

VILLAGE OF NEW AUBURN

Village Board Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 9, 2024

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** The Village of New Auburn Village Board held their regular monthly Board Meeting at the New Auburn Village Hall, 130 E. Elm St., New Auburn, WI 54757. At 5:04 p.m. Village Board Member (BM) Bard Lotts called the meeting to order.

- II. **Roll Call.** Board Members in attendance were Allan Anderson, and Brad Lotts, Paul Blodgett and Gary Pitts. Absent was Village President (VP) Berg. Staff and contracted representatives in attendance were Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer (VACT) Bradley Hanson, Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Teresa Dachel, Chippewa County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Sergeant (Sgt) Andrew Clark, Building Inspector (BI) Joe Atwood, and Village Attorney Chris Geirhart.
 Public attendees were Chippewa County Housing Authority (CCHA) Janette Jack, New Auburn Area Fire Department (NAAFD) Village Commissioner Andrea Lemmons, Village Resident Lilyauna Lemmons, Village Resident / Developer Dwain Trowbridge.

- III. **Pledge of Allegiance.**

- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.** There were no public comments made.

- V. **CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Allan and seconded by Gary to approve. Motion carried.
 1. Correspondence and Complaints Received.
 2. Board Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Special Board Meeting from Thursday, February 1, 2024
 - b. Regular Board Meeting from Thursday, February 8, 2024
 - c. Special Board Meeting from Thursday, February 15, 2024
 - d. Special Board Meeting from Thursday, February 29, 2024
 - e. Special Board Meeting from Tuesday, March 5, 2024
 - f. Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, April 11, 2024
 3. Accept Committee and Commission Reports:
 - a. Microloan Fund Program & Downtown Façade Loan Program from Wednesday, April 24, 2024
 - b. Planning Commission Meeting from Wednesday, April 24, 2024
 - c. Park Committee Meeting from Wednesday, May 1, 2024
 4. Appointments to Committees and Commissions with an effective term beginning May 1, 2024 and expiring as indicated:
 - a. Re-appoint Marie Dachel as a Chief Election Inspector through 12/31/2024
 5. Treasurer's Report. Board reviewed all invoices received by staff and vouchers for payment of those invoices. VACT Hanson advised that through April there were only two line items of concern that should be monitored over the remainder of the year. Otherwise, personnel are progressing and improving with experiences and discoveries on the job.

- VI. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
 1. Public Safety. CCSO Sgt Clark presented the Board his report on hours worked and activity statistics. He mentioned staff shortages continue to impact their scheduling efforts.

2. Building Inspector. BI Atwood provided updates on residential construction permits and progress with approved permits. Furthermore, he described continued issues with regular enforcement and discussed the dilapidated building off of Old Highway (Hwy) 53 / County Highway (CH) SS. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Lotts to proceed with the enforcement of the zoning code and process of a dilapidated building at 324 N Old Highway 53 (County Highway SS). Motion carried.
3. Fire Department. NAAFD Commissioner Lemons presented information to the Board regarding expenses and potential increase in expenditure if another community is able to get their community's contribution amount reduced.
4. Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer & Public Works. VACT mentioned a few revenue items, how the 2024 budget is progressing, implemented a weekly staff meeting, and efficiency increases with newest retained staff member Dachel. VDCT Dachel discussed Wisconsin Rural Water Association (WRWA) request for a donation. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Lotts to approve the additional \$300.00 donation to the for improved training opportunities. Motion carried.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

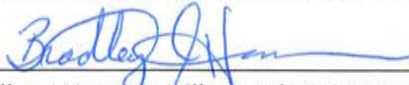
1. RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11 requesting Chippewa County to open County Highways (CH) AA, M, SS, & Q to All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) Traffic. Motion by Anderson and seconded by Pitts to approve. Concerns were discussed with slow moving vehicles. Motion carried.
2. ORDINANCE 2024-01 An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory of the Town of Dove to the Village of New Auburn, Wisconsin. Motion by Pitts and seconded by Blodgett to approve. Motion carried.
3. ORDINANCE 2024-02 An Ordinance Creating Section 15.05a, Repealing Section 15.05(2), and Amending Section 15.03(14)(A)(3)d of the New Auburn Code of Ordinances. Motion by Lotts and seconded by Pitts to approve. Motion carried.
4. Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) additional Funding with nearly 50% of Principle Forgiveness (PF). Motion by Blodgett and seconded by Pitts to approve the expenditures as indicated and described. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) contact the Village regarding the WWTP's project in 2023 having additional PF available. This means the Village would have to spend approximately \$76,000 to receive all of the PF. Part of the match could be the Bush Hog mower already paid for in 2023, which would cover nearly 75% of the needed funding. Other items would include, new computers and monitors, new lawn mower with multiple attachments to increase efficiency, potentially a snow blower and training classes. Motion carried.
5. Bush hog tractor attachment counter balance correction and concerns. VACT Hanson and staff have worked with the dealership and believe they have a plan of action to ensure the equipment will function with its intention, and if counter balance is needed, will work with the dealership to resolve the issue with the manufacturer.
6. Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) from WDNR and their reduction & assistance from Ehler's with locating and securing replacement funding update. VACT Hanson described a possible Special meeting to ensure the gap financing is available that was created by WDNR's last minute reduced available funding to the Village from 100% to 47%, which the Village's Financial Advisors Ehlers and Hanson are working diligently on.
7. Finance Policy. VACT Hanson described the proposed new policy that will be brought back at the June meeting for approval, but to have Board Members review it for suggestions.
8. 326 N Spruce St development. CCHA Jack described the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing program. Will have to consult with the State on potential use to move a house into the Village for remodeling. CCHA and New Auburn School District have potential interest in cooperating with the Village on this project. Board advised VACT Hanson to continue to work on this potential project.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Class of 2026 Color Run Fundraiser use of Village owned right-of-ways (ROW) and facilities. Motion by Anderson and seconded by Pitts to allow the use of Village roads (see map to right). Motion carried.
2. Request to remove Village sign advertising Village businesses from Right-of-Way in the southwest corner of County Highway M and Columbia Street. Motion by Anderson and seconded by Blodgett to approve to move the sign from its current location to one suitable and to ensure all businesses are current. Motion carried.
3. Authorize Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Teresa Dachel on the Village's Deposit Accounts and Line of Credit with Local Government Improvement Dairy State and Security Bank. Motion by Anderson and seconded by Lotts. Motion carried.
4. Barron County Data Sharing Agreement for the County's GIS information to be used with the Village's Diamond Maps GIS. Motion by Anderson and seconded by Pitts to approve. VACT Hanson advised board of the potential charge by Barron County according to the agreement, but that currently there is no charge. Motion carried.
5. Ehler's to complete financial reporting and needs for the Tax Incremental Financing District (TIF / TID) 1. Motion by Lotts and seconded by Anderson. Motion carried.
6. Recess into Closed Session per WI Statute §19.85(1)€ for the following purposes: "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." At 6:24 p.m. motion by Anderson and seconded by Pitts. Motion carried.
 - a. Economic Development Funding assistance and developers agreement. Those attended this portion of the closed session included all present Board Members, VACT Hanson, VDCT Dachel, VA Geirhart, BI Atwood, and Trowbridge.
 - b. Offer to purchase property for future municipal use. Those attended this portion of the closed session included all present Board Members, VACT Hanson, VDCT Dachel, V Geirhart, and BI Atwood.
7. Reconvene into open session. At 7:11 p.m. motion by Lotts and seconded by Pitts to reconvene into open session. Motion carried.
8. Closed session items with possible direction for the Village to:
 - a. Economic Development Funding assistance and developers agreement. Motion by Lotts and seconded by Pitts to amend Trowbridge's May St Developers Agreement to reflect a bond amount of \$50,000.00 on the condition the material already acquired by Trowbridge to be used as collateral and give to the Village in the event that Trowbridge fails to complete the utilities installation and the existing structure hooked onto the new line by August 1, 2024. Motion carried with Anderson voting against.
 - b. Offer to purchase property for future municipal use including, but not limited to economic development and/or housing. Motion by Lotts and seconded by Pitts to authorize the VACT to negotiate the acquisition of property discussed in closed session not to exceed \$15,000.00. Motion carried.
9. Future Meetings. VACT Hanson advised the Board that the next Regular Board Meeting is Thursday, June 13, 2024. Furthermore, there may be a special meeting schedule to get the funding necessary for the current Elm and Spruce construction project due to Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resource's (WDNR) last minute reduction in funding.



IX. **Adjourn.** At 7:16 p.m. motion by Pitts and seconded by Anderson to adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed:  _____
Bradley J Hanson, Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer