

December 2, 2021
VILLAGE OF NEW AUBURN
PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearings of the Village Board, Village of New Auburn, was held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

The first purpose of the meeting was for a public hearing for the WWTP (Wastewater Treatment Plant) specifically for the proposed upgrades to the Village of New Auburn Waste Water Treatment facility. A facility plan as well as details of the proposed facility was presented and discussed at length. The Village openly requested concerns and opinions from the public with regards to the proposed project.

The second purpose of the meeting was for a budget hearing for the Village of New Auburn. The 2022 budget was presented and discussed. The Village openly requested concerns and opinions from the public with respect to the proposed budget for 2022.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Lotts. Answering roll call were Brad Lotts; Dan Stanford; Dennis Webb; Marv Baroun; Shannon Berg. All present. None absent. Staff present were Clerk-Treasurer Peggy Stanford, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Ardith Story. Others present were: Larry Gotham from Morgan & Parmley; Sean Lentz and Josh Low from Ehlers; two citizens; and two republican party representatives.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. None

NEW BUSINESS

3. PUBLIC HEARING: WWTP Facility Plan Specifically for the Proposed Upgrades to the Village of New Auburn Waste Water Treatment Facility. Facility Plan Details Will be Presented and Discussed. The Village is requesting concerns and opinions from the public, regarding the proposed project;

Larry Gotham reviewed the proposed project scope of the WWTP facility at length including the historical factors of the initial facility built in 1984 as well as the current project's proposed facility plan. The facility plan is a two-step process with Step 1 submitting the treatment facility plan and Step 2 the DNR reviewing the submitted plan for final approval. The bid process should begin in February 2022. The existing ponds will have the sludge removed with about 6-inches to 24-inches from the bottom of the ponds. Larry will be working with public works and one local pumper on the two aeration ponds with most likely the aerator's being removed. Trustee Stanford inquired about the replacement of the liners for which Larry responded we may be possibly looking at that as part of a contingency. The liners are polyethylene plastic and is not exposed to sunlight. The new pond liner will be a 45-mil linear-low density polyethylene liner (LLDPE). It is UV resistant with a dirt slope with the liner showing at the new pond. The life expectancy is 30 years life guarantee on the liner, this liner is the same material as what is used at fish hatcheries, landfills, etc.

Total project estimate is \$2,084,297. A 10% inflation is included. A Clean Water Grant of \$625,290 was awarded with the remaining to be borrowed at a subsidized rate. The EPA pays a portion back. In our case we are borrowing from the TID #1 District, with a 20-year loan maximum.

Sean Lentz and Josh Lowe from Ehlers presented the financial review of the project including the Village's existing situation and future including the WWTP project. The 20-year rate is at 1.485% with payments in May and November of each year starting 2023 thru 2042 principal and interest payments. Payments are expected to be \$84,386. The cash flow with the TID was reviewed. Ehlers recommends to keep the \$1 million in the TID as reserve, apply for a loan for the full amount, request an extension of the TID for three years. The intent of the village going into this is to not raise any sewer rates.

Steve McCrackin requested to start cutting the trees on the proposed pond area. Larry indicated he could begin cutting as long as borders are followed on the plan project.

All questions were answered by Engineering Firm, Morgan & Parmley and Sean Lentz, Ehlers. Public hearing was closed.

4. PUBLIC HEARING: 2022 Village Budgets will be Presented and Discussed. The Village is requesting concerns and opinions from the public, regarding the proposed budget;

The budget hearing was opened. Clerk Stanford read the budget summary aloud. Clerk Stanford announced the Summary of Budget was posted at the post office, bank, village hall outside board as well as inside, and copies were available for the public at the Hall. The 2022 Budget lists \$552,359 in revenues and expenses reflective of a decrease on the tax levy of 2.52 percent. Proposed 2022 Local Tax Levy of 128,750. Proprietary fund budgets were presented for the water utility, sewer utility, and TIF District #1. Set aside funds were reviewed along with the 2022 Budget Assumptions. Amendments for 2021 will be at a future board meeting. The floor was open to public comments. No questions. Public hearing was closed.

5. Resolution #21-12: Adoption of the 2022 Budget;

Motion by Trustees Berg/Stanford to adopt Resolution 2021-12: 2022 Budget Adoption. Roll call: Trustees Stanford – aye; Webb – aye; Baroun – aye; Berg – aye; President Lotts – aye. 5-0. Motion carried.

6. Consider/Act on Review of Public Works Job Duties, Employee Stipend, Acceptance of Resignation of Retirement from Peggy Stanford, and Appoint Ardith Story as Clerk-Treasurer

**Proposed closed session pursuant to WI Statute §19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; specifically, to review employee issues;*

Motion by Trustees Stanford/Webb at 8:45 p.m. to move into closed session. Roll call: Webb – aye; Baroun – aye; Berg – aye; Lotts – aye; Stanford – aye. 5-0. Motion carried.

Motion by President Lotts/Trustee Stanford to open session at 9:53 p.m.

Motion by President Lotts/Trustee Berg to appoint Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Ardith Story as Clerk-Treasurer effective December 9, 2021. Roll call: Baroun – aye; Berg – aye; Lotts – aye; Stanford – abstain; Webb – aye. 4-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustees Stanford/Berg in lieu of the new family health insurance available to village employees the village will no longer offer an employee stipend for employees in lieu of insurance effective December 31, 2021. Roll call: Berg – aye; Lotts – aye; Stanford – aye; Webb – aye; Baroun – aye. 5-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustees Stanford/Baroun to reduce the allowable employee purchasing expenses to \$100 maximum without liaison approval and up to \$500 maximum with (2) two board members approval effective December 1, 2021. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustees Baroun/Berg that all employees shall begin and end for any claims of mileage from the village hall when traveling. No hourly wages shall be paid combined with mileage unless the IRS and employment laws dictate otherwise. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried. [Clerk Note: The Fair Labor Employment Laws indicates hourly wages shall be paid and the IRS indicates mileage to be reimbursed for personal vehicle use. Payroll has been paying employees correctly according to the employment laws.]

7. Adjourn: 10:06 pm

Motion to adjourn by President Lotts/Trustee Stanford. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Ardith Story,
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:

Brad Lotts,
Village President