

VILLAGE OF TWIN LAKES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

October 7, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.

Village Hall, 105 E. Main Street, Twin Lakes, WI

CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT SKINNER AT 6:30 PM/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL

CALL: Present: Trustees Bill Kaskin, Aaron Karow, Kevin Fitzgerald, Ken Perl, President Howard Skinner.
Absent: Trustee Barb Andres, Sharon Bower. Also Present: Administrator Laura Jager, Police Chief Katie Hall, Village Engineer Greg Droessler, Clerk Sabrina Waswo.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS.

Nadie Fabish, 545 Storms Drive, supports EMS but voted against the recent referendum because she's concerned about potential increases in property taxes, especially given a 49% rise in assessed property values. She questioned how the village is educating residents on these financial implications, noting that without a clear mill rate, residents may not fully understand the impact. She also asked if any incremental tax revenue could be allocated toward the EMS funding to help it pass. Regardless of the referendum's outcome, she asked if the village is exploring alternative solutions and is questioning if this is the right time for the referendum, given the uncertainty around tax rates.

President Skinner announced that next Monday, there will be a meet-and-greet at Village Hall to discuss EMS funding and provide as much information as possible. The Village's portion is only 21% of the total tax bill, with other entities taxing for their own shares.

Trustee Karow added that the alternative to funding EMS is through borrowing, which incurs interest costs. Raising funds through the tax levy is the most cost-effective option for supporting EMS.

PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEE SHARON BOWER - ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, JUDICIARY, LICENSING

Discussion regarding a Community Center Rental Contract from the Twin Lakes Chamber.

The Chamber plans to rent the Community Center for a Parent's Day Out event, offering babysitting while parents shop. Staff has approved the event; this update is just informational for the Board.

TRUSTEE KEVIN FITZGERALD - STREETS & ROADS, EQUIPMENT, STREET LIGHTS, WEEDS, LAKE PLANNING AND PROTECTION

Discussion regarding an Intergovernmental Agreement between Kenosha County and the Village of Twin Lakes for Stormwater Maintenance and drainage facilities on East Lakeshore Drive.

Concerns were raised about maintenance responsibilities if issues arise. Administrator Jager stated there is a one-year warranty, and the Kenosha County Public Works Director confirmed they would assist if needed. The village is responsible for storm sewers, including under county roads. The County did contribute to the funding of the installation of the new storm sewers. Trustee Karow noted there are two stormwater structures from the 1970s-80s that are also the village's responsibility.

TRUSTEE KEN PERL - POLICE, FIRE, LAKE CONTROL, PARKS AND BEACHES

Discussion regarding a quote from Gencomm for a radio.

The Police Chief's squad radio is outdated, causing static and volume issues, and needs replacement through GenComm. A 2022 estimate to upgrade to the County's system was \$100,000. The new radio will be compatible.

Discussion regarding the build-out for the new Police squad.

The 2024 squad is on hand but not yet outfitted. Trustee Fitzgerald proposed the PD look into purchasing a pickup truck for emergency uses, such as towing, so the village doesn't rely on citizens. The sale of two vehicles generated \$7,800, which wasn't included in the budget.

TRUSTEE BARB ANDRES - SEWER, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, YOUTH, LIBRARY

Discussion regarding a potential sewer lining project.

Engineer Droessler stated that a form required by the DNR would place the village on a list for potential grant funding, as discussed in facility planning. The interceptor pipe, a 24-inch asbestos-lined pipe running from County Road Z to the wastewater plant, has been eroding. They plan to televisive this section in the fall to assess its condition; the pipe dates to the 1960s-70s. Approval is requested for the administrator to sign the form. If needed, the village may apply for a Clean Water Fund loan (estimated cost: \$500,000 - \$750,000) and could use cash reserves or qualify for a low-interest loan if the pipe condition is poor.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT HOWARD SKINNER

Discussion regarding a request from the Aquanuts to expand seating and add additional pathways at Lance Park.

Bob Kohler, president of Aquanuts Water Shows, presented a proposal for park improvements to enhance seating, address erosion issues, and improve aesthetics, including removing deteriorated railings and adding shoreline boulder protection. The upgrades would support events like ski shows, Cornfest, and Libertyfest, with estimated costs between \$400,000 - \$500,000. Kohler mentioned potential six-figure donations from foundation donors and hopes to secure village, state, and county support.

Key discussion points included:

- Funding: Kohler seeks a mix of donations, grants, and village participation.
- Volunteer Contribution: Aquanuts and other groups may provide labor to offset retail costs.
- Pathways and Seating: Board members suggested expanding green space, adjusting pathways, and adding seating options like a short wall with railings.
- Additional Ideas: Donation bricks, and \$150,000 in park funds.

ADJOURN – Skinner/Fitzgerald motion to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

/s/Sabrina Waswo, Village Clerk