

# **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 24, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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

#### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Village President Chris Voll called the February 24, 2025 Village Board Meeting to order at 6 p.m.

#### A. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance were invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### B. Roll Call

**PRESENT:** Village President Chris Voll, Trustee Chris Eiden, Trustee Ken Charneski, Trustee Kelly Coyle, Trustee Alex Vedvik, Trustee Aaron Myszka, Trustee Craig Mortensen

**STAFF:** Public Works Director Greg Ulman, Clerk Jennifer Poyer

### 2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Bernie Kramer, 2150 Highway 153, Peplin, WI 54455** – Kramer stated he wanted an update from the Ambulance Subcommittee and fire chief. He commented on the ease of using a contractor for ambulance service because it requires no facilities, staff and other expenses.

#### 4. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND VENDORS

## C. Public Works Director Report

Public Works Director Greg Ulman presented his report and updated the board on the recent frozen lateral situation and clogged pumps at Lift Station 1.

### D. Community Development Director Report

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

### E. Approval of Bids for Upgrades on Lift Stations 2 and 6

Motion by Charneski/Coyle to approve the upgrades on Lift Stations 2 and 6, not to exceed \$523,535.00. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7:0.

Discussed the need for the upgrades; locations of Lift Stations 2 and 6; and how the project fits in the budget.

### F. Proposed Amendments to Chapter 520 - ZONING

#### **ARTICLE IV. - LAND USE DESCRIPTIONS AND STANDARDS**

Motion by Eiden/Charneski to not approve proposed amendments to Chapter 520-Zoning, Article IV. – Land Use Descriptions and Standards. Motion carried by roll call vote 5:2. Voting yea- Eiden, Charneski, Coyle, Vedvik, Mortensen; Voting nay – Voll, Myszka

Discussed the background of the agenda item; affordable housing options; possible negative circumstances; and need for more tax base in the Village.

# 6. CONSENT AGENDA

- G. February 10, 2025 Village Board Meeting Minutes
- H. Operator "Bartender" License Michelle M. Gee

Motion by Charneski/Eiden to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

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

I. November 7, 2024 Special APC Meeting Minutes

- J. November 12, 2025 Utility Committee Meeting Minutes
- K. December 3, 2025 Utility Commission Meeting Minutes
- L. January 8, 2025 Plan Commission Meeting Minutes

  Committees and commissions were thanked for their minutes.

#### 8. CLOSED SESSION

Consideration of motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85 (1)( c ) for consideration of employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – to wit Hiring of village clerk

Motion by Coyle/Vedvik to convene into closed session. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7:0.

#### 9. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

Consideration of motion to reconvene into open session.

Motion by Coyle/Vedvik to reconvene into open session. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

#### 10. ACTION AFTER CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Vedvik/Myszka to continue recruitment efforts for village clