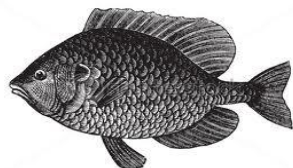


REGULAR MEETING BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday – April 9, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.

Webster Community Center
7421 Main Street West, Webster, WI



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VILLAGE OF WEBSTER

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Village President, Ed Dedman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**
- III. **ROLL CALL** – President, Ed Dedman; Trustees, Kelsey Gustafson; Tim Maloney; Jeff Roberts; Aaron Sears; Matt Stuart; and Charlie Weis. Others present: Public Works Director, Dylan Lippert; Clerk-Treasurer, Debra Doriott-Kuhnly; Police Chief, Stephenie Wedin; Greg Marsten – Burnett County Sentinel; Mark Krause- Village Surveyor & Acting Engineer, Russ Burford, Sherill Summer-Larsen Family Public Library, Teresa Anderson- MSA, Aaron Bentley – Burnett County Emergency Management, Karen Walker, Bill Summer, Sue Weis, Ryan Benson, Max, Judy and Mike Sperry. Absent: None.
- IV. **PUBLIC NOTICE OF AGENDA, DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL** –Motion made by Trustee, Sears to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Trustee, Stuart. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- V. **VISITOR RECOGNITION** –President, Dedman gave the floor to Karen Walker. Karen introduced yourself and spoke of her experience. She explained that she continues to do a lot of training with the public on preparedness. Her biggest concern for the county is fire danger and it doesn't have a plan. Aaron Bentley with Burnett County Emergency Management then introduced himself and his experience. They are asking for free use of the Community Center for wildfire evacuation & safety seminars. They provided handouts. They are looking for 2-to-3-hour blocks, in Mid-May, for 2-3 seminars. Karen stated that these are American Legion sponsored seminars. Motion made by Trustee, Stuart to waive the rental fee for the 1st session; seconded by Trustee, Gustafson. After board questions and discussions, **Motion carried 7-0.** Karen was instructed to contact the clerk for the necessary forms and confirm date.

Max Sperry, owner of Northview Drive-Inn, was given the floor. Max stated that Attorney Ryan Benson is also in attendance to explain the legal aspect of his request of abandonment of the alley behind the Drive-Inn. Max has 2 lots that are separated by the alley and if that section ceased to be an alley it would open up building potential and he is interested in building family friendly entertainment in that space. Ryan handed out pictures of the lots/area. He provided background on the plat and in 1963 the Village acquired the lots for the purpose of a public alley and right to install water/sewer line. He explained the legal process (vacating alley) according to WI State Statute 66.1003. Max clarified that he is only asking for the most northern section of the alley, and no garages open up to alley. Trustee, Weis asked if Max is only looking for green space. Weis stated that village's water and sewer lines run under the alley and green space would be ok, but a permanent type of building would not. Trustee, Maloney asked Max's plans (for the portion of the alley). Max said he doesn't have an exact plan yet-he would like to know if he has access to the space 1st to make a plan. He said it would be family friendly entertainment/activities/play area. Mark Krause stated that typically alleys are vacated when no longer used – this one is currently being used for water and sewer and the public. Trustee, Maloney said this is a consequential event, to vacate an alley, he would like to know more about the plan before making a decision. Trustee, Stuart brought up the possibility of a cul-a-sec. Probably not an option. Trustee, Weis asked about possibility of seasonal – Memorial Day to Labor Day? Max said he would be interested in that if the Board was not interested in total abandonment. Dedman suggests bringing this before the Plan

Commission or Judicial Committee– reiterated the need for a specific plan from Max and warrants further discussion.

Next, Max Sperry stated he wants to replace the sign at the Drive-Inn and understands that there is a moratorium on signs. The new sign would be a little bigger: 6 X 7. The sign would be in the same location as the current sign. The board discussed if just replacing the sign, the moratorium may not apply. Dedman said he would like to check the ordinances on replacing, and if needed, bring this request to the Plan Commission. Will get back to Max on both his requests. Dedman praised Max on this owning and growing a business in the Village.

Motion made by Trustee, Roberts; seconded by Trustee, Weis to approve the CSM to combine the 3 lots into 1 on the Maloney property. **Motion carried 6-0 (Trustee, Maloney abstained.)**

Motion made by Trustee, Maloney; seconded by Trustee, Sears to close Apple St, in the Fairgrounds, on June 18th for the Library's Touch-A-Truck Event from 1-3pm. The library will clean the bathrooms after the event. **Motion carried 7-0.** Motion made by Trustee, Maloney; seconded by Trustee, Stuart to charge the library a reduced rate of \$70 per event for use of the Community Center for the Library's Summer Reading Program on seven Wednesdays during the summer, and eight 2nd Saturday Movies. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion made by Trustee, Weis; seconded by Trustee, Roberts to approve the following minutes: March 12, 2025, Regular Board Meeting and March 26, 2025, Public Property Committee Meeting Minutes. Trustee, Gustafson said under Finance in the board meeting minutes, should be amended to state "repair 1-ton box". **Motion carried 7-0.**
- VII. **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS & RECEIPTS:** March 11, 2025– April 6, 2025 vouchers and receipts were presented. Motion was made by Trustee, Stuart; seconded by Trustee, Weis to approve vouchers in the amount of \$85,690.03 and receipts in the amount of \$20,440.91. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- VIII. **COMMUNICATIONS:** None.
- IX. **JUDICIAL – Chairman, Ed Dedman:** The Police Department schedules were included in the meeting packet. Chief Wedin reported 48 incidents for the month.

Dedman provided an update from the last meeting, on the extended warranties. Motion made by Trustee, Gustafson; seconded by Trustee, Stuart to obtain and include extended warranties for the two new vehicles on the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands Trust Loan. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion made by Trustee, Roberts; seconded by Trustee, Stuart to approve the loan application (in the amount of \$141,700.00) from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands Trust. **Motion carried 7-0.**

President, Dedman read Resolution to Borrow Funds for the Purpose of Financing the Purchase of Capital Equipment and Vehicles from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands Trust. Roll Call Voice Vote taken and results are as follows: Trustee, Gustafson "aye"; Trustee, Maloney "aye"; Trustee, Roberts "aye"; Trustee, Sears "aye"; Trustee, Stuart "aye; Trustee, Weis "aye" and Trustee/President, Dedman "aye". **Motion carried 7-0.**

The proposed new Village Logo was included in the meeting packet. As discussed in last month's meeting, Dedman said this is a recommendation by the Webster Area Chamber of Commerce to update the logo to the proposed design. Trustee, Sears asked if that changes the logo on the paperwork and everything to a sturgeon from the sunfish. Yes. Bill Summer asked how much to change the picture on

the water tower. Motion made by Trustee, Stuart to change the logo; seconded by Trustee, Weis. Trustee, Maloney said the village adopted the current logo not too long ago – painted it on the water tower, on the letterhead, etc. And he thinks the Village and the Chamber should be two separate entities. And the project (Sturgeon Park) was stressed that it is a Chamber driven event. Dedman confirmed this for the park. Maloney said his opinion is he doesn't see how Chamber actions should require the village to change its logo. Trustee, Sears agrees. Trustee, Roberts agrees. Maloney reiterated that there was a lot of discussion on this (village logo) not too long ago and doesn't see the need for the change in the logo. Dedman and Kuhnly confirmed that the letterhead is not pre-printed. Bill Summer stated when he was the Chamber President in 2016, they fought to keep the sunfish as the logo. Received challenges from multiple municipalities resulted in litigation; and fought and won to keep the logo. **Motion denied 1-5. (Dedman did not vote)**

- X. **PERSONNEL – Chairman, Jeff Roberts:** Roberts spoke of SkillPath Training. He isn't seeking action tonight and will wait until next month. It offers Leadership, Management, People Skills, Human Resources, etc and is instructor-led virtual seminars. One year with an unlimited access pass costs \$499. The training would be for village employees and trustees. Kuhnly stated SkillPath has been around for years, and she took sessions 20+ years ago from the company.

