VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE PLEASANT PRAIRIE VILLAGE BOARD PLEASANT PRAIRIE WATER UTILITY PLEASANT PRAIRIE SEWER UTILITY

9915 - 39th Avenue Pleasant Prairie, WI July 2, 2018 6:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Village Board was held on Monday, July 2, 2018. Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Village Board members John Steinbrink, Kris Keckler, Mike Pollocoff, Dave Klimisch and Mike Serpe. Also present were Nathan Thiel, Village Administrator; Tom Shircel, Assistant Village Administrator; Jean Werbie-Harris, Community Development Director; Craig Roepke, Chief of Fire & Rescue; Rocco Vita, Village Assessor; Matt Fineour, Village Engineer; John Steinbrink Jr., Public Works Director; Carol Willke, Human Resources Director; Craig Anderson, Recreation Director and Vesna Savic, Deputy Clerk. No citizens attended the meeting.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. ROLL CALL
- 4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Vesna Savic:

No signups tonight.

John Steinbrink:

Anyone wishing to speak under citizens' comments? Hearing none I'll close citizens' comments.

5. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Nathan Thiel:

Mr. President and Village Board, there is just one items that I wanted to bring to your attention. You should have received in your packet a letter from the League. They recently submitted a request to municipalities throughout the state to assist them in a \$75,000 marketing campaign to support legislation to close the dark store and Walgreen's loophole. The League has asked municipalities for a minimum contribution of \$1,200. While it's within my authority to spend these funds, I did wish to bring it to the Board's attention and seek their direction.

To give some context to the discussion in the current shift in the tax burden from commercial to residential within the Village of Pleasant Prairie is about \$27,000 in taxes generated. If commercial real estate were to be more aggressive the impact could be much larger and as great as a 15 percent tax increase to residential property owners. I would like to suggest setting our contribution based on a percentage to our exposure. If we were to support the League with 10

percent of our current exposure we would contribute about \$2,700. This would be double the League's request, and I believe it would be an appropriate contribution and a good faith gesture. And I guess at this time I just wanted to ask for your thoughts and direction and give you an opportunity to give me any input.

John Steinbrink:

Thank you, Nathan. I did read with great interest in the paper that the Governor feels this is an important issue and that he wishes action would be taken on it. And he says this all happened before his time of becoming Governor. I think I kind of disagree with that time line a little bit. And also he has the power if it's an important issue, which it is an important issue, and right now communities are expending more dollars to bring this to the attention of the public and explain it to them, he has the power to call a special session to bring this forward. Even though leadership did not want to bring it forward he could have done it but he didn't. So apparently that's how much he really cares about this issue. And if he really cares about it he can still call a special now and get this brought forward and get a resolution to it for us. Trustee Serpe?

Michael Serpe:

We've been fighting this issue for quite a while. And our assessor, Rocco Vita, has been very well informed and keeping the Board informed as to what's going on. This is a very important issue not just to the Board but mostly to the homeowners and small businesses of Pleasant Prairie because they're the ones that are going to be totally affected. And I think Nathan is on the right path. I think it's right that we allow him to -- I think the amount of money that he wishes to send up is appropriate. I totally support it. The *Kenosha News* has been on board with this thing trying to bring it to the attention of the public and our newsletter doing the same thing. If they don't address is this auditorium is going to be full of people when their tax bill comes out complaining about the increase in their property taxes. And the reality is it's out of our hands but they're not going to understand that. I think this has to be brought forward, and I appreciate Nathan's efforts on this.

Kris Keckler:

In the recent couple of weeks new home values have been distributed, and a few people and taxpayers that I've spoken with though they see the increase in their home values, they also realize that it comes at a cost of increased services. And not anybody that I've really spoken to has complained about that because they know it's an exchange. And as the Board President just pointed out we have a Governor that can make a statement that it's important, but this is a prime example of where there's things to be said and action to be taken. And I think this is a very prudent and justifiable action on our part to help support this initiative on top of all the other actions this Board has taken whether it's holding listening sessions, working to communicate this through different media outlets, our own internal communications and to our own taxpayers. And so I think when people see that there is value in their taxes potentially going up with the improved

services that's one thing. But if it's on the backs of corporations trying to manipulate a system that is evident to everybody completely unfair this is something I truly support.

Dave Klimisch:

The majority of the State House supports the dark store legislation, the majority of the State Senate supports the dark store legislation. According to the article in the paper the Governor supports the dark store legislation. And here we are having to spend \$2,700 to help pass the legislation which is money that's taxpayers' money. In looking at tonight's agenda we have more business coming. We have a power plant that needs to be addressed. So as a Village municipality we continue working on managing our finances by managing the budget being a place that attracts people to live, work and place and businesses, and we still have to spend \$2,700 for something that the majority of the House Senate and the State administration supports. So it's very frustrating that the political games are being played out at the expense of the homeowners of Pleasant Prairie and all across Wisconsin. So I would hope -- it would be nice if we didn't have to do this, but if we have to do it then we need to spend the money and get this passed so we can keep focusing on managing our finances so Pleasant Prairie is a great place to be.

Mike Pollocoff:

I agree with Nathan's recommendation for a number of reasons. One is that we're opposing some interests that can engage the services of well heeled attorneys to go out and out spend almost any municipality, any board of review. And it's an insidious type of tax shift where people don't see it happening. Sooner or later, we've already had I don't know how much tax burden we had shift away from Target, we had some from Sanmina. These things have slowly but surely taken money away from the municipality. And it is an irony the fact that the majority of the Legislature said this law should be changed. And it's just wonderful that Governor Walker decided to jump in and say he's been for this all along. And he could call a special session.

But the State on one hand is perfectly willing to encourage municipalities to incur debt, produce economic development, find a way to service that economic development with existing property tax pressure because nobody can raise their levy, and go through that effort and work and put that pressure on municipal services, but then on the other hand sit there and say, well, you know, now they have a committee that's going to work on dark stores. The problem is open and shut. It's as simple as can be. Either businesses, especially big box businesses, they get assessed just like everybody else. Just like everybody in this room as a resident got their annual or biannual adjustment. And it's based on market value, they should be in the same [inaudible] the same is true for the Walgreen [inaudible]. And the State can't talk out of both sides of their mouth.

The difficult thing here is that the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Pleasant Prairie, we're all looking to spend \$75,000. And I can guarantee you that those caucuses are getting more than \$75,000 for this. That's who we're competing with. And I think we'd have a better chance, and I don't recommend we do this, but I think they're waiting for the municipalities to start paying that

money directly so that that money can go to the caucus [inaudible] somebody else to say, well, we're getting a lot of influence here. It's the worse thing to see government run this way but that's what's going on.

When you have the majority of people inclined to agree with something but for some reason it can't happen, you have to look at the money [inaudible]. That's what's going on. I'm sure we could find another way to spend \$2,700. As long as the State is not going to act in a fiscally responsible manner and deal with the taxes in an equitable manner this is where we end up. As long as that's not going to the Legislature I'd say spend the \$2,700 and try and convince other people [inaudible] a little bit difficult subject of what's going on and [inaudible].

John Steinbrink:

One other point to keep in mind it's easy to say you're for it as a Legislator. We had a hard time convincing our Legislators to be for it. I guess it's easy to be for it if you don't have to take a vote on it. But the true test is when you have to take a vote on it. Either you're with the taxpayers or you're with corporate welfare. And as long as they can put that off it's easy to be for it. So, Nathan, I also concur with your recommendation.

Nathan Thiel:

So, President, I'll move forward with this. But just everybody be aware that should there be additional funds necessary I may bring this issue back, and at that point I'd bring it up probably for a direct motion. Just one point of clarification to you that's just kind of sad is that our State Legislature has worked very hard to try to provide tax relief to the property owners here within the State. And I had a resident approach me and tell me about how their assessment went up or their values went up. And I tried to explain that we don't see any increase in levy in that resolve. Like there's nothing that we gain.

