

**VILLAGE OF BALDWIN**  
**BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 12, 2014 – 6:00pm**

The Village Board of the Village of Baldwin opened a public hearing for review of the 2015 budget and opened their regular board meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at the Baldwin Municipal Center, 400 Cedar Street. President Zevenbergen called the public hearing and the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Roll call was taken by Clerk Tracy Carlson – Present: President Willy Zevenbergen, Trustees Claire Stein, Lisa Knutson, Brian Nadeau, Doug Newton, Duane Russett and Jennifer Recifo-Smith

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Others present: Attorney Terry Dunst, Engineer Mike Stoffel, Public Works Director John Traxler, EMS Chief Craig Nelson, Police Chief Darren Krueger, Clerk of Courts Kathy Jo Brihn, Don Timmerman, Harvey Hielkema, Matt Sparks, Brenda Haas, Jule Hudson, Kelly Owen, Aaron Mckeever, Chris Klinkhammer, Nancy Fennern, Alison Page, Robb Paulson, Brent Wernlund.

**Public Hearing on 2015 Budget**

President Zevenbergen called for public comments on the 2015 budget three times. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was adjourned at 6:03pm. The meeting continued with regular business.

**Regular Business**

Russett **moved** to approve **Resolution 2014-11** - 2015 Budget and Tax Levy Adoption with an approved levy amount of \$2,158,202. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor.

Russett **moved** to approve **Resolution 2014-12** - 2015 Wage Adjustments and Benefits for Non-Union Employees. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor.

Russett **moved** to approve **Resolution 2014-13** - 2015 Amending Premium Only Cafeteria Plan. Seconded by Recifo-Smith. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor.

Knutson **moved** to approve written checks #30391-30513; payroll vouchers – #V15548-V15662 and on-line checks #533-541. Seconded by Russett. Motion carried.

Recifo-Smith **moved** to approve the financial reports and budget comparisons for October, 2014 as presented. Seconded by Russett. Motion carried.

Russett **moved** to approve consent agenda items #9-14. Seconded by Nadeau. Motion carried. Items approved:

- Minutes dated Oct. 8, 2014
- Operator's License for Neu, Debra – Klinker's Korner; Blessard, Danielle –Klinker's Korner; Branstad, Kevin – Nilssen Foods; Nedland, Jessica – Nilssen Foods; Nilssen, Nicholas – Nilssen Foods; Henze, Ashton – Hogg Pen Bar & Grill
- Two bankruptcy write offs for water/sewer charges totaling \$783.13
- Final pay request #3 for Oak St. in the amount of \$8,477.83
- \$1,450/month flat rate fee for Bakke Norman beginning Jan., 2015
- Monthly municipal court report for October

Clerk Carlson administered the swearing in of and the oath of office for new Police Officer, Joseph Garden. Garden raised his right hand while Carlson read the oath to which he agreed to uphold. He received a warm welcome with applause by the audience and the village board.

Stein **moved** to approve the water/sewer plans and specifications for the new Baldwin Area Medical Center facility per Planning Commission recommendation. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried. Stoffel stated that there will be an easement issued to the village for the water/sewer mains to the service connections.

Brenda Haas, owner of The Hazelnut Tree, presented plans to the board for new Main St. signage for the businesses. The plans are to include signage at the east corner of Main St. and Hwy 63 to direct traffic to the businesses on Main St. and to include business signage at each block. This discussion was tabled and sent to the Streets/Building Committee for further review.

Brenda Haas, The Hazelnut Tree and Jule Hudson, Boldts Plumbing & Heating asked the Village Board for \$2000 for lights for the trees on Main St. and they asked that the Public Works Department be available to put them on the trees, take them down and store them. Traxler responded to the request that he doesn't have the man power or equipment to put them on the trees and maintain them. After some discussion, Russett **moved** to allow the businesses to put lights on the trees and to decorate them in a uniform manner. They can be left on the trees year-round as long as they are maintained and put on a timer to come on when the street lights come on. The village will not contribute any money to the lights nor will they provide the labor to install them and maintain them. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried 6-1 with Newton opposed.

Brent Wernlund and Don Timmerman asked the board to reconsider putting a moratorium on residential impact fees. Timmerman commented that he has a builder ready to build quality single-family homes in the village but there is a concern about impact fees and the increased cost to build a home. Timmerman continued that a moratorium on the impact fees will make Baldwin more attractive. Wernlund asked the board to consider possibly reducing the fees. Attorney Dunst stated that the board cannot simply reduce the fees without proper studies and follow up per the law. Russett **moved** to put a moratorium in place for residential impact fees for 12 months starting Nov. 12, 2014 and to actively investigate if the current fees are at an appropriate level or should be revised. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried 4-3 with Recifo-Smith, Newton and Stein opposed.

