

VILLAGE OF WESTON, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 4, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Board of Trustees Meeting called to order by President Sparks**
Sparks called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call by Clerk**

Ermeling, Barb	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Sparks, Wally	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments.

BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

4. **Nomination and Appointment of Vice President**

Motion by Sparks second by Fiene to nominate Maloney for Vice President.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

Motion by White second by Ermeling to nominate Xiong for Vice President.

Yes Vote: 3 No Votes:4 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Denied

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	NO
White, Loren	YES

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Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	NO
Maloney, Mark	NO
Xiong, Yee	NO
Fiene, Nate	YES

5. All other Appointment and Terms

Motion by Maloney second by Fiene to approve the May 2020 appointments.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

Motion by Maloney second by Fiene to amend the original motion and exclude Nick Hemauer from Zoning Board of Appeals.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

All in favor of original motion as amended.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES

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Donner said he worked with Quarles and Brady on a resolution and development agreement for Eau Claire River LLC.

Donner reported the Public Works Department has been busy with flushing.

Ermeling recognized staff members Tony Skrzypchak and Forrest Blarek for their nice work on the Hunt Street landscaping.

20. Clerks

Weinkauff gave an election update.

21. Finance

Trautman said the final audit for both the Village and Everest Metro should be complete by the end of the week.

22. Fire/EMS

No comments.

23. Parks & Recreation

• **Aquatic Center Season Planning**

Osterbrink said a decision needs to be made on the opening of the Aquatic Center. He has been in meetings continuously with Marathon County, other area municipalities, and the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association discussing what to do moving forward. Information changes daily. Things he has heard include requiring Aquatic Center patrons and staff to wear a mask. Requesting patrons to provide their name and contact information in case there is an outbreak. The pool itself is safe. The virus does not live in water. There will have to be extra cleaning. Social distancing measures will have to be continued and that will bring the pool capacity down. Wausau has delayed their decision until June 2nd. It's looking like Phase 1, of the Bounce Back Plan, will not be reached until late May or early June and this phase includes only 10 person gatherings. Phase 2 includes gatherings of 50 people. Most facilities plan to open if we reach Phase 2. He said this may not be financially feasible for the Village. Season passes would also have to be eliminated. Rothchild and Schofield are leaning toward not opening. White said he is concerned with staff trying to enforce social distancing. Sparks asked about the lifeguards. Osterbrink said some are looking for different jobs. Xiong said it may be chaotic to manage if we open. Fiene has the same concerns. There was a short discussion on the Aquatic Center costs. Donner said it does not make sense to open up with only 50 people allowed. Maloney said he would like to see the Aquatic Center open. Sparks would like to talk about this again at the next meeting. He said opening will impact the budget. We may not have lifeguards when we open. Osterbrink said there is still no agreement in place with the YMCA. They are still willing to move forward with staffing the Aquatic Center. There was also a short discussion on keeping the Aquatic Center open through the middle of September. Xiong

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would like to see us stay consistent with Rothschild. Ermeling said July 1st might be the earliest we could open. She said financially the Village can't afford this and it's not the safest thing to do. White has concerns about liability as it relates to someone getting the virus while at the Aquatic Center. The Board members will make a decision at the next meeting. Osterbrink said the opening will then be delayed two weeks.

24. Plan/Dev

Higgins said there will be a Plan Commission meeting on Monday. There will also be a public hearing. She said the department has been busy reviewing site plans.

25. Police

Sparks said the Police Commission will conduct applicant interviews at their meeting this coming Wednesday.

26. Public Works

Wodalski reported the yard waste pickup began today. The watermain flushing also started today. Bids are due Wednesday for street maintenance projects.

27. Technology

No comments.

WORK PRODUCT TRANSMITTALS

28. December 2019 Budget Status Report

- **2019 Draft Fund Financial Statements**

Motion by Ermeling second by Fiene to acknowledge.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

29. March 2020 Budget Status Report

Motion by Maloney second by White to acknowledge.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

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Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

CONSENT AGENDA

30. Requests to pull items out of consent consideration
31. Approve Vouchers – 52327-52349, 52370-52389 (payroll), 52390-52425 and 90029.
32. Acknowledge May Health Insurance premium reduction for both the employer and employee
33. Action on consent agenda items

Motion by Ziegler second by Maloney to approve and acknowledge items #31 and #32.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

ORDINANCES

No comments.

RESOLUTIONS

34. Resolution No. 2020-005 amending the Village Fee Schedule for the renewal liquor license fees for the 2020-2021 license year

Weinkauf referenced a spreadsheet where she provided some options for the Board to consider.

Motion by Maloney second by Xiong to approve Resolution No. 2020-005 and reduce the liquor license fees by 50%.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
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Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

35. Resolution No. 2020-006 to provide tax increment finance assistance to Eau Claire River, LLC, for building and site improvements at 7315 Zinser Street

Sparks said this would be the first application for TIF funds released through the new model and based off of TIF increment. Funds will not be given up front. The process has changed and is now fair and consistent. There was a short discussion on the application process and zoning. Donner said Eau Claire River, LLC is not asking for 100%. They will be allowed to create the increment over a 10-year period. The total maximum grant amount is \$275,000.

Motion by Xiong second by Maloney to approve Resolution No. 2020-006. Q/Donner said there were a couple minor changes made on the second page. A revised copy was given to the Board members.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

NEW BUSINESS

36. 2020 billable rates

Motion by Fiene second by Xiong to approve the 2020 billable rates.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES

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Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

37. Engineering Design Contract for Watermain Replacements on Frontage Road and Evergreen Road in Rothschild

Motion by Maloney second by Fiene to approve the Engineering Design Contract for Watermain Replacements on Frontage Road and Evergreen Road in Rothschild.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES

38. Social Media Code of Conduct Discussion

Sparks asked for this item to be put on the agenda. He said there are some Facebook sites being managed by Village Trustees and he wants to make sure everyone is on the same page. There should be a policy for this. There should be someone with the Village that is designated to post on behalf of the Village. Xiong said he does not engage in discussions on Facebook but does post Village information. He may also post why he voted a certain way for an agenda item. He said if an elected official uses a social media platform, they need to be aware of the consequences and behave in a well manner. Attorney Yde said there is no state statute that governs this, but there is an informal attorney general opinion that talks about whether you can have a social media site, and if it's a public record. It also talks about the concerns for a potential walking quorum. If a decision is made at a public meeting, and an elected official provides information outside of the public meeting there may be a conflict of interest. You don't want to get engaged with people and talk about issues that may come before you. The Village may want to have a written policy in place. Ermeling said board members should be careful with expressing their opinions outside of meetings. Xiong said it should be up to individual to be responsible as an elected official and to be aware of the potential consequences. Fiene agrees. There was a short discussion on walking quorums. Maloney said it should be up to the individual. Yde said there does not need to be a policy but suggests using best practices. Xiong said this was a great discussion. Sparks feels the Village should still formalize a policy on how we disseminate information out to the public. Ziegler and Sparks would like to see this item go before the Human Resources Committee for discussion. Yde recommended putting a Disclaimer on any

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Trustee Facebook page to include any comments made are not village sponsored. Xiong asked about posting explanations on why he voted a certain way. Yde said there is no law that says he can't do that.

REMARKS FROM TRUSTEES

White asked for a closed session to be put on the next agenda per Section 54.102 relating to a Village official being allowed to carry a weapon or firearm in all Village owned buildings.

Xiong welcomed White back to the Board. He also thanked Village staff and law enforcement for all their hard work during this pandemic.

REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sparks would like to see businesses open soon.

FUTURE ITEMS

Next meeting date(s):

- May 18, 2020, Board of Trustees Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- June 1, 2020, Board of Trustees Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Motion by Xiong second by Maloney to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Yes Vote: 7 No Votes:0 Abstain:0 Not Voting: 0 Result: Pass

Trustee	Voting
Sparks, Wally	YES
White, Loren	YES
Ermeling, Barb	YES
Ziegler, Jon	YES
Maloney, Mark	YES
Xiong, Yee	YES
Fiene, Nate	YES