And what's worse is that when incentives are being given to commercial and industrial through personal property tax and these dark store loopholes, all that does is it pushes more of the burden onto the residential property owners. And they see their taxes go up, and they think that somehow the municipalities are benefitting and we are not benefitting at all. Meanwhile when you can make the claim that we've created tax levies and we created tax relief, there' benefit and gain politically, but in the trenches we're kind of stuck. And so I appreciate the comments that were made here today and the opportunity to work with the League on this legislation. I don't have any other items to report, but I did feel this was an important issue to bring up to the Board.

John Steinbrink:

Thank you, Nathan. I guess the main thing to keep in mind is the fact that you've got lobbyist dollars going in to persuade from one side, and you've got taxpayer dollars from our end and the League's end. So it's a no win for the taxpayers at this point. All right, Nathan, that was your report.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Receive Plan Commission recommendation and consider the Development Agreement of the proposed development located north of STH 165 along 120th Avenue known as The Gateway at LakeView Corporate Park.

Jean Werbie-Harris:

Mr. President and members of the Board, the petitioner is proposing to develop the vacant property generally located at the northeast corner of Highway 165 and 120th Avenue known as the East Frontage Road. And this is generally for commercial development that could include restaurants, gas station and car washes, multi-tenant commercial buildings, hotels and other commercial development. The project is intended to be known as The Gateway at LakeView Corporate Park. As part of the project development a development agreement is being prepared and has been prepared and is being presented to the Village Board this evening. Again, the development agreement sets forth specific site improvements and identifies the selling of lots for future lots owners to construct on the commercial lots that are being created by the developer.

The developer has requested that the Village amend it's Tax Increment Finance District, TID 5 or the District including the property to pay for and to reimburse the developer for certain projects costs as defined of the TIF law that are being incurred by the developer in connection with the development of the property. On June 18, 2018, the Village Board had adopted Resolution 18-20 which approved the project plan Amendment #1 to the TID project plan. And this was to amend the project plan district boundaries to include this property. The TID project plan provides that the development project be accompanied with this development agreement that we've been working on.

The development agreement, again, is intended to serve as an agreement for the construction of public and private improvements, and sets forth the obligations by the developer as well as the Village. Some of the specific projects that would be included as part of the development include general construction, sanitary sewer construction, water main construction, storm sewer construction, electrical improvements including street lights, site grading improvements, State Trunk Highway 165 improvements, public street and boulevard plantings and to do some concrete, asphalt and turn lane work in the East Frontage Road at 165.

As part of the review and is included in the development agreement is the master conceptual plan that was presented to the Village Plan Commission and the Board previously and had been approved back in December. At that time we'd identified that there potentially could be four or more potential uses on this development property site at that northeast corner. The lot that's identified as lot number 5 there will be some minimal grading work that is completed on that particular site. But the intent is to get all the roadway work completed in the East Frontage Road, the street lights, street trees, and then all of the other infrastructure work that's going to be needed for the development of the area.

A Certified Survey Map was before the Plan Commission and Board as well. At this time three lots and one outlot has been identified. Certainly Lot 3 could be further subdivided, and there could be multiple uses on the lots that are to be created. As reflected back to the previous Plan Commission meeting, this is just a general development map that just shows some of that infrastructure that is being proposed as a result of this development.

The Village believes that unless the Village sees some type of incentives to the developer as set forth in the agreement, that the developer would not undertake these projects as part of the development of this land. The Village has determined that the development of the property pursuant to our agreement and the fulfillment generally of this development agreement by the parties is in the best interest of the Village and its residents, will create jobs benefitting the residents of the Village and the surrounding area, will increase the value of the taxable property within the district, will enhance the value of other properties in the Village, and will promote the orderly development of the property in accordance with the Village's comprehensive plan for growth and development in accord with our public purposes for this development.

