



VILLAGE OF HEWITT BOARD MINUTES – March 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Eilers.

PRESENT: Ken Eilers, Dan Sova, Kris Hawley, Scott Wunrow, Steve Uthmeier and Marlene Stueland

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Janet Weiler (Secretary, Hewitt Area Fire Commission); Alan Schiferl, Jeff Graves, Brian Hopperdietzel, Brian Hafferman, Roger Meyer, Officer J. Hiller, Mike Pahl

A motion to approve the minutes by Scott, second by Kris for the Regular Board Meeting held February 9, 2010 carried.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC: None

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUES: No issues.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Hewitt Area Fire Commission:

- Approval of Bills: A motion by Scott second by Dan to approve the monthly bills carried.
- NIMS Training: Mandatory training for Board members will be held March 18, 25, & 30; sessions will be held at the Hewitt Village Hall.
- Other: Chief Hopperdietzel inquired whether the Board would consider assessing a charge for fire services to churches located in the Village. Limited discussion was held with a notation to add this topic to the agenda.
- Chief Hopperdietzel announced that the Fire Department received a FEMA grant although a reduced amount (\$125,000) from what was requested. Quotes have been sent out to various entities to obtain estimated costs. A Special Commission meeting may need to be held to discuss options; Ken requested that information pertaining to the quotes and options be sent in advance to Commission members in order that materials can be reviewed prior to a meeting.
- The annual Fire Department soup dinner fundraiser will be held April 11th.

Sanitary Utility:

- Sanitary Commissioner Report & Monthly Maintenance Report: The monthly maintenance report prepared by Reigel's Plumbing was reviewed. Lift Station #4 experienced a breaker that tripped; Steve has continued to monitor the lift station with no subsequent problems noted. Steve has restocked the Sanitary "parts box".
- Ray's Electric billing deferment request: A motion by Dan, second by Scott to grant a sewer & garbage billing deferment to Ray's Electric until March 15, 2010 carried.

Recreation Department:

- 2010 Summer Softball Program: Sponsor forms have been mailed out; registration forms are out and available. New bleachers have been assembled.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION: Balances as of 2/28/10:

Sanitary	\$(4,816.76)
Village	\$38,243.71
Parks	\$ 9,451.22
Trails	\$10,424.34
Total Checking	\$53,302.51

- A motion was made by Steve with second by Scott to approve the Village & Sanitary Utility Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

- *A motion by Kris, second by Scott to pay the bills of the month was made; motion carried.*
- *A motion by Scott, second by Steve to approve the Real estate Treasurer's report was made; motion carried.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Roads:
 - *Kris reported the road weight limits had been put up.*
 - *Banners will be put up in the near future.*
 - *Pot hole patching will be resume in the next several week*
 - *Main Street will be swept in April.*
 - *Kris continues to monitor Main Street lights and is checking to see if there are more efficient light bulbs that can be purchased to be used as needed for replacement purposes.*
- Grounds & Maintenance:
 - *Several heating panels in the Village Hall do not work; a quote of \$675 from A-OK Electric was presented which included replacing two panels plus labor was approved on a motion by Scott, second by Dan.*
 - *The Village Hall will be scheduled to have the floors waxed in late April; Dan will also paint the interior walls of the hall this spring.*
 - *The Rental agreement form updates for the Village Hall & Yellowstone Park were reviewed and accepted as presented. Marlene will have the forms printed.*
 - *An agreement with Town & Country Lawn & Landscape will be renewed for the 2010 mowing season on a motion by Scott, second by Kris; motion carried.*
- Emergency Government: *No report.*
- Parks Committee: *The committee continues its planning for 2010 summer projects; it is anticipated that the lighting for Strupp Trail will be installed by the end of April*
- Trails Committee: *The committee will be reviewing the trail section that is planned for 2010 to make a determination of what needs to be done; once that determination has been completed, bids for project work will go out.*
- Animal Control Officer Report: *Dan reported that he had followed-up on outstanding dog ordinance violations and made a motion for consideration to reduce a recent levied fine to a resident for two dogs running at large to one dog running at large; motion second by Scott. Roll Call Vote: Dan YES, Scott YES, Steve YES, Kris YES; motion carried. Dan will inform the resident of the reduced fine.*
- Planning Committee:
 - *The Planning Committee met on February 18th with Jason Grueneberg, Wood County Planning & Zoning. Mr. Grueneberg gave an overview of the Smart Growth Planning requirements including various options open to the Committee to explore in making a determination how to proceed with completing this requirement.*
 - *Members of the Village's Planning committee met March 2, 2010. Mr. Ted Powell, Aquifer Science & Technology, representative presented a proposal for obtaining sought after information on the Village's water resources. The committee re-visited the Village parking issue designing a recommendation to be brought to the Village board.*
 - *On behalf of the Planning Committee, Kris made a motion to disallow parking on the even house numbered sides of ALL Village streets with the exception of Yellowstone Drive which would have NO parking on either side with signage to be implemented in phases and to be completed by 2012 (second by Steve). Discussion highlights included:*
 - *Scott agreed with recommendation recognizing that Yellowstone Drive is too narrow for agricultural and emergency vehicles to navigate if cars are parked on the street.*
 - *Jeff Graves, Planning Committee member, provided board members background on the committee's research and discussion resulting in their recommendation. Jeff asked for the Board's acknowledgement of the existing problem. Dan expressed that he did not believe there was a problem as he had not witnessed any situation in which parking on both sides of the street would pose a difficulty or detrimental situation. Dan expressed that there was room on some streets for parking if cars pulled off on the grass/shoulder.*