Clerk, Kuhnly swore in newly elected Village President, Ed Dedman and Village Trustees, Tim Maloney; Bill Summer and Sue Weis.

Appointing Sue Weis to the Library Board was tabled. Maloney explained, due to a state statute, not more than one Village Board member can sit on the Library Board. Currently both Maloney and Sue Weis sit on The Library Board and now both on the Village Board. The Library Board meets next Monday

- X. **PUBLIC UTILITY – Chairman, Aaron Sears:** Nothing New to Report. Sears thanked the Village Board for having him on the Board for 6 years. The Board thanked him.
- XI. **FINANCE – Chairman, Matt Stuart:** Motion made by Trustee, Gustafson; seconded by Trustee, Maloney to approve the presented proposal from Sleepy Hollow Mowing in the amount of \$6605.00. Discussed the drainage ditch mowing vs haying by private citizen. Lippert said he told the party the haying must be done before the last week of June. Also, discussed all drainage ditches must be mowed. Some have not been done in the past. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- XII. **PUBLIC PROPERTY – Chairman, Tim Maloney:** Maloney reiterated that Sturgeon Park is a Chamber driven project with the support of the Village. Motion made by Trustee, Roberts to approve the Lease Agreement between the School District of Webster & Village of Webster for The Sturgeon Park; seconded by Trustee, Stuart. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Maloney explained the Lease for the Softball Field. Motion made by Trustee, Roberts to approve the Lease Agreement between the School District of Webster & Village of Webster use of the softball field located with the Village Fairground area, the amenities and the restroom facilities. Add the following language to Lessor's Obligation. "The lessor will provide use of the restroom facilities after April 15th of each year"; seconded by Trustee, Stuart. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- XIII. **STREETS – Chairman, Kelsey Gustafson:** Nothing New to Report.

- XIV. **DEVELOPMENT & ANNEXATION – Chairman, Charlie Weis:** Informational- Weis stated he attended the Four Area Chamber Housing Seminar. Great job done by our Village President (and Chamber member), Ed. The seminar further emphasized the need for housing in Burnett County. It brought together a wide group of professionals within the County, contractors, schools, villages, law enforcement, real estate, etc. It was well attended, and it brought a new level of awareness that there is a need for housing in the County.
The board thanked Charlie for years of service to the Village Board.
- XV. **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Trustee, Dedman:** Dedman reported the Chamber’s focus is currently on the Sturgeon Park Project and the Memorial Day Arts & Craft Fair. Also, the normal summer events.
- XVI. **WEBSTER RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION MEETING UPDATE – Trustee, Tim Maloney:** The next fire meeting is April 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
- XVII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS & FUTURE MEETINGS:**
- May 14, 2025 *Reorganizational Meeting
 - May 14, 2025 *Regular Board Meeting
 - June 10, 2025 *Meeting to Adjourn Board of Review to Later Date
 - September 11, 2025 *Open Book
 - September 18, 2025 *Board of Review
 - TBD- Plan Commission Meeting
- XVIII. **ADJOURNMENT.** Motion was made by Trustee, Roberts; second by Trustee, Sears to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. **Motion carried 7-0.**

The board celebrated Trustee, Weis and Trustee, Sears on their years of serving on the Village Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Doriott-Kuhnly
Clerk-Treasurer
April 9, 2025

***These minutes are subject to approval at next month’s Regular Meeting.

Village President, Ed Dedman

Trustee, Kelsey Gustafson

Trustee, Tim Maloney

Trustee, Jeff Roberts

Trustee, Aaron Sears

Trustee, Matt Stuart

Trustee, Charlie Weis

Attest: _____
Clerk-Treasurer