

## **Village of Plain**

### **Village Board Proceedings of April 14, 2021**

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The Regular Monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Plain was held at the Municipal Office Building, located at 510 Main Street, on April 14, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Village President Ray Ring at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Village President Ray Ring; Tracey Brent; Brian Brey; Andrew Kraemer; Melissa Marx; Merry Lynn Riek; and, Steve Whitford, Trustees.

Others present: Donna Neuwirth of Wormfarm Institute; Kelly Yanke; Nicole Aimone, of the *Valley Sentinel*; Officer Andy Kurek; and, John Ruhland, Public Works Director.

Notice of this meeting, along with the agenda, was posted at the following locations in the Village of Plain: Plain Municipal Office Building; Plain Post Office; and the Kraemer Library & Community Center on Monday, April 12, 2021. Notice was emailed to the *Home News*; *Valley Sentinel*; and, the *Baraboo News Republic*.

Marx motioned to approve minutes from the March 10, 2021 Regular Board Meeting. Riek seconded. Motion carried with Brey and Kraemer abstaining.

Newly elected members of the board were congratulated; Ray Ring; Brian Brey; Melissa Marx; and, Kelly Yanke. Thank you to Andy Kraemer for his service.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Streets & Utilities – Steve Whitford**

The Streets Committee opened bids for Plainview Road and Westbrook Drive. Scott Construction was the low bidder at \$68,731.20. The preconstruction meeting for the Nachreiner Avenue Project was yesterday. They will possibly start on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The residents will be made aware.

Public Works had sewer lines televised. There is a sewer line with an issue on Highway 23 north of the problem area that was repaired last year. A 20' section has to be replaced that will happen this fall or next year. A couple laterals north of Oak Street had a lot of water coming into the sewer main. Both properties have addressed their issues. All residents received a letter in regards to illegal sump pumps. The flow to the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been reduced.

##### **Golf Course – Andrew Kraemer**

The digging is finish for new retention pond on the golf course finished. Areas were seeded on the work that was done last year. Fill from the street project will be brought in once that project gets started. There was also extra fill from the pond. The green will be watered. The fairway irrigation is not complete. Nick Ruhland has started as the Golf Course Manager.

**Finance & RV Court** – Brian Brey

No Finance Committee report.

No RV Court report.

**Police & Library** – Tracey Brent

The Police Committee logged 106.5 officer hours in March. There have been ongoing juvenile issues at the park.

The Library Board met on March 29<sup>th</sup>. There have been 3,027 visitors year-to-date. The library received tech money from the county that will go towards two new computers. They are ordering new furniture for conference room and children's room. They renewed the mask policy through April. Their new hours are Monday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Fridays it will be 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They have 2-3 vacancies on the Library Board that will need to be approved by the Village Board in May.

**Parks & Fire District** – Merry Lynn Riek

The Parks Committee met on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and discussed the dedication for the playground. Riek plans to ask Father John to do a blessing to the playground equipment and our children that will be using it. Invites will go to donors and other are invited as well. The pavilion rental application was updated to include CDC compliance for any renters. The committee discussed the hiring of an Assistant Rec Director. The committee is getting bids for pavilion staining, this project can no longer be postponed. Cameras were placed in the pavilion. There will be signage placed stating that this area is under surveillance as well as signage for no bicycles, skateboards or roller skates allowed in the pavilion. Two new memorial benches will be placed. One is for former EMS Chief Gary Weiss. Three other benches are available for dedication for in memory of a loved one. After these are spoken for, there will no more memorial benches available as this will be the limit.

The Fire Board met on Monday. They updated on the new ambulance will arrive at the end of July. The upstairs meeting room will get new LED lighting. The 100-year sign on outside of building will be replaced for a sign that says Plain Fire Emergency Protection District. That sign has yet to be designed. The next meeting is scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Pool & Ordinance** – Melissa Marx

The Pool Committee will be meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>. They will discuss when to open, cleaning, lifeguards and schedules that will determine the opening hour schedule.

No Ordinance Committee report.

## **Development/Planning – Ray Ring**

Donna Neuwirth with Wormfarm Institute who administers Fermentation Fest addressed the board. Fermentation Fest had a stop in Plain last year. The festival is biannual, so it will be back in 2022. They plan to do a series of test plots this year to test techniques. They approached Plain to put up a piece of artwork in the business park in 2021. The piece has not been decided on or designed yet. It is a nonprofit organization that works with young architects that are given a scholarship to build these temporary designs. The Development & Planning Commission reviewed it and recommended to move forward with the project. Ring spoke to Kraemer Brothers about helping with the project. It does not cost the Village anything to set up, however they do need power to the sight. It is an experiment. They would be here for a month to design, set-up and build. They would do a dedication to the Village during the Fire/EMS Celebration at the end of July. The duration of the artwork being set-up depends upon multiple factors. The Village Board had no objections to the project.

The Development & Planning Commission met to look at ways to bring new businesses to the Village. Other communities provide grants for businesses. The Commission is looking at a new business grant. The grants would be supported by the development fund account and a federal grant for up to \$140,000 available. The group decided on a grant of up to \$25,000. Ring explained that half of the grant would be reflective upon property taxes for three years before funding is paid out. The other half of the grant would be in regards to adding employment equivalent to 2,000 hours annually. Qualifications need to be further defined because personal or real estate taxes are not guaranteed in every new business scenario. The Village Board is supportive of continuing to explore the concept.

## **Police Department Report**

A new part-time officer has started, Isaac Gerber. Spring Green is filling a full-time vacancy. They may find another part-timer in the process if they are lucky. Everything is running well.

## **Clerk/Treasurer Report**

Carver reported that there were 237 voters for the Spring Election. That is the last scheduled election for the year. The next election will be in February 2022. Last month Carver reported on receiving \$75,719 from the American Rescue Plan Act. Reports have to be filed on how the funds have been used. The Village has until December of 2024 to use the funds. Carver informed the board that her Town of Bear Creek position switched from Treasurer to Clerk. It is similar to having any part-time job on nights and weekends. A Township's workload is much less than that of a Village that has utilities, public facilities and amenities to attend to. A Town Clerk does have more responsibilities than a Town Treasurer, but it will not change anything about what she does for the Village of Plain. She even renovated her home office over the winter getting ready for this change and is very excited about this new endeavor.

## Public Works Department Report

John Ruhland reported that Public Works has made a lot of progress with the recent good weather. They got work done on the golf course and the ball diamond. Yesterday Public Works cold patched streets. The water was turned on at the park and the golf course. Next week they will start flushing fire hydrants. This will cause air in the lines and discoloration. With the Wastewater Treatment Plant Headworks project, everything is in place, just setting parameters. There are a few bugs to work out yet so there is a meeting with the Engineers tomorrow. There is a huge grease issue which creates grease boulders from the flat lines. The pump timing needs to be readjusted to accommodate the problem. The Nachreiner Avenue Project and new development project are starting next week which is two weeks earlier than anticipated. The boulder with the donor plaque were placed in the park. The skid steer arrived earlier in the month. Ring announced that the new development is completing all lots immediately instead of only a portion as originally planned. Strand will need to update their contract for the inspection of the project on behalf of the Village.

### Water      March-21

|                                       |                  |         |                      |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------|----------------------|
| Pumpage for Well No. 1                | 1,028,000        | gallons |                      |
| Pumpage for Well No. 2                | <u>1,324,000</u> | gallons |                      |
| Total Pumpage for Month               | 2,352,000        | gallons |                      |
|                                       |                  |         |                      |
| Total Pumpage for the Month Last Year | 1,651,000        | gallons |                      |
|                                       | This is 701,000  | gallons | more than last year. |
|                                       |                  |         |                      |
| Monthly fluoride average              | 0.65             | ppm     |                      |
| Monthly chlorine average              | 0.34             | ppm     |                      |

Two bacti samples were sent to the State Lab. Both samples tested safe.

### Wastewater      March-21

|  |           |         |                 |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------------|
| Influent Monthly Average B.O.D.        | 212       | mg/l    |                 |
| Effluent Monthly Average B.O.D.        | 12        | mg/l    | Limit: 15 mg/l  |
|  |           |         |                 |
| Influent Monthly Average T.S.S.        | 226       | mg/l    |                 |
| Effluent Monthly Average T.S.S.        | 25        | mg/l    | Limit: 20 mg/l  |
|  |           |         |                 |
| Monthly Average Nitrogen Ammonia       | 1.888     | mg/l    |                 |
| Limit: 4.3 mg/l Monthly: October-April |           |         |                 |
| 8.0 mg/l Monthly: May-September        |           |         |                 |
| 20.0 mg/l Daily                        |           |         |                 |
|  |           |         |                 |
| Monthly Average Total Phosphorous      | 1.008     | mg/l    | Limit: 1.2 mg/l |
|  |           |         |                 |
| Total Gallons Treated                  | 3,210,050 | gallons |                 |

## **Other Business**

Marx read the second reading and adoption of Ordinance #213-21: updating verbiage of parking at 1015 Cedar Street. Riek motioned to adopt Ordinance #213-21. Marx seconded. Motion carried.

Marx read the second reading and adoption of Ordinance #214-21: strengthening firearm and projectile ordinances to prevent hunting within the Village limits. Brent motioned to adopt Ordinance #214-21. Whitford seconded. Motion carried.

Carver read the first reading of Ordinance #215-21: changing ATV club in charge of signage.

Marx motion to approve the Fairway Heights plat as presented. Riek seconded. Motion carried.

Marx motioned to approve the application for a liquor license for Pat Mahoney in the Village for the period April 15, 2021 through October 15, 2021. Brey seconded. Motion carried.

Brent motioned to approve an original application for a Liquor License, "Class A" intoxicating liquor, for Country Crossroads Floral and Gifts, LLC, Agent: Carrie M Walsh, for the period April 15, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Kraemer seconded. Motion carried.

Marx motioned to set the Board of Review for Wednesday, May 26, 2021 from 5:00pm-7:00pm. Riek seconded. Motion carried.

Marx motioned to hire Addison Brey for the position of Assistant Rec Director. Riek seconded. Motion carried with Brey abstaining.

Marx motioned to hire new Lifeguard Charlotte Ferstl. Brent seconded. Motion carried.

Marx motioned to hire Brandon Verthein for the position of Seasonal Public Works Helper. Brey seconded. Motion carried.

Whitford motioned to approve Pay Application No. 4 for MZ Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$221,829.23 for the WWTP Headworks Upgrade Project. Kraemer seconded. Motion carried.

## **Correspondence**

A thank you note from the Jacquelyn Brey family was received. Natalie Limmex emailed about the manure smell in the Village. Ring responded to Ms. Limmex and followed up with Sauk County in regards to run-off from the fields. Marx commented that we live in a rural community and the odor is to be expected. The Village has to pay for extra treatment chemicals because of the run-off upstream.

**Review and Audit of Invoices:**

Whitford motioned to pay Check #25920 payable to Sabel Mechanical, LLC in the amount of \$2,321.17 from the Sewer Replacement Fund. Brey seconded. Motion carried.

Brey motioned to pay the bills as presented. Kraemer seconded. Motion carried.

|                      |             |                  |              |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| General Fund         | \$44,083.88 | Water Utility    | \$15,895.51  |
| Library Fund         | \$4,688.18  | Sewer Department | \$248,927.80 |
| Capital Improvements | \$1,606.05  | Golf Course      | \$6,792.76   |
| TIF District         | \$678.76    |                  |              |

Wage Reimbursements: \$24,007.93

Marx motioned to adjourn to closed session at 8:29 p.m. Brent seconded. Motion carried. Roll Call Vote: Brent - Yes; Brey - Yes; Kraemer – Yes; Marx - Yes; Riek – Yes; Ring – Yes; and, Whitford - Yes.

Sheila Carver,  
Clerk/Treasurer