

**Minutes of the Village Board Meeting
Feb. 8, 2021
Village Hall Board Room**

Call to Order

Village President Burt R. McIntyre called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

In Person: Village President Burt R. McIntyre; Trustee Chris Nielsen, Wards 3 & 4; Trustee Cathy Hughes, Wards 5 & 6; Trustee John Muraski, Wards 7 & 8; Trustee Scott Beyer, Wards 9 & 10; Trustee Ray Suennen, Wards 11 & 12; Trustee Adam Lemorande, Wards 13-14 & 18; Trustee Craig McAllister, Wards 15-17

By Phone: Trustee Maria Lasecki, Wards 1 & 2

Staff: Paul Evert, Chris Haltom, Dave Wiese, Geoff Farr, Mike Kaster, Leigh Ann Wagner Kroening

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. McIntyre confirmed the Village Board's compliance with state open meeting laws.

Agenda Approval

C. Hughes moved to approve the agenda. A. Lemorande seconded.
The motion carried unanimously.

Public Appearances

Geoff Heezen, 1225 Pinecrest Road, said the Evergreen Avenue and Pinecrest Road project was supposed to be delayed several years, and he was planning to save for the assessments during that time. Since the village has moved up the project, he said he would like an extended payment plan at a very low interest rate.

Robert Bottom, 3200 Evergreen Ave., said he wants to make sure the special assessments are fairly levied. He said his direct neighbors don't have the same improvements and related costs.

Andy Caelwaerts, 3268 Evergreen Ave., said the Village of Howard is buying property from him and is taking 11 of his trees, and he would like to know how much he will be compensated. He also said the other nearby improvements have negatively impacted his property, especially with drainage issues that cause flooding in his yard.

Dan Gilinski, 1209 Pinecrest Road, said he is frustrated that the Evergreen/Pinecrest road construction project will impact the rural environment and comes with expensive special assessments.

Chris Bublitz, 1173 Pinecrest Road, said the Evergreen/Pinecrest road project wasn't scheduled for another five years and now seems as it is being rushed. He said he also doesn't want sidewalks in his neighborhood and would prefer a reduced speed limit for greater safety.

Vanessa Moran, 2776 Rennys Way, a candidate for the Howard-Suamico School Board came forward to outline her experience and her stance on issues facing the district.

Anthony Renish, 3262 Evergreen Ave., said he just moved into his home in December and can't afford to now pay special assessments for a project he views as pointless.

Future Agenda Items/ Announcements

R. Suennen requested a closed session item on a future agenda to discuss land acquisition for the Public Works Department.

C. McAllister requested an agenda item at the Feb. 22 meeting to discuss any future change orders that will be required for the VV interchange sanitary sewer project.

C. Hughes thanked the Public Works crews for their efforts to clean up after the snowfall, despite brutally cold temperatures.

Communications

R. Suennen moved to receive and place on file the S&P Global Ratings Letter for the Village of Howard. A. Lemorande seconded. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

J. Muraski moved to approve the consent agenda. C. Nielsen seconded. **The motion carried unanimously**, and the following items were approved as part of the revised Consent Agenda:

Village Board meeting minutes from Jan. 25, 2021

Municipal invoices totaling \$553,731.09, paid with checks #70708 - #70769

Operator Licenses for the following individuals:

- i. Shawn J. Dugre
- ii. Katie M. Niec
- iii. Jennifer S. Ure
- iv. Jessie L. Watermolen

New Business **Resolution for \$4.5 million GO Bonds**

Justin Fischer of Baird reviewed the bids that were received by interested lenders. The board discussed. C. Nielsen moved to approve Resolution 2021-06, which authorizes issuing \$4.5 million in general obligation bonds to UMB Bank. A. Lemorande seconded. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Guidelines for Public Appearances

P. Evert reviewed prior discussion and action regarding the Public Appearances portion of the Village Board agenda. R. Suennen said he doesn't like the verbiage in the Public Appearances language that limits comments to 15 minutes, and he also said he wants to make

sure the board and/or staff are addressing any public comments that contain misinformation. **No action was taken.**

Shawano Avenue – Crescent Hills special assessments

M. Kaster reviewed the proposed resolution for special assessments on Shawano Avenue and the Plat of Crescent Hills Estates. The board discussed. C. Hughes moved to approve Preliminary Resolution 2021-07, declaring the intent to exercise special assessment powers under Wisconsin Statute Section 66.0701 upon Shawano Avenue and the Plat of Crescent Hills. C. Nielsen seconded. **The motion carried 8-1 (No: C. McAllister).**

Plat of Hazel Estates special assessments

M. Kaster reviewed the proposed resolution for special assessments on the Plat of Hazel Estates. A. Lemorande moved to approve Preliminary Resolution 2021-08, declaring the intent to exercise special assessment powers under Wisconsin Statute Section 66.0701 upon the Plat of Hazel Estates. J. Muraski seconded. **The motion carried 8-0 (M. Lasecki abstained).**

Evergreen – Pinecrest Special assessments

M. Kaster reviewed the proposed resolution for special assessments on Evergreen Avenue and Pinecrest Road. C. McAllister reviewed the discussion the board has had over the past year and the decisions that led to moving the project up. R. Suennen recapped the research the board has done to draft the existing special assessments policy. The board discussed. R. Suennen moved to approve Preliminary Resolution 2021-09, declaring the intent to exercise special assessment powers under Wisconsin Statute Section 66.0701 upon Evergreen Avenue and Pinecrest Road. C. Nielsen seconded. **The motion carried 7-2 (No: S. Beyer, C. McAllister).**

Relocation order for Marley Street

M. Kaster reviewed the proposed relocation order for the extension of Marley Street. C. Nielsen moved to approve Resolution 2021-10, a relocation order for the laying out, realignment, extension, and construction of Marley Street. M. Lasecki seconded. **The motion carried 8-1 (No: C. McAllister).**

Reports of Village Officials

C. Haltom reviewed the financial report for 2020 for the General Fund, Howard Commons Apartments, Village Green Golf Course, and the three utilities. The board discussed. **No action was taken.**

G. Farr discussed the immediate, short-term, and long-term needs of the Public Works facility. The board discussed. **No action was taken.**

Adjourn

C. McAllister moved to adjourn. J. Muraski seconded. **The motion carried unanimously, and the board adjourned at 8:01 p.m.**

Leigh Ann Wagner Kroening
Administrative Assistant