

VILLAGE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the La Farge Village Board will be held on Monday, October 14, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Emergency Services building, located at 201 S. Cherry Street.

AGENDA:

1. Call to order/Roll Call
2. Verification of Meeting Posting/Publishing
3. Motion to convene into closed session, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statutes section 19.85(1)(c), to discuss personnel matters on compensation;
4. Motion to return to open session
5. Approval of previous meetings minutes
6. Correspondence
7. Public Comment

UTILITY BUSINESS:

8. Regular Utility Business;

OLD BUSINESS:

9. Any old business;

NEW BUSINESS:

10. Jon Turner for a discussion on an ordinance change concerning items on sidewalks in the business district;
11. Discussion/Action on an Animal Care Provider Agreement;
12. Discussion/Action on an ad in the Driftless Wisconsin map;
13. Action on compensation for the employees for 2020;
14. Action on operator license applications;
15. Police report/update;
16. Committee reports and updates;
17. Approval to Pay the Bills;
18. Adjourn.

Kimberly Walker, Village Clerk/Treasurer
Posted 10/9/2019

VILLAGE OF LA FARGE

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 14, 2019

*President Cheryl Purvis called the regular meeting of the La Farge Village Board to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Emergency Services building. Roll call was taken with all board members present: Purvis, Frank Quinn, Terry Jensen, Reggie Nelson, Aaron Appleman, Aaron Nemec, and Barbara Melvin. Also, present was news reporters Lonnie Muller and Shaun Sherman, Public Works Manager Wayne Haugrud, Police Chief Jonathon Brown, Jason Vidas, Jon Turner, and Clerk Kimberly Walker.

*Verification of meeting publishing in the La Farge Episcopo and posting at the Bank, Post Office, and Village Office on October 9, 2019 was given.

*Jensen moved, Quinn seconded to convene into closed session, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statutes section 19.85 (1)(c), to discuss personnel matters on compensation. (Carried). Public in attendance left the room at this time.

*** CLOSED SESSION ***

*Jensen moved, Appleman seconded to return to open session. (Carried). The public returned.

*Quinn moved, Jensen seconded to approve the previous meetings minutes: (9-6-19/ESB committee meeting; 9-6-19/Finance & Personnel committee meeting; 9-9-19/Regular board meeting; 9-23-19/Medical committee meeting, 9-26-19/Finance & Personnel committee meeting; and 9-30-19/Regular Library Board meeting). (Carried).

*Correspondence: The board's invited to a public "Stories from the Flood" celebration of community resilience on Thursday, November 7, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve Visitors Center.

*Public Comments: Jason Vidas, 213 N. Bird Street, was present. He's lived here 13 years and has found the people very friendly, helpful, and has come to love this community. Like to see it continue to be a vital place to attract tourists, travelers, and transplants and we need our economy to remain strong to support local jobs and keep La Farge a great place to live. With this goal in mind, the reason he's talking is for the town to re-think our use of social media to some extent. People look for safe and friendly places, with plenty of services. What people see on-line, makes impressions on them. He really appreciates the social posts from Chief Brown and the job he and the board does. His main concern was the recent Homecoming posts, and it being picked up by the public news. He didn't like seeing the negative posts/impacts on La Farge. Just felt this was a disservice that reflected poorly on us. Post positive things. Cheryl said she would take the responsibility for the posts. Chief Brown had people pressuring him for a statement. The intention was to promote safety for our children. All agreed we need to be more aware of what's on Facebook. Jason was thanked for attending.

*Utility Business: On September 16, PWM Haugrud and Clerk Walker met with the DNR on a community assist visit for flood plain management. They reviewed records from 2012, on any activity that happened in the floodplain. They want to see what happened after the 2018 flood, what we've let happened, and what hasn't. They'll be getting us a review on how we've done, and Wayne will let everyone know the results.

**On October 9th, Wayne attended a Substantial Damage seminar that was put on by FEMA and the DNR. This was to help get some ideas of what this entails after a flood, tornado, etc. **The drinking water polyphosphate has been set up and the first round of testing is done. The lead and copper came back good. Still waiting on the water quality samples. March will be the next round of testing.

**On 9/30/19, MSA submitted the chemical feed plan to the DNR, which is to add alum to help with the phosphate that's being discharged. Waiting to hear back now for approval.

**Ryan Thurin has been hired to do an electrical bore for a new house on Lakeview Drive tomorrow, as there's no power to the 2 end lots by East Maple. And on the corner of Hillview and Oak drive, a new home was built, and the garage part is on top of the primary wire. So, doing a bore to get around that.

**Last Friday, there was a power outage in Lakeview, caused by an underground fault, meaning the wire burned off. Power was out from around 11 p.m. to 11 a.m. We tried tracing it, and finally at 5:30 a.m., called Ron Janzen from Westby, as they have equipment to track the fault. He found it between 2 transformers. This wire was installed in the 70's and has a neutral on the outside that is reacting to the soil, eating it up. So, we will be looking at replacement of this underground wiring. We may have more problems before we can get it all fixed. We don't have the finances to do it all now, and its already October. Wayne apologized for the long outage experienced, but they tried their best to find it.

*No old business.

*Jon Turner, 221 S. State Street, was present. He asked to be put on the agenda regarding concerns about the corner of Snow and State Street. The ordinance says there is to be 36" of sidewalk. Snow Street side has about 12" of room, as stuff is piled along it and out in the road as well. He walks thru there a lot with his grandchildren. On the day he called Officer Brown, his grandchild tripped and almost fell into a sickle not far from him. If he got hurt, who's responsible? He feels it's a fire hazard and attract rats. If he has things outside, they should be put in at night. He lives close by and feels it's an eye soar, along with others he's talked too. When he bought his place, it was a mess, too, but he's cleaned it up. He'd appreciate the board coming up with something to change it. He said he has no issue coming forward on this issue. Cheryl said she's talked with Officer Brown on this. Back in March, Jonathon put together a proposal for the board to review for "Outdoor retail sales and outdoor storage". Unfortunately, it got put on the back burner. But we need to address this. This applies to everyone in town, not just one area. It will be put on next month's agenda to discuss again. Chief Brown will follow up on this. Thanked him for attending.

*Jensen moved, Quinn seconded to approve the Animal Care Provider Agreement with the Driftless Humane Society for the 2020 year, for the per animal dogs only plan. Cost is \$225 per unclaimed dog, and an initial fee of \$225 due in January. (Carried).

*Quinn moved, Appleman seconded to purchase another ad in the Driftless Wisconsin map for 2020, for \$270.50, along with LAPA's \$100 contribution (total of \$370.50). (Carried).

*Quinn moved, Jensen seconded to approve the compensation package for employees for 2020 as discussed in closed session. (Carried).

*Quinn moved, Nemec seconded to approve an operator license for Sequoya Smith. (Carried). She completed the schooling 9-25-2019.

*Police report/update: Chief Brown had 141 calls in September. Two were arrests.

*Committee Reports:

**Finance: Quinn reported on the annual fire and ambulance association meetings. Our share of the fire association budget is \$18,276.07. For the ambulance, no budget share. But they're going to buy a medical device called a Lucas machine, with the village share being \$3,058.56. They were both good meetings.

**Library: Barb reported the budget meeting went well.

**Board: Cheryl will be attending the 2019 League Annual Conference in Green Bay, October 22-26.

*Quinn moved, Jensen seconded to approve payment of the bills. (Carried).

*Jensen moved, Appleman seconded to adjourn. (Carried). Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Kimberly Walker, Village Clerk/Treasurer

