

Minutes of Regular Session

Proceedings of the Village of Spring Green Board of Trustees

December 20, 2017 – 7:00 pm

154 N. Lexington Street, Spring Green WI

1. **Call to order:** Gene Hausner, Village President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Roll call of Village Board members:** Members present were Gene Hausner, Robin Reid, Joel Marcus, Norm Miller, LuEtta Miller and Vern Demers. Michael Broh was absent. Also present: Wendy Crary, Greg Wipperfurth, Linda Schwanke, Michael Havlik, Kevin Wilkins, Greg Jewell, Pam Chehade, Dave Riek, Kris Stoddard, Bob Churchill, Karen Miller, Randall Knox, Tim Davis, Greg Prem and Jenny Pappas.
3. **Approve Minutes:** Demers moved and Reid seconded to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2017 Special Meeting of the Spring Village Board and Plan Commission as presented. Motion carried.
4. **Approve Minutes:** N. Miller moved and Demers seconded to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2017 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.
5. **Review and approve agenda:** L. Miller moved and N. Miller seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
6. **Consent agenda:** N. Miller moved and Reid seconded to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following:
 - a. Approval of Financial Report
 - b. Approval of DisbursementsMotion carried.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. Demers moved and Reid seconded to approve the amendment to Village Ordinance Chapter 375, Vehicles and Traffic, §375-6B Winter Parking as presented. Marcus moved and Reid seconded to suspend the three readings of the amendment. Motion carried.
 - b. Chehade stated recently, a car was towed at Jeannie Horton's place of business and Jeannie paid the fees. Chehade stated she talked to George Buringa who said the towing of vehicles is giving his business a bad name. Cars are being towed and there have been no snow removal days to date. Chehade stated she checked with other municipalities in regards to snow removal, and none of them tow vehicles. Chehade stated there are only four signs erected and they say nothing about towing; people are not aware of the towing and it is giving Spring Green a bad rap. Chehade stated this is creating a big negative impact for people coming to Spring Green. Chehade suggested not towing vehicles unless there is 2" or more of snow and a snow emergency is declared. Wilkins stated in two of the towing situations, the car owners thought their vehicles were stolen. L. Miller asked, "How do you want us to fix it?". Chehade stated declaring a snow emergency would be a better route. L. Miller stated she agrees with maybe not towing, but tickets should still be issued – "I do not want to go back to the way it was before." L. Miller asked how the communication would be handled if the Village were to go the snow emergency route. Stoddard asked how much communication has been done and stated it should be on-going. Stoddard stated she was willing to help get the word out. Wilkins stated we know how to enforce the ordinance, and we have not been lax in winter enforcement. Wilkins stated as of November 15, 2017, 119 parking tickets have been issued and 10 vehicles have been towed. Wilkins stated at any given time, no more than one vehicle has been parked in the downtown since November 15, 2017. Wilkins stated we should only be towing when there is snow and Public Works is plowing. Reid stated she has lived in several

different municipalities and it is her own responsibility to know the rules. Reid stated we need to have consistency from year to year; this is not popular with everyone, but it is consistent. Reid stated we have to help change the culture and if all of us do it, people will know and it will work. K. Miller stated she feels it is too extreme to tow vehicles when there is no snow. Marcus stated over the years, certain people park on Main Street and do not move their cars when it snows. Sometimes we need to let people know we are serious. Several of the general public commented again that cars should not be towed when there is no snow and asked for more signage. Marcus stated he felt the solution is better communication and not a change in policy. The consensus of the board was to re-tool the existing signage, improve communication and to keep towing vehicles in the downtown at this time. Marcus stated the board will re-evaluate this method of enforcement after the winter season. No action taken.

- c. Crary informed the board that the party interested in putting an ice skating rink at North Park contacted her to let her know their initial location will not work so they are going back to the drawing board. No action taken.
 - d. Prem presented the Auditor's Report for the Spring Green Fire Protection District. Prem noted the following points:
 - ✓ Spending to stay relatively flat in 2018
 - ✓ Board meets every other month – it will take a while to work through some of the issues presented in the audit which include: limited staff, paperwork/oversight, policies. May take two or three years to work throughNo action taken.
 - e. Greg Jewell discussed the 2017 Varsity Avenue Reconstruction Project noting the final measurements spreadsheet. N. Miller moved and Demers seconded to approve the Final Engineer's Report for the 2017 Varsity Avenue Reconstruction Project as presented. Motion carried.
 - f. N. Miller stated he would like to re-visit the administrative fee prior to approval next year. Demers moved and Reid seconded to approve the Law Enforcement Services Agreement between the Village of Spring Green and the Village of Plain as presented. Motion carried.
 - g. Crary gave an update on Delinquent Personal Property Tax, noting to date, there is one delinquency. Crary stated she has sent several letters to the delinquent business but has received no response. Chargeback is not an option, as the business is still operating. No action taken.
 - h. N. Miller moved and Marcus seconded to approve Resolution R-1711 – Fee Schedule for Building Inspection Services as presented. Motion carried.
8. **Information Items:**
- a. Correspondence from WI Department of Natural Resources regarding phosphorus compliance.
9. **General Public Comment:** Greg Jewell stated he checked the ownership of the walking path that runs east-west from Winsted to Wood Street. All sections of the walk path belong to the Village, however there is one section that is about 35' – 40' in width and about 140' long that does not belong to the adjoining lot owners, but it is unclear who does own it. Churchill stated he agrees staying the course with towing vehicles in the downtown and evaluating the process at the end of the season.
10. **Adjourn:** Reid moved and Demers seconded to adjourn at 8:21 pm. Motion carried.