One of the other things I did want to mention is that as part of this project the Village is looking to create a new lift station that will service lands between Highway C down to 122nd Street and then west of I-94. And so we are looking to construct a new lift station. The developer as part of this development agreement will be dedicating the land for that lift station. And there will be no direct assessment obviously to that developer because of that land donation. So with that there were a couple of points I'm not sure, Nathan, if you want to bring. There's like two or three points that we discussed with the developers latest this afternoon that have been incorporated into this agreement.

Nathan Thiel:

Thanks, Jean. The only items that I would add is just for the awareness of the Board, we apologize for the lateness of this agreement arriving to you. We finalized it this afternoon. The intent being that there is a precon scheduled for tomorrow, and that will, contingent on this moving forward with somewhat of the impetus of getting this before you sooner rather than later. During the Plan Commission I had wrongly said that was precon for Kwik Trip. It's actually for The Gateway project in its entirety.

Basically the incentive is a \$2.8 million municipal revenue obligation bond. That obligation bond is going to be paid through the TID 5 with increment that's being generated from these Gateway parcels as well as two parcels to the north owned by CDA and WisPark. Also just for the Board's awareness typically we'd want to have declarations of covenants, conditions and restrictions for this development presented at the same time. Given time frames we're giving a 45 day window. As discussed at the Plan Commission meeting there's still plenty of leverage to make sure that those conditions and declarations are complete before we actually give building permits. And so we feel comfortable, staff feels comfortable moving forward.

And then also just the last item we did address specifically the dark store loophole to prevent that type of argument being used during the life of the TID. So I think that the staff worked hard. Our attorneys worked well in trying to come to agreement, and we feel comfortable with this agreement as presented.

Mike Pollocoff:

The Plan Commission made a positive recommendation on this. I'd move that we do as well. Staff did work really hard under not the best circumstances to put it together but they got it done. So I'd move that we approve the development agreement as presented by the staff.

Michael Serpe:

I'll second.

John Steinbrink:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Hearing none, those in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

John Steinbrink:

Opposed? Motion carries.

POLLOCOFF MOVED TO CONCUR WITH THE PLAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT LOCATED NORTH OF STH 165 ALONG 120TH AVENUE KNOWN AS THE GATEWAY AT LAKEVIEW CORPORATE PARK; SECONDED BY SERPE; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

B. Receive Plan Commission recommendation and consider approval of a Certified Survey Map for We Energies, to subdivide property located on the west side of 120th Avenue north of 122nd Street, for the construction of a new electric distribution substation.

Jean Werbie-Harris:

Mr. President and members of the Board, We Energies is proposing to construct a new electric distribution substation that will take high voltage electricity from 128 kV transmission lines and decrease or step down the voltage to 24.9 kV on the property. And this is generally located on the west side of 120th Avenue or the East Frontage Road about a quarter mile north of 122nd

Street. The new substation would be referred to as State Line Substation, and it will be used to deliver electricity to area homes and businesses.

Lot 1 is proposed to be created by Certified Survey Map and will be acquired by We Energies from the Riverview Group, LLC, for the proposed substation. The Lot 1 will be 6.9817 acres with frontage along 120th Avenue. A portion of the lot has wetlands at the very north/northwest corner. And that area will remain undisturbed. These wetlands were field verified and will be placed into the C-1, Lowland Resource Conservancy District. The remainder of the lot is zoned M-5, Production Manufacturing District.

On June 25th the Plan Commission conditionally approved a Conditional Use Permit including site and operational plans for the construction of the State Line Substation. Construction of the substation is expected to begin in August of 2019 and to be completed by May of 2020. Also on the screen is an illustration of how the substation will appear on the lot. There will be one direct access to 120th Avenue, and that will align with a future driveway for the Riverview or the Stateline 94 development on the east side. The staff will continue to work with We Energies to make sure that we've got an acceptable landscaping plan. We've asked for a few more things with respect to the landscaping plan, but everything else is in order.

Dave Klimisch:

What's the security and the screening look like?

