

**VILLAGE OF FALL RIVER
BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, March 12, 2025 ~ 6:00 PM
MINUTES**

President Slotten called the meeting to order.

Trustees present: Ninmann, Robbins, Neuman, and Dykstra. Absent: Gould and Birr.

Village Representatives: Marie Abegglen and Kenny Beal (C-T), Julius Weisensel (DPW), Ron Spurbeck (PD), Ben Upward (GEC)

Guests: Ben Agnew, Lora McEndree, Maddie Buchda

Approve Agenda – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Robbins and seconded by Trustee Dykstra to approve the agenda. All Members present – aye - motion carried.

ENGINEERING/ATTORNEY/FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Ben Agnew – Church Street Sidewalks – A quorum is present. Ben is concerned about having to put in the sidewalk for all lots rather than one lot at a time. He needs the money from the first lot to continue with the others. He is trying to make this as profitable as possible. The Board is concerned with uneven sidewalks if he goes lot by lot. He is hoping to have his house done by the start of school in the fall. The Board voted to agree with the Developers Agreement which required the sidewalks all be done. That is consistent with other developments in the past. It would set a bad precedent to start to re-negotiate. It is also required to put money in escrow to be sure the improvements are done. He said it is upwards of \$60,000 to bring in dirt to level the parcels out. He would go lot by lot with no empty lot in between. He was asked if he knew about this before he purchased the lots and before he received a building permit. He said he was aware of the requirement. He thought the Board should look at the big picture and the future development of the remaining parcel. Ben feels this colors all future relationships. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Neuman and seconded by Trustee Robbins to amend Section 2.2 Sidewalks in the Developers Agreement for Agnew property “No occupancy permits will be given without the completion of the sidewalks extending the entire length of the *lot*”. Roll call vote was taken - Ninmann -no, Robbins – yes, Neuman – yes, Dykstra – no and Slotten – no. Motion failed. Ben Upward had nothing to add.

PUBLIC INPUT – Maddie Buchda would like the Board to reconsider an ordinance and allow chickens. She knows of 5 - 10 other families that would like to have chickens. This can be a 4-H project for kids that teaches them responsibility. The Board will take this into consideration.

Laura McEndree lives at 115 Church Street. DPW took care of a leak that was found on her property. Denure was hired to dig up the water connection. A leak was found and repaired. She believes it is still leaking and was not fixed. She currently has gravel in her driveway. It was highly recommended not to pour concrete until the weather is better suited. She approached the Board with videos on her phone. The frost is coming out of the ground now. That could cause the moisture that she is seeing. Julius will keep an eye on this and get a device to listen to see if any leak can be detected.

PUBLIC WORKS

Eye Wash Station – Estimate \$2,000 – We currently have an eye wash station that is serviced by Cintas. They have told us that the current station will be obsolete by May of this year. A new service agreement would be \$195 per month. Julius has contacted Gould Plumbing. They can install a permanent fixture for @ \$2,000. A MOTION WAS MADE BY

Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to approve the proposal from Gould Plumbing. We should be able to use the League Insurance Safety Grant of \$600 towards this. All Members present – aye - motion carried.

Cummins 3 Year Service Agreement – The 3-year agreement is a total of \$4,833.99. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Ninmann and seconded by Trustee Robbins to approve the agreement with Cummins. All Members present – aye - motion carried. There is a block heater in the Prairie Street Lift Station. It has been replaced often. Cummins gave us a break on the last bill. They had replaced it not long ago. When they came out to do the repair, all three DPW employees went out to watch how the replacement was done. They will be able to do it themselves. Julius ordered another heater to keep on the shelf for the next time.

Columbus Rate Study and Rate Increase – This recent study has resulted in Columbus quadrupling our rate. The study is unlike those done in the past. We contacted MSA and talked with Gil Hantzsch. They are going to look into this for us. We have 60 days to review and comment. Columbus also asked if we would like to apply for an Innovation Grant to join utilities.

The generators for the lift stations could possibly be here @ April 21st. Julius will be on vacation from April 11 – 19. EK would like to start their building project on the 15th. Julius told them to wait until he was back and to schedule the start for April 21st. May 1st is when the moratorium is lifted for street excavation. He told EK that they could start early if the weather cooperates. The DPW has done a walk thru with the reps from Charter. There will be lots of locating to do. They are learning a lot and finding most of the curb stops. Brozek finished mowing the ponds. It looks like there may be something plugged in the culverts. Maintenance on the ponds is a shared cost with all property owners. The new furnace is in. They still need to repair a damper that was causing a draft in the PD office. Julius will get the new signs ordered for the new winter parking rules. The ordinance will need to be amended and will be on the April agenda. Parking fines for winter parking violations should increase to \$50.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report – Ron provided his monthly report. They had another busy month.

NEW BUSINESS

Bartender Application on file: Stephanie Komorowski – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Neuman to approve the application on file. All Members present – aye - motion carried.

MINUTES, BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Minutes from 02/12/25 – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Robbins and seconded by Trustee Neuman to approve the Minutes from 02/12/25. All Members present – aye - motion carried.

Bills for Payment – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Robbins and seconded by Trustee Neuman to pay the bills as presented. All Members present – aye - motion carried.

Financial Report from February 2025 – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to approve the Financial Report from February. All Members present – aye - motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ADJOURNMENT – A MOTION WAS MADE BY Trustee Dykstra and seconded by Trustee Ninmann to adjourn the meeting. All Members present – aye - motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 8:30.

Marie Abegglen, Clerk-Treasurer