- *Fire Department personnel expressed support for the recommendation stating concerns for getting emergency vehicles through on village streets if parking continued to be allowed on both sides noting even greater concerns for such attempts during the night due to decreased visibility resulting in a potential disastrous outcome.*
- *Kris inquired whether there is liability exposure for the Village since this issue has been brought to the Board's attention if no action is taken.*
- *Officer J. Hiller commented that he agreed with the recommendation from an emergency consideration and that the Board should not wait until there is an incident to take action, but to take action now before an incident. As a resident Officer Hiller commented that limiting parking to one side of the street would not have a negative impact on him.*
- *Scott inquired whether imposing NO parking on Yellowstone would have any disadvantages to residents living along this street. Jeff Graves responded that as a resident who lives on this street that he believes the advantages (safer for pedestrians and bicyclists) will far outweigh the disadvantages and as for himself, he sees no disadvantage.*
- *Roll Call Vote on motion: Kris – YES, Steve – YES, Dan – NO, Scott – YES. Motion passed*
- *The affected Ordinance will be updated to reflect these changes with appropriate required readings.*

OLD BUSINESS:

- ◆ None

NEW BUSINESS:

- ◆ Village 20 acre property disposition: *The Board has been contacted whether there would be an interest to provide an easement or sell the 20 acre wooded parcel on the southwest side of the Village. This property was purchased many years ago to hold in reserve for possible sanitary expansion. Since that time, the property has been determined to be wetland which limits the property's use. Board members discussed at length options including providing an easement to an interested party, selling the property or maintaining ownership a motion by Steve, second by Scott to sell the property was made. Roll Call Vote: Scott – YES; Dan – YES; Steve – NO; Kris – NO. President Eilers broke the tie by Casting a YES vote; motion carried. Tasks needed to be completed are: property needs to be Appraised and surveyed. Ken will check whether there is potential for logging revenues before the Property is sold. Marlene will seek information on an attorney to represent the Village through the Sale process.*
- ◆ Open Book & Board of Review: *May 17 at 6 – 8 PM will be Open Book and the Board of Review will be held on May 20 6 – 8 PM; both sessions will be held at the Village Hall.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

- *The Correspondence File was passed around for Board review.*

FUTURE MEETINGS:

- ◆ *Planning Committee – March 23, 2010 – 7 PM – Village Hall*
- *Village Board Meeting – Tuesday – April 13, 2010 – 7 PM – Village Hall*

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM

Submitted by: *Marlene Stueland, Clerk*