Jean Werbie-Harris:

So at this point the security is they've got chainlink fencing, and then they've got barbed wire around the top of the chainlink fencing for the site. The site is not completely screened similar to the substation on Bain Station Road and the one that's in the We Energies property north of 95th Street. So we've asked them to do some additional screening along 120th Avenue with respect to roofs of trees and different types of trees and more evergreen trees. And do them in groups of three and to try instead of just doing a soldier course of them to try to do it in such a way that it provides a little bit better screening for the site.

To the west of this property there are a lot of trees. It's part of a corridor, primary environmental corridor, secondary corridor. So there's a lot of trees to the south. To the very north there will be some -- a stormwater basin to the very north. And then to the south is really the transmission line corridor. So they need to be able to have clear access to the south, but we've got a large wooded area to the west, and I'm asking them to take a look at a couple of different things for screening to the east.

Dave Klimisch:

Do we have them install a camera, the DSIS?

Jean Werbie-Harris:

The DSIS is not required because they are currently zoned in an M-5, Production Manufacturing District so it's not required. I don't know whether or not they intend to put any type of camera system on the site.

Dave Klimisch:

Has We Energies done that at other sites that are kind of off the beaten path?

Jean Werbie-Harris:

I don't know. But what I can tell you is 120th Avenue in this case will be the opposite side where Stateline 94 is looking to develop all of their industry. So it's not really going to be -- it's going to be visible, and it's going to be accessible. Right now it's not as busy there. I don't know if there's anybody here from We Energies if there are anymore questions.

John Steinbrink:

Sure, come up. Give us your name and address for the record.

James Kielma:

Hi, my name is James Kielma. I represent We Energies, 221 West Everett Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. To answer your question the station is surrounded by not a chainlink but an extruded high security fence so it's like a really, really small chainlink. So it's not climbable. And we do have electronic card access on the gates and on the building doors. And we haven't made the final determination, but we do have the capability to have motion cameras, motion activated cameras.

Dave Klimisch:

And then barbed wire across the top like Jean said?

James Kielma:

Yes.

Dave Klimisch:

There's always a lot riding on every station, every substation [inaudible].

James Kielma:

Yes. And as far as the screening we're willing to do whatever is required. We do usually recommend that you don't totally screen it because usually your police or fire department wants to be able to see if anyone's in the station that shouldn't be there or if there's any unauthorized access. So we'll balance between leaving a little visibility and screening it.

John Steinbrink:

Jean?

Jean Werbie-Harris:

I was up in Milwaukee over the weekend, and I noticed I think it was on south 27th Street, but I would have to remember, but it might have been a little bit further north. But they have like a screening, and you could still see through it and it allowed wind to go through it. But there was screening along the fencing. Is that possible for you to do that?

James Kielma:

Separate from the fence?

Jean Werbie-Harris:

It was integral with the fence.

James Kielma:

Okay. The newer fence generally not. Like I said the pictures show it --

Jean Werbie-Harris:

I took a picture.

James Kielma:

-- the holes in the fence are only like half an inch or so, the diamonds.

Jean Werbie-Harris:

So if it's possible I'd like to maybe entertain that.

James Kielma:

It's certainly something we can look at. What we've proposed is very, very standard, and it's actually the same fence we're putting in every substation that has older chainlink fence. So pretty industry standard stuff.

Dave Klimisch:

So you'll be -- separate from this you're in the process of upgrading fences at other stations?

James Kielma:

Yes, all over our service territory. We had a lot of problems with copper theft and other things.

Dave Klimisch:

I move approval of the Certified Survey Map.

Kris Keckler:

Second.

John Steinbrink:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Hearing none, thank you. Those in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

John Steinbrink:

Opposed? So carries.

KLIMISCH MOVED TO CONCUR WITH THE PLAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVED CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP FOR WE ENERGIES, TO SUBDIVIDE PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF 120TH AVENUE NORTH OF 122ND STREET, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION; SECONDED BY KECKLER; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

C. Consider Plan Commission approval of Resolution #18-23 to initiate the discontinuance of 110th Street east of 116th Avenue.

