



Village of Howards Grove Board Meeting
Tuesday July 19, 2022 @ 5:30 pm

Howards Grove Village Hall
913 S. Wisconsin Dr., Howards Grove, Wisconsin

Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM by President Plass
- II. **Verification of Meeting Duly Noticed and Roll Call:** The meeting was verified as duly noticed. Present were President Plass, Trustees Abler, Horness, Kriete and Pieper. DPW Director Welsing and Clerk Treasurer Komoroski. Absent were Trustees Meyer and Winter. Trustee Horness did need to leave the meeting early at 6:31 PM.
- III. **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes from June 21, 2022:** Motion was made by Trustee Horness to approve the meeting minutes from June 21, 2022. Seconded by Trustee Abler. NFD. Motion Carried.
- IV. **Public Comments and Correspondence**

Note: under Public Comment The public can comment on any topic, but state open meeting laws do not allow for any discussion or action to be taken on issues not listed on the agenda.

Public Comment is limited to 2 minutes per resident.

Lee Kunze addressed the Board with concerns about the purchase of the commercial parcels that NEBAT has offered to the Village to purchase due to the economic environment that we are in and how it relates to our budget. He also had a concern that there was not a public input meeting for the park improvements or for the ordinance change that was proposed last Fall.

Jeff Plass read one of the comments he received regarding the fireworks, he stated he has had several positive messages. There were also calls made to board members about the smell coming from the sewer plant.

Director Welsing commented that we may need to look at our Public Safety ordinances regarding e-bikes, scooters, etc. as we do not have anything currently outlined in our procedures on how we want to regulate.
- V. **Tim Feldmann would like to present to the parks committee on what the MRA did to the bathrooms down at the park:** Tim Feldmann shared with the Board an update to the bathroom remodel they did at the Lion's shelter at Riverside Park. He presented a spreadsheet of costs and asked if the Board if they would be willing to donate \$5,000 to the project. We will add this to the next finance and Board agendas.
- VI. **Discussion/Approval on the purchase option for NEBAT properties 732 and 733.** After a long discussion President Plass made a motion to decline the purchase the properties at anything over assessed value. There was not a second. Trustee Horness then made a motion to back out of the purchase of the NEBAT properties 732 and 733. Seconded by Trustee Abler. Vote was 4 Ayes; Trustees Abler, Horness, Kriete and Pieper and 1 Nay; President Plass. NFD. Motion carried. President Plass said he will contact the bank in the morning to tell them the Boards decision.



- VII. Discussion on ARPA federal Covid relief money:** There was a discussion on how we would like to use our ARPA funds we received. We recently received our second deposit of \$171,237.76 so now we have over 342K in this account. There are very strict guidelines on how, when, where, and why we use the money. There are also very stringent reporting requirements. Director Welsing and Clerk Komoroski said they would reach out to some of their contacts and report at a future meeting. It would be great if we were able to use the funds for the upcoming Millersville Road project.
- VIII. Update on cell tower lease:** President Plass gave an update on the company that leases the property the cell tower is on. It is important to remember that we receive revenue from leasing this land to the cell tower and we have been propositioned in the past to have an outside source purchase or take over the lease for X amount but that is not to our advantage long term. We did receive a permit application from DISH that they would like to add panels to the tower, this should increase our rental revenue by \$200 a month with a 4% annual increase.
- IX. Parks committee update regarding new playground equipment, etc.:** Director Welsing gave a brief report on where they are in the process. They received information from 3 vendors. The parks committee reviewed the information and would like to recommend to the board we use Burke Inc. They are local, they were not the lowest priced and they were not the highest price, the committee felt that what they had to offer aligns with what the Village is looking for. There was a motion made by Trustee Abler that per the recommendation of the Park Committee the Village works with Burke Inc. for the park design. The motion was seconded by Trustee Pieper. NFD. Motion carried.
- X. Discussion on future of Fishers Creek Park – Ryan Welsing:** Director Welsing gave us an update on the condition of the Fishers Creek woods and bridges. There are a few concerns; erosion, damage to the bridges and dead trees. To repair the bridges, it could cost around 30K to 40K per bridge. Also a lot of trees have been falling and this is creating a hazard to anyone using the trail. Right now it is the willow trees that have been falling but there is also extensive Ash damage. So the question is do we close the trail, do we clear cut, who does it, how do we pay for it. Director Welsing will contact the DNR and bring this before the Parks committees for their recommendations.
- XI. Discuss/Approve St. Paul’s Conditional Use for addition to existing building:** Planning Commission reviewed the addition that St. Paul’s and does not have any issues with the addition. Motion made by Trustee Abler to approve the Conditional Use permit for St. Paul’s addition to existing building. Seconded by President Plass Pieper. NFD. Motion carried.
- XII. Discuss/Approve Operator’s licenses:** Motion by President Plass to approve the operator’s license for Robert Michael Neil Glocke, Ignatius Constantine Carcara and Devin David Gardapee. Seconded by Trustee Pieper. NFD. Motion carried.
- XIII. Housekeeping update:** .gov emails, packet review prior to meeting, importance of responding if you are able or not able to make the meeting. Clerk Komoroski commented on the importance of reading the board packet before meetings and also responding if members are able to attend or not attend meetings. The .gov transfer should be completed, all .org emails will transfer to the .gov accounts.
- XIV. Financials:** Motion from Trustee Kriete to approve the Village and Sanitary Vouchers. Seconded by President Plass. NFD. Motion carried.
1. Village and Sanitary Vouchers
- XV. Public Meeting Notices**
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| 1. Finance Committee Mtg | August 16, 2022 @ 5:00 PM |
| 2. Village Board Regular Mtg | August 16, 2022 @ 5:30 PM |
| 3. Parks Committee Mts. | TBD |



XVI. Adjournment: Motion by Trustee Peiper to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Trustee Abler. NFD. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Submitted by: Mary J Komoroski, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: August 23, 2022