As the next item on the agenda was a discussion about parking spaces on Maple St. in front of Baldwin-Telecom, Russett left the board table and recused himself from the discussions as he is an employee at Baldwin-Telecom. The Streets/Building Committee had discussed removing two parking spots in front of BTI to ease traffic turning north onto Hwy. 63 off of Maple St. Matt Sparks, General Manager of Baldwin-Telecom stated that he understand that the two parking spots on Maple St. were supposed to remain in place after the traffic pattern changed due to the reconfiguration of Main St. Newton **moved** to paint the two spots yellow and prevent parking. Seconded by Recifo-Smith. Motion failed 4-2 with Zevenbergen, Nadeau, Knutson and Stein opposed. Russett abstained. Knutson **moved** that the board ask BTI to encourage employees to not park in those two spots on Maple St. and have it be for customer use only. Seconded by Zevenbergen. Motion carried 6-0 with Russett abstaining.

Zevenbergen called for public comments. Alison Page, BAMC, commented that they are going to be purchasing 10 acres from a neighboring property owner to the west which will allow them to use it for water/sewer lines and to access different parts of their current property. They will be requesting annexation in the future. No action taken.

President Zevenbergen called for a recess at 7:42pm.

President Zevenbergen called the meeting to order at 7:47pm.

Russett **moved** to approve **Resolution 2014-14** – Adopting Post-Issuance Debt Compliance Policy for Tax-exempt and Tax-advantaged Governmental Bonds. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor.

The board agreed to table an amendment on a temporary construction sign ordinance until more discussion could be had about the specifics of the ordinance. This issue was sent to the Streets/Building Committee. No action taken.

Knutson **moved** to approve amending ordinance 547-34 - Enforcement - Deposits/Stipulations (non-traffic violations). Seconded by Newton. Motion carried.

Russett **moved** to approve amendments to the cemetery rules and regulations as presented. Seconded by Recifo-Smith. Motion carried 5-2 with Newton and Stein opposed. The rules and regulations were amended based off of complaints that were received about the previous version.

Police Chief Krueger asked the board for a consensus to participate in a mutual aid agreement with St. Croix County Sheriff's Dept. The final copy isn't completed yet. The board agreed by consensus that the Village would be willing to participate in such an agreement. No action taken.

Russett **moved** to approve hiring Chimney Rock Appraisal as the village assessor for a three year term beginning in 2015. Seconded by Recifo-Smith. Motion carried.

The board discussed distressing TIF 7 and allowing TIF 5-6 to donate revenues to TIF 7 and to amend the boundaries of TIF 6 to include the creamery property. The board agreed to discuss this further with the village's financial advisors and to begin the process as stated. No action taken.

United Fire & Rescue has submitted an invoice to the village for utility charges at the fire hall for the portion of the hall that the police department uses. The charges are from 2008-2013 and amount to \$6,376.20. The board agreed to table this discussion until staff can further investigate the agreements in place with United Fire & Rescue.

## **REPORTS -**

### **Village Engineer – Mike Stoffel**

Stoffel reported that Oak St. is complete. The final lift will be completed in the spring.

### **Village Attorney - Terry Dunst – no report**

### **Dept. Heads –**

- a). Public Works – no report
- b). Police Dept – no report
- c). EMS – Nelson reported that he and Assist. Chief Wittmer attended a conference on Medicare. New software will be necessary to implement the updates to the Medicare program.

### **Committee Reports –**

- a. EMS - no report
- b. Parks & Rec – no report
- c. Streets & Building
- d. Public Safety/Personnel
  - Russett **moved** to approve speed limit adjustments on 220<sup>th</sup> south to be as follows:  
from Rose Lane south to 500' from Cedar St. increase the speed limit to 35mph.  
At 500' from Cedar St. south to Cedar St., the speed limit will be reduced to 25mph. After Cedar, the speed limit would then increase to 45mph. The same would be northbound. Seconded by Knutson. Motion carried 4-3 with Newton, Recifo-Smith and Stein opposed.
- e. Water & Sewer – no report

### **Clerk's Report – Tracy Carlson**

Carlson reported that she and Deputy Clerk Eggen attended a WI Municipal Clerks Association district meeting. Election training and updates, levy limits and web resources were discussed.

Carlson also reported that the General Election was held on Nov. 4, 2014. There was a 58% registered voter turn-out in the village with 1221 voters. Of those, 171 were new or updated voter registrations.

Knutson **moved** to convene to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) – considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific person, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons, except where par. 19.85 (1)(b) applies, which, if discussed in public would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. Seconded by Nadeau. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor.

Closed session convened at 8:41pm.

Russett moved to adjourn closed session and return to open session. Seconded by Nadeau. Motion carried. No action taken.

Zevenbergen adjourned the meeting as there was no additional business. Meeting adjourned at 8:52pm.

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Willard Zevenbergen  
Village President

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Tracy Carlson  
Village Clerk