an annual cost of \$20/year. Carried. Term to be the same as alcohol licenses.

**FACILITY PLAN:** Motion by Nipple, seconded by Althaus to accept plan “B” which is the total overall lowest cost and involves the trading partners, Riemer Family Farms. Carried.

**WDNR FUNDING FOR PHOSPHORUS UPGRADE:** Motion by Nipple, seconded by Blumer to have Mead and Hunt submit the proposal to the DNR as soon as possible for the funding for the phosphorus upgrade. Carried.

**WATER METER ENDPOINT INFORMATION:** Motion by Nipple, seconded by Althaus to approve the purchase of \$27,000 worth of endpoints to change out our endpoints of the water meters in the village. Keepers will investigate funding through the State of Wisconsin for this, as it is a necessity. Carried.

**RESOLUTION 01-21 REGARDING SEWER RATE INCREASE:** Motion by Nipple, seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution 01-21 approving a 12% sewer rate increase effective 6-20-21. Carried with Hefty voting no.

**BACKHOE REPLACEMENT:** The purchasing of a new backhoe will be tabled at this time.

**BILLS:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Althaus to approve the bills as presented. Carried.

**FUTURE ITEMS:** Keepers shared a copy of a Notice of Termination of Agreement for Utilization of Village of Albany Recycling Center that we received today from the Town of Albany. They are giving their 90 day notice to terminate the agreement effective on July 15, 2021. Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to hire the attorney to write up an annulment of the agreement between the village and township and to make note in there that they will pay for 2 recycling dumpsters and 50% of the cost for brush grinding. Carried. We will also need to come up with a figure for the village to buy out the township’s share of the skid steer.

Gill reported that he received notice that the summer park caretaker that we have had work for us for the past several years is not going to be able to work with us this year. We will advertise.

Keepers reminded that the board meeting for open discussion on garbage pick up is next week and we need to decide how to handle the timing of the open discussion. It was decided to have everyone sign in as they come in and then each will be given two minutes to speak. Blumer will need to explain the way that it will be handled at the beginning of the meeting. Also, to explain that if your comment has already be made, then please pass.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to adjourn. Carried.

8:30 p.m.

LAURIE K. KEEPERS, Clerk