Jean Werbie-Harris:

Mr. President and members of the Board, this is a request for the approval of Resolution 18-23. And this is to initiate the discontinuance of 110th Street east of 116th Avenue. The Village Board may initiate the continuation in whole or in part of any road, slip, alley or lane by the introduction of a resolution declaring that the public interest requires it. The Village of Pleasant Prairie has received a request from the adjacent property owners to approve the discontinuance of a portion of 110th Street east of 116th Avenue. This would be south of Parcels 19 and 20 of CSM 1699 within the LakeView Corporate Park West.

The portion of right of way was originally dedicated by CSM 1699. However, the roadway improvements as you can see were never constructed. A plat of survey and a legal description of the public street encompassing the discontinuance has been prepared and has been provided as Exhibit A as part of the resolution. The Plan Commission would be required to review the legal description and the plat of survey, and they'd be required to forward a recommendation regarding the discontinuance to the Village Board. A public hearing to consider this discontinuance shall be set before the Village Board not less than 40 days after the passage of this resolution. So as part of this resolution the public hearing could be scheduled before the Village Board of Trustees on August 20, 2018 for a public hearing.

Again, this is a request that is being made by Interstate Partners. And this comes as a result of a proposed development that they are looking to do. It's a multifamily development that is north of 110th Street and then east of 116th Avenue. The property to the south is Stateline 94 property. Their conceptual on their master plan for their industrial development does not show an access or a need for 110th Street. And the multifamily development, again, east of Premium Outlets, east of 116th Avenue does not show a need or an access to 110th Street either.

There is one property as you can see that lies to the east. And there is actually a private gravel driveway that extends from 116th Avenue to his property that is not located within the 110th Street right of way. And they have sought out requests or at least no objection from not only Interstate Partners but WisPark, LLC, David Moore from the Conservation Education, LLC group, and Mark Goode from the Riverview Group, LLC. So they are requesting that the Board take the first step by adopting this resolution in order to start the review process, send out the appropriate notices and to set the public hearing date not less than 45 days thereafter.

Michael Serpe:

I'd move approval of Resolution 18-23 and set it for public hearing.

Kris Keckler:
Second.

John Steinbrink:
Motion and a second. Further discussion? Hearing none, those in favor?

Voices:
Aye.

John Steinbrink:
Opposed? So carries.

SERPE MOVED TO CONCUR WITH THE PLAN COMMISSION AND APPROVED RESOLUTION #18-23 TO INITIATE THE DISCONTINUANCE OF 110TH STREET EAST OF 116TH AVENUE; SECONDED BY KECKLER; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

7. VILLAGE BOARD COMMENTS

I think we've covered the one big looming question here tonight and that's the dark store issue. And it's probably one of the biggest issues to come before the villages and probably the state for all the communities in there that are going to be affected by this. And once the communities are affected then it's the taxpayers that are affected. And then it's the services the taxpayers receive are affected. And I'd sure like to see our Legislators get going on something. If leadership doesn't want to bring it forward then it's time for them to get new leadership. Further Village Board comments?

8. ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 19.85(1) (E) FOR DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASING OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION.

Mic	hael	Ser	pe:
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John Steinbrink:

So moved.

Village Board Meeting

July 2, 2018

Village Board Meeting July 2, 2018 Kris Keckler: Second. John Steinbrink: Motion and a second. We need a roll call vote, correct? Vesna Savic: John Steinbrink? John Steinbrink: Aye. Kris Keckler: Aye. Mike Pollocoff: Aye. Dave Klimisch: Aye. Michael Serpe: Aye. John Steinbrink:

SERPE MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION; SECONDED BY KECKLER; ROLL CALL VOTE: STEINBRINK – YES; KECKLER – YES; POLLOCOFF – YES; KLIMISCH – YES; SERPE – YES; MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

9. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Motion carries.

Item 9 is the return to open session, and this is for the purpose of adjournment only. No other business will be conducted.

10. ADJOURNMENT

SERPE MOVED TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURN THE MEETING; SECONDED BY KECKER; MOTION CARRIED 5-0 AND MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:47 P.M.