

SPECIAL TOWN OF EAGLE BOARD MEETING
HELD JOINTLY WITH THE VILLAGE OF EAGLE BOARD
“UNAPPROVED” MINUTES – MAY 25, 2010

Village President Rich Spurrell and Town Chairman Bob Kwiatkowski called their respective special Board meetings to order at 7:04 p.m. Town Clerk Pepper confirmed Open Meeting Law requirements. Roll was taken: (Town) Supervisors Davis, Malek, Rasmussen, West – all present; Chairman Kwiatkowski – present. (Village) Trustees Block, Couch, Greenberg, Rice, Royston, Scheff – all present; President Spurrell – present. Town Chairman Kwiatkowski and Village President Spurrell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

Joint Community Block Grant.

Village President Spurrell explained that the Municipal Building Committee has explored the idea of keyless locks for the municipal building. Fire Chief Heim raised the issue that the entrance/exit doors are required to have panic bars. President Spurrell explained that Town Chairman Kwiatkowski suggested adding handicap accessible buttons to the proposed project, qualifying both the Town and the Village for the Community Block Grant. President Spurrell explained that the meeting tonight is to seek Board approval to move forward with the grant application, whose deadline is June 10, 2010.

In response to Trustee Greenberg, President Spurrell explained that there is no cost to complete the grant application. The Village could receive a \$2,900 grant and the Town could receive a \$4,500 grant.

Chairman Kwiatkowski questioned if anyone else has any other grant ideas which would be beneficial to the community. Chairman Kwiatkowski added that, if approved, grant monies will not be received until 2011.

President Spurrell reported that he contacted Waukesha County, to be sure that this new grant application will not affect the status of last year’s grant, which it would not.

In response to Trustee Rice, Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that each entity will have to complete their individual applications, stating that the project will be completed jointly. President Spurrell added that when the Village contacted the county regarding last year’s grant opportunity, the application was a verbal application.

In response to Trustee Rice, Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that an estimate was received for the panic bars and the keyless entry in the range of \$5,000 to \$6,000; he is not sure of the cost of the handicap buttons. Any project costs that exceed the grant monies will be divided between the Town and Village equally. Discussion followed regarding the possible costs associated with the proposed project, current and past state codes, and handicap accessibility requirements for elections.

In response to Supervisor Davis, President Spurrell explained that \$1,500 has been set aside in this year's budget for the keyless entry. These monies could roll over to next year's budget and be applied to this project. Trustee Greenberg stated that he believes that we should wait to apply for the grant until the exact figures are known. In response to Trustee Greenberg, Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that if you don't spend the money on the project, you will not receive the grant monies. Discussion ensued regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, past, present, and future.

A motion was made by Trustee Rice, seconded by Trustee Couch to apply for a Joint Community Block Grant to upgrade entryways to the Municipal Building. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davis, seconded by Supervisor Malek to apply for a Joint Community Block Grant to upgrade entryways to the Municipal Building. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

Joint Village and Town Employee's Wisconsin Retirement Status.

President Spurrell explained that he talked about the discovery regarding the joint employees and their Wisconsin Retirement Status at their Village Board Meeting.

Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that the Town was contacted by the state, to inform us that since the Town is not covered by the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS), the only service and earning reportable to WRS for the joint employees are the hours and earnings that are actually worked at the Village of Eagle. Six hundred hours worked are what is needed to qualify for the retirement program, which could affect the joint employees, based on the percentages funded by the Town and the percentages funded by the Village.

President Spurrell explained that he contacted Greg at the State, who informed him that eligibility is based on hours worked; creditable hours are based on the percentage worked for the Village. In response, Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that when Town Attorney Paul Alexy spoke with Greg Hohstein, he was given a different scenario. Chairman Kwiatkowski respectfully asked that there only be one point of contact, to lessen any confusion. The Town at this point does not have any new information, other than what was provided in a letter to the active joint employees. The state is requiring that the Town provide them with a list of the employees, the number of hours worked since 1997, and the amount of monies contributed by the Town to the retirement system. The clerks in the Town office are currently going through electronic and paper records. The state has said that they will be returning all of the monies that the Town contributed, without interest. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that Town Attorney Alexy has advised to discontinue contributing to the retirement system and to put the monies aside in a new bank account. As soon as the state gets and reviews the information provided, the state will make its determination.

In response to Trustee Greenwald, President Spurrell stated that there are at least nine affected joint employees. The exact number has yet to be determined. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that he has been made aware that a joint library employee may have been qualified for the retirement system however the librarian thought that the 600 hours were computed on an

annualized basis, not on any twelve-month period. This particular employee made an open records request on Friday for all of her hours worked since she started her employment at the library. The Town Attorney has advised that we cannot predict what employee actions may come out of this discovery. Discussion followed regarding the issue of continuing contributions. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that he will contact the Town Attorney for clarification.

In response to Supervisor West, Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that the past Town Attorney advised the Town not to enter into the Wisconsin Retirement System because all persons who work over six hundred hours would be required to enter into the retirement system. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that neither the Town nor Village attorney said that managing the program through the Village couldn't be done. Let it be known that there was no malicious intent on behalf of the Town. President Spurrell agreed that it was an error and questioned how the state could have collected the monies all these years and didn't catch the mistake. Chairman Kwiatkowski stated that this was discovered when the Town raised an issue regarding the issuance of separate tax keys numbers for the joint entities. Chairman Kwiatkowski added that it is better to know this information now rather than later, as people are getting ready to retire.

Joint Village and Town Employee's Insurance.

President Spurrell stated that, unbeknownst to the Village, the Village's health insurance policy changed, where employees are now required to pay a co-pay for their prescriptions, even after their deductible has been met. Once their out-of-pocket maximum has been met, the employees will no longer be required to pay the prescription co-pay. President Spurrell informed the boards that the deductible for a single person is \$1,500 and \$2,500 for a family. President Spurrell explained that he contacted the Village's insurance agent, who stated that the co-pay portion of the plan would have changed next year anyway. This issue came to light when an employee met their deductible and then was told that he still had to pay the prescription co-pay. A letter is being drafted to the affected employees to explain the situation. Had the Village known of the change, they would have, if this is the route they would have taken, at least given notice to the affected employees.

Chairman Kwiatkowski questioned why the Health Savings Account couldn't cover the prescription expenses. In response, President Spurrell explained that the contribution is half of the employee's deductible. In response to Supervisor West, President Spurrell explained that the Health Savings Account is a flexible benefit plan, which can roll over into the next calendar year.

There being no further business, motions were made by Trustee Rice, seconded by Trustee Green berg (Village) and by Supervisor Rasmussen, seconded by Supervisor Malek (Town) to adjourn. Both motions carried. The joint meeting was adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

Lynn M. Pepper
Town Clerk