

Village of Lena
117 E. Main St., Lena, WI 54139
Finance/Personnel & Wage Committee Minutes
September 14, 2021, 9 a.m.

Chair Terry Hinds called the meeting to order.

Roll call: Steve Marquardt (by phone conference), Nick Heise and Terry Hinds.

Also present: Charlene Meier.

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by Marquardt/Heise to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was voted and carried.

Approval of the minutes from August 9, 2021: Motion was made by Heise/Marquardt to approve the minutes from August 9, 2021. Motion was voted and carried.

Financials: Clerk's monthly financial report was informational. No budget transfers were needed at this time. Monthly financial reports are due quarterly. Clerk asked for clarification on "monthly financial report". Heise questioned about our financial investments and if there were other options that would earn us more interest. Bonds were an example. It was determined that the Village would have to have a financial advisor to handle the bonds. Hinds stated he was not qualified nor was the clerk.

Update on Current Grants, Grant Applications, Projects Funding Needs: Specs for Public Works Cold Storage are still needed. Siren is being installed. Fire Tender is on order.

2022 Budget: The main work will be completed at the October meeting. 2022 wage recommendations – Motion was made by Marquardt/T. Hinds to raise the clerk/treasurer's wage to \$24.50 per hour. Motion was voted and carried. Clerk informed the Finance Committee that the Public Safety Committee recommended the Police Chief to be raised to \$28.00 per hour. Heise stated that if monies are tight that additional benefits might be in order. An example is additional vacation. Hinds stated that the handbook should be review annually and any changes should be postponed till next year.

Review Water Utility Net Operating Income: Motion was made by T. Hinds/Marquardt to recommend to the Village Board the filing with the PSC of a Simplified Rate Case for the water utility effective date of 12/16/2021. Motion was voted and carried.

Cell Tower – Everest Infrastructure Partners Inc. Proposal: Discussion followed. No action taken. Clerk is to send a copy of the current cell tower lease to review and see if we can possibly get out of the contract.

Amendment to Listing Contract with NAI Pfefferle-Possible Recommendation to Village Board: Motion was made by T. Hinds/S. Marquardt to forward the amended Agreement to extend the contract to the Village Board for approval. Motion was voted and carried.

PSC Report – Notice of Errors: These have been corrected and resubmitted by Kerber Rose to the PSC. Informational only.

Allocation of Village's ARPA Monies and Possible Recommendation to Village Board: The following items were areas for the ARPA monies: 1) Sewer plant operation & needs; 2) Maple Street project; 3) Fire Department Roof; 4) Parks & Recreation; 5) Siren; 6) Sidewalk repair; 7) Village Hall renovation/technology; 8) Public Works Cold Storage Building; 9) Police Radios.

Miscellaneous/General Information/Correspondence: Clerk informed the committee on the discussion with Laona State Bank Vice President Andy School. They are looking for office space to rent/lease. N. Heise will contact Chad Schuettpelz/Maple Valley Insurance regarding expanding. Marquardt reported on the developer's meeting that was held for a housing project. They are drawing up conceptual designs/layout. TIF would be needed for this project. Next meeting is October 12, 2021 @ 8 a.m. to work on the 2022 budget. Cell tower will need to be a separate meeting.

Adjournment: Motion was made to adjourn by Heise/Marquardt. Motion was voted and carried at 10:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene J. Meier
Clerk/Treasurer