

Public Information Hearing on Proposed Village Projects (Well/Sewer Upgrades)

Called to order: 18:33 (6:33 pm.)

Those in attendance: President Hakanson, Trustee Milune, Trustee Martin, Don Knutson Clerk/Treasurer, Rand Bates Public works, John William Enforcement Officer, Tyler Hastings CBS2, Kayla Kasmerski, Travis Blodgett, Leonette Marten, Mercedes Koenig,

Proof of Posting: Clerk Knutson stated meeting was published in the Glen Wood Press Reporter newspaper Jan 31, 2024, issue, Posted at The U.S. Post Office in wheeler, Bridge stop gas station in Wheeler and the Village Hall. (see attached).

Funding Sources: Short Term Loan, CBDG \$1,000,000.00, USDA (requires matching funds) (\$500,000.00) PSC will require rate increases to secure funding for loans, hoping to qualify for 50-75% match. Funding order usually is loans than grants. The Village is working with Ehlers Financial Consulting Group to draft the best application to secure funding with the least financial impact.

Order of Projects by need and possible timeline:

1. Well #2 (new well, (behind left field fence) with pump and pumphouse, electronic monitoring capabilities. Bids for test well have been let out.
2. Lift station – every customer in the Village of Wheeler uses this lift station to move waste to the sewer plant. Upgrade pumps for dependability and efficiency as well as monitoring. Increase Safety of the Lift Station.
3. Activate seepage cell at the sewer plant, (This looks as if it was 80% completed but never used). This would eliminate river discharge and ease some of the compliance requirements.

Timeline:

- A. Finalize USDA Financing Paperwork with Ehlers.
- B. PSC Rate Study with Ehlers.
- C. Once Financing Secured move ahead with:
 - a. Well Project.
 - b. Lift Station Project.

c. Sewer Plant Upgrade.

Public Comments:

1. How much could the Water bills go up?
 - a. Possibly up to 80% increase, that is why the Village is working with Ehlers Municipal Financing Experts to try to keep the increase to the smallest amount possible.
2. That is going to be a hard sell considering we have high water rates already!
 - a. Again, the Village is trying to mitigate rate increases, but years of not maintaining the system comes with a cost.
3. People may have to drill wells and put sewer systems in!
 - a. There is a cost to that as well and available land requirements for wells and septic systems.

Closing thoughts:

There will be more public meetings in the future. The biggest hurdle will be to show the system can support itself to get the loans and grants. Because no one wants to repossess water or sewer system.

Public Meeting Ended at 18:48 (6:48 p.m.)

Meeting of the Regular Village Board Meeting of February 2024 was then called to order at 18:48 (6:48 p.m.) by President Hakanson.

Proof of Posting: Clerk Knutson again confirmed the meeting was posted at the US Post Office in Wheeler, the Bridgestop in Wheeler and at the Village Hall.

Roll Call: Trustee Milune Present, Trustee Martin present, President Hakanson present.

Others in Attendance: Don Knutson Clerk/Treasurer, Rand Bates Public works, John William Enforcement Officer, Kayla Kasmerski, Travis Blodgett, Leonette Marten, Mercedes Koenig,

Approval of Agenda: Motion Made By Trustee Marten, Seconds Trustee Milune to accept the agenda, Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes from the January Village Board Meeting, Special Board Meetings January 23, 2024, with CBS2 and February Special Board Meeting with Ehlers.: Correction of 2023 being 2024 Motion to accept the minutes with corrections Trustee Marten Second President Hakanson Motion carried.

Reports:

President Report/Comments:

Dollar General is progressing perk testing, (Mound System)

Audit update Sara the auditor is finishing up the 2022 audit her work is now being audited higher up and then 2023 audit will begin.

Treasurers Report:

Motion to Accept Treasures Report Rob second Ryan Motion carried. (see attached)

Clerks Report:

Web Site received a grant (Jan 31, deadline) that funded the building of the website. On caveat is we had to change our emails to end with vi.wheeler.wi.gov

We are working hard to get online payments available by March 1st or shortly thereafter.

Don thanked Rand and Ron for working to make the Village Hall more functional with a minor remodel.

The office will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays 15, 21, and 28 because Don has Lenten services to administer.

A rental agreement has been created.

An emergency response plan was presented for review.

Maintenance Report:

First Reports of the Year

Remodel progress and asked to finish the whole North wall.

Vehicle repairs Rand got both vehicles started with new batteries.

Rand will look through an old three ring binder and see if anything will help our current project in regards of seepage cell monitoring wells etc.

The storm siren is being looked at Friday to see what repairs are being needed.

Compliance Reports:

Evergreen Dog Complaint are licensed (kennel license)

Evergreen is cleaning property until April 1.

Dan from Rapids housing was contacted about a debris pile.

Burning Permit Questions. Don advised he his working a burning permit system.

***answers found after meeting: There is no burning by Village ordinance in mobile home parks: Meaning no outside fires on Evergreen or South Hillside Dr. grills for cooking only. And all fire pits need to be 50 feet from wood, fences buildings or combustibles. ***

John asked on status of small claims citations, Don was asked to contact the lawyer and see.

Building Inspector Report:

No January Permits or inspections.

Colfax Rescue Report.

See attached:

Qtrly. Humane Association Report

New business action Items:

Setting Reserve was not acted on for either vehicle.

Opened Bids:

International boom truck

Winning Bid: Kayla Kasmeiski \$1,200.00 other bids D.D. \$400.00, GC \$825.00, JW \$255.00. Motion to sell the boom truck as is, with payment received as cash/money order/or bank draft within seven days to Kayla Kasmeiski by Trustee Martin second by trustee Milune motion carried,

Ford Crown Vic:

Winning Bid Daniel Davis \$3,651.00, other bids JO \$1,779.00, KK \$700.00, JW \$505.00. Motion made to sell the Crown Vic as is, with payment received as cash/money order/ or bank draft to Daniel Davis with payment received in seven days. By Trustee Milune second by President Hakanson motion carried

Motion by President Hakanson second by Trustee Milune to accept govolution by Deluxe as our electronic payment company motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Milune second by President Hakanson to accept the rental agreement form. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None

Adjourn Motion by President Hakanson to adjourn second by Trustee Marten Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 19:37 (7:37 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted.

Donald R. Knutson Clerk Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report				
Feb-24				
General Acct	xxxx64	checking		\$ 244,572.77
Machinery Equip Outlay	xxxx63	savings		\$ 102.04
Industrial Sand	xxx988	savings		\$ 62,490.22
Water Reserve Loan	xxxx96	savings		\$ 58.10
Water Reserve Acct 2004	xxx99	savings		\$ 3,776.88
Wast Water Treatment Facility Replacement	xxxxx63	savings		\$ 1,932.68
Bond series 2004 Redemption	xxx69	savings		\$ 1,767.87
Community Action Club	xxxx99	savings		\$ 35,576.74
Wi Sand	xxxx15	cd		\$ 55,109.78
<u>equip replacement fund</u>	<u>xxx88</u>	<u>cd</u>		<u>\$ 3,187.13</u>
Total				\$ 408,574.21

draft unapproved

**VILLAGE HALL
105 W TOWER ROAD
WHEELER, WI 54772
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024
6:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME**

The Village of Wheeler will hold a Public Hearing at the above location and date/time for the proposed Water and Sanitary System Improvements Project. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to present the Village's plans for constructing a new well in a different location, upgrading the current well, replacing the existing lift station, and upgrading the wastewater treatment plant and gather public comment.

The agenda for the public hearing is:

1. Village of Wheeler plans for new well construction, current well upgrades, lift station replacement and wastewater treatment plant upgrades.

2. Public Input on proposed Water and Sanitary System Improvements Project.

3. Answer public questions regarding the project.

Residents of the Village of Wheeler are encouraged to attend. The meeting room is handicapped accessible.

Persons needing additional accommodations should contact Don Knutson, Village Clerk/Treasurer, via telephone at 715.632.2449, or via email: office@vi.wheeler.wi.gov

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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