

**VILLAGE OF TURTLE LAKE BOARD MEETING
REGULAR MEETING PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 18, 2008**

The Village Board for the Village of Turtle Lake, Wisconsin held a regular meeting on Monday, February 18, 2008 at 6:30pm in Village Hall located at 114 Martin Avenue East, Turtle Lake, Wisconsin.

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Laurie Tarman called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Board members Tarman, Hall, Outcalt, Flottum, Merrill, Becker, and Pabst.

Absent: None.

Others Present: Village Administrator Bill Bell; Police Chief Al Gabe; Village Attorney John Schneider; Public Works Director Cory Davis; Sean Lentz of Ehlers & Associates; and Brian Akason of Energenecs.

REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Pabst and seconded by Becker to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administration – Administrator Bill Bell provided the Board with an administrative activity report highlighting the last month's work related to the Administrator, Clerk, and Treasurer positions. Bell commented on the recent election planning activities and stated that several staff members and election officials have gone through the Chief Election Inspector Training and should be ready to go for the next few elections. Bell also stated that the utility bills have been sent out for the 4th quarter and the industrial billing is also being sent out soon. There is upcoming training for the new treasurer in Madison related to the Civic software for accounts payable, payroll, utility billing, and general ledger, scheduled for February 28-29.

Legal – None.

Police – Police Chief Al Gabe provided his monthly police activity report to the Board mentioning that the Village has been quiet as of late but the rate of domestic disputes has risen due to the cold weather keeping people inside more than usual. Gabe also stated that he is working to renegotiate the payments for security checks at Sanmina-SCI in the near future and that he has received over 50 applications for the new patrol officer position that is to begin early May. The written exam will take place at the Barron County Justice Center in cooperation with the City of Rice Lake to save money on March 8th and interviews will take place toward the end of March.

Public Works – Public Works Director Cory Davis presented the Board with a monthly departmental report related to Streets, Water, and Sewer. Davis mentioned that the new electronic read meter system will be installed during the first week of March throughout the community, with each installation taking less than 15 minutes. Davis stated that the well drilling will not take place until later this spring due to inclement weather. Bell and Davis have been researching alternative locations for the new water tower, but no formal negotiations will take place until the item is placed on the March board agenda.

Davis mentioned some repairs to the sewer plant generator and Outcalt asked if the generator is being operated on a regular basis. Davis said that the full plant operates by generator one day per week. Bell and Davis have been working with the industries to resolve the waste water issues affecting the sewer treatment facility and the WI DNR has now gotten involved as well.

Ray Hall mentioned a recent meeting with the Barron County Highway Department to discuss their efforts to work with municipalities to help save money on local projects and asked if Bell could invite Duane Hebert and a representative from the Highway Dept to speak at a future board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 08-02 “Appointment of Village Treasurer” – It was moved by Hall and seconded by Becker to adopt resolution 08-02 appointing Linda Flottum as Treasurer for the Village of Turtle Lake.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Tarman, Hall, Merrill, Outcalt, Becker, Pabst. Nays – none. Abstain – Tom Flottum. Motion carried.

Personnel Committee Reorganization – It was moved by Tarman and seconded by Becker to replace Tom Flottum with Jeff Merrill on the Village Personnel Committee.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Interim Financing Proposal for Well and Water Tower Construction Projects – Sean Lentz of Ehlers & Associates presented the Board with several alternatives for short and long term financing options to fund the upcoming capital water projects. The State offers a Safe Drinking Water loan program with reasonable interest rates and the application is due by April 30th. Outcalt asked if there are heightened restrictions or excessive guidelines placed on the Village if we go with the State loan and Lentz said not really. Lentz also mentioned revenue bonding as an alternative that would be paid back via water utility revenues over time.

In the short term, the Village can pay the bills associated with the water project through a general obligation note or via a water utility bond anticipation note, which says that we will pay it back when we receive the long term loan in about a year.

Water Distribution Control System – Energenecs presented on the proposed water distribution control system additions that would include an automated system to monitor and track all operations of the Village wells and water tower, with a SCADA system to chart and document the usage and flow patterns at each location over time. This will help the Village to eliminate water waste and to increase efficiency with the well pumps, lift stations, etc. There would be a touch screen at the maintenance shop that would control the system under the direction of Davis, a simple control panel at each well house, and intrusion alarms w/ motion sensors at each location for security. A pressure switch will be installed at the towers to maintain stable levels and to eliminate overflows.

Pabst asked why we need another water tower in the Village and Davis responded by saying that it will resolve some pressure fluctuation issues and storage capacity problems, as the current storage is not in compliance with the State’s recommended 1 full day supply. Our tower turns over water approximately three times per day.

The cost estimate for this system would be \$73,790 plus electrical work by Harold Bowen in the amount of \$5,400, for a total of approximately \$79,190. Pabst and Merrill commented on the lack of comparable cost estimates, making it difficult to make a good decision on this project. Davis stated that it is a very unique system and therefore trying to get many cost comparisons would be very difficult. This company comes highly recommended by area communities such as Hayward, Chetek, Eau Claire, et al.

It was moved by Tarman and seconded by Becker to approve the purchase of this Energenecs Water Distribution Control System to go along with the new Water Well and Tower project in the amount of \$79,190, which includes the electrical portion to be handled by Bowen Electric.

Discussion: Pabst reiterated that she is against this project because there were not enough comparables to make an informed decision, not because she is against the idea of the project.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Tarman, Flottum, Becker, Outcalt, Hall. Nays – Pabst, Merrill. Motion carried.

Front End Loader Capital Purchase by Public Works Department – Davis commented that he would like the PW Dept to get back on track with a three year rotation replacement plan for the Front End Loaders to make sure that the Village is able to keep up with snow removal, etc. when the need is there. Davis presented the idea of trading in the old loader for \$80,000 trade-in allowance with a net price to the Village of \$42,617. This is a trade-in program that was started many years ago, but the Village has fallen off of the plan in recent years.

Pabst asked what the life expectancy was for this type of equipment. Davis said that it is difficult to say depending on the type of use, but he does not want to see us keep something until costly repairs are necessary and immediate. Pabst asked why not a John Deere or other brand than CAT and Davis stated that all of the attachments and equipment going with the loader would have to be replaced as they are not interchangeable with other brands.

It was moved by Flottum and seconded by Outcalt to replace the front end loader with the purchase of a new front end loader from FABCO for \$42,617 after trade-in allowance.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Consideration of Kennel License Applications – It was moved by Tarman and seconded by Flottum to approve a kennel license application for Artis Nelson at 210 Poplar Street North pending positive inspection by Police Chief Al Gabe and Public Health Officer Tom Flottum.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Tarman, Flottum, Merrill, Becker, Pabst. Nays – Hall, Outcalt. Motion carried.

It was moved by Tarman and seconded by Flottum to approve a kennel license application for James Richter at 111 Blaine Avenue pending positive inspection by Police Chief Al Gabe and Public Health Officer Tom Flottum.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Tarman, Flottum, Merrill, Becker, Hall, Pabst. Nays – Outcalt. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & CLAIMS:

It was moved by Becker and seconded by Tarman to approve the Bills and Claims as presented.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Becker and seconded by Outcalt to adjourn this meeting of the Turtle Lake Village Board at 8:46pm.

Roll call vote: Yeas – all present. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Prepared By:
William E. Bell, M.P.A.
Village Administrator