



# REVISED VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Kronenwetter Municipal Center - 1582 Kronenwetter Drive Board Room (Lower Level)

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## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM by President Chris Voll.

### A. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### B. Roll Call

#### PRESENT

Village President Chris Voll

Trustee Alex Vedvik

Trustee Chris Eiden

Trustee Kelly Coyle

Trustee Cindy Buchkowski-Hoffmann

Trustee Ken Charneski

#### ABSENT

Trustee Aaron Myszka (excused)

#### STAFF PRESENT

Clerk Bobbi Birk-LaBarge

Community Development Director Pete Wegner

Finance Director Lisa Kerstner

Administrator Leonard Ludi

Police Lieutenant Chris Smart

Fire Chief Theresa O'Brien

EMS Coordinator Alexa Kufalk

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Please be advised per State Statute Section 19.84(2), information will be received from the public. It is the policy of this Village that Public Comment will take no longer than 15 minutes with a three-minute time period, per person, with time extension per the Chief Presiding Officer's discretion. Be further advised that there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action will be taken under public comments.

**Jennifer Poyer**; Village Administrative Assistant/Communication Specialist, expressed concerns about the impact of Trustee Ken Charneski's behavior and how it has impacted on staff turnover.

**Bobbi Birk-LaBarge**; Village Clerk, criticized Trustee Ken Charneski, citing various issues including alleged bullying.

**Kim Coyle**; Village Water Utility Clerk, Criticized Trustee Ken Charneski's treatment towards staff.

**Sarah Fisher**; Village Account Clerk, echoed similar concerns and gave staff turnover statistics.

**Theresa O'Brien**; Village Fire Chief, recognized her officers for their outstanding dedication and discussed the ambulance proposal on the upcoming agenda.

**Guy Fredel** - 2240 Ruby Drive, Kronenwetter, voiced opinions on the financial and operational aspects of the proposed ambulance service.

**Elizabeth Vedvik** - 1955 Woodgate Lane, expressed her concern about losing current Administrator Leonard Ludi and alluded to the Village Board failing Administrator Ludi and the staff at the Village. Vedvik reiterates village staff's complaints and references Trustee Ken Charneski as the main reason for the complaints and turnover.

**William Udulutch** - 1859 Kimberly Road, Kronenwetter, made mention of a few trustees not reciting the pledge of allegiance and handed out copies of the Pledge for reference.

**Bernie Kramer** - 2150 E. State Highway 153 Peplin, spoke on the reasons, he believes, Kronenwetter should not start their own ambulance service. Congratulated the communication our Police Department has with the community.

**Joel Straub** - 860 W. Nelson Road, Kronenwetter, advocated for Trustee Ken Charneski and expressed his version of public comments as "smear." Straub believes there has been enough evidence to show that the Village does not need to start their own ambulance service.

**David Baker** - 640 Happy Hallow Road, Kronenwetter, explains his tenure to the community and explains he was lied about and smeared in the press. Baker explains his embarrassment to be a Kronenwetter resident due to public comments made.

**Faye Buchberger** - 824 W. Nelson Road, Kronenwetter, spoke about the recent staff appreciation luncheon and spoke of her opinion about social media posts she believes were unfair to some trustees who did not participate. Buchberger suggests and further employee luncheons should be pre-approved by the Village Board prior and paid for by Village funds to avoid discrepancy.

### **3. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND VENDORS**

#### **C. Police Chief Report**

Lieutenant Chris Smart explains the police report in absence of Police Chief Terry McHugh. Smart spoke of an additional ballistic event with students and underscored community engagement activities.

#### **D. Fire Chief Report**

Fire Chief Theresa O'Brien explains her department's response time to calls and firefighting coverage updates were provided. Trustee Charneski asks if the ladder truck was damaged as this is what was reported to him. Chief O'Brien explains it was not.

#### **E. Administrator Report**

Administrator Leonard Ludi thanks the board and the residents for allowing him to serve. Ludi recapped the reception of the new tractor and mower, achievements under joint efforts, and ongoing public works projects, and handed over an accomplishment summary. Responding to inquiries, the administrator noted the rationale behind hiring the Von Briesen law firm per the village handbook.

#### **F. Community Development Director's Report**

Community Development Director Pete Wegner explained the pending floodplain ordinance and the review processes were highlighted.

#### **G. Check Register 4/19 - 5/8**

Finance Director Lisa Kerstner explained the standard report from the new system, detailing account codes and how to retrieve specifics. Discussion ensued on including employee payments on the register.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

H. **Discussion and Possible Action: Future Ambulance Service in the Village**

Presentation by Fire Chief O'Brien and EMS Coordinator Alexa Kufalk. The presentation covered projected operations, mutual aid, staffing, fiscal impacts, and benefits of the proposed village-run ambulance service, including alternatives. Considerable discussion centered around financial variability, staffing issues, ongoing certifications, and public perception.

**Outcome:** Due to the complexity and extensive discussion, a public hearing/forum was proposed before making a final decision.

Motion made by Trustee Coyle, Seconded by Trustee Charneski to delay action on this agenda item and hold a public forum with at least 10 days' notice before conducting a special board meeting. That date TBD.

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carried 6:0 by voice call vote.**

I. **Discussion and Possible Action: Hiring of EHLERS for TID#2 – Amendment 4**

Authorization to hire EHLERS for TID#2 Amendment 4 was discussed, considering its alignment with the redevelopment agenda and consulting budget.

Motion made by Trustee Vedvik, Seconded by Trustee Eiden to approve hiring EHLERS for \$12,500 for TID#2 Amendment 4.

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carries 6:0 by roll call**

J. **Discussion and Possible Action: Municipal Building ADA Update Project**

Leonard Ludi got an assessment for a door upgrade following ADA compliance. This was approved in 2023 for the 2024 budget for the major repairs. A detailed RFP for enhancing ADA compliance was discussed, including fitting doors at the municipal center, backed by budgeted capital.

Motion made by Trustee Coyle, Seconded by Trustee Vedvik to authorize staff to publish the unit center ADA alteration project request for proposal

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carries 6:0 by roll call vote.**

K. **Discussion & Possible Action - Prohaska Happy Hollow Zoning Change**

Community Development Director Peter Wegner explains the rezone is consistent. There are no violations from chapter 270. The board discussed the rezoning from Parks and Recreation to residential. Concerns about land clearing practices were addressed. The zoning change was recommended by the Planning Commission.

Motion made by Trustee Charneski, Seconded by Trustee Eiden to approve the Prohaska Happy Hollow Zone Change Request as presented

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

Voting Nay: Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Coyle

**Motion carried 4:2 by roll call vote.**

L. **Discussion and Possible Action: Re-Offering of Village Administrator Position to Peter Kampfer**

Chris Voll reached out to Pete Kampfer. Peter Kampfer was present and spoke about his background and readiness to assume the position. Questions from board members were addressed.

Motion made by Trustee Charneski, Seconded by Trustee Eiden to hire Peter Kampfer as the new Village Administrator

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carries 6:0 by roll call vote.**

**M. Discussion and Possible Action: Hiring of EHLERS for TID#2 – Amendment 4**

**No action taken-** this agenda item was a duplicate item inadvertently placed on the agenda.

**N. Discussion: Trustee Retreat**

The Village Board discussed a village retreat. No date was chosen. President Voll directed staff to put a retreat together.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**O. Discussion and Possible Action: Alternate Lift Station 8 & 4 Budget Concept**

Administrator Leonard Ludi speaks of engineering options for alternative concepts. The lift station budget was revisited with cost-saving measures including rerouting and repurposing plans for lift stations to save \$800,000 thanks to water utility Supervisor Mark Mackey.

Motion made by Trustee Eiden, Seconded by Trustee Coyle to approve the alternate lift station 8 & 4 budget concept and move towards a 100% design completion

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carries 6:0 by roll call vote.**

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

P. Resignation of Police and Fire Commissioner Paul Raymond

Q. Resolution 2024-008; Appointment of Rick Smith to Police and Fire Commission

R. Bartenders (Operator's) License-Kathleen Fox

S. April 22, 2024, Village Board Meeting Minutes

T. 2024 Farmers Market Manager Contract

Motion by Trustee Charneski, Seconded by Trustee Chris Eiden to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carries 6:0 by roll call vote.**

**7. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

President Voll thanks all of the committees and commissions for sharing their minutes.

U. January 02, 2024, Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

V. February 06, 2024, Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

W. March 05, 2024, Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

X. March 18, 2024, Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Y. April 1, 2024, CLIPP Committee Meeting Minutes

**8. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

Trustee Ken Charneski requests an explanation of Resolution 2024-004 previously presented to the Board during the April 22, 2024, meeting.

Trustee Ken Charneski requests a discussion in regard to Community Development Director Pete Wegner's most recent evaluation.

Trustee Ken Charneski - Requests an apology to the company that submitted an RFP and was offended.

Trustee Chris Eiden requests the Railroad study be further discussed and placed on the next APC agenda.

Trustee Alex Vedvik - Requests discussion on censuring Trustee Ken Charneski.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Trustee Eiden, Seconded by Trustee Coyle to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Village President Voll, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle, Trustee Buchkowski-Hoffmann, Trustee Charneski

**Motion carried 6:0 by voice vote.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM**

**Minutes Prepared by:** Village Clerk Bobbi Birk-LaBarge

**Minutes Approved by the Village Board on:** June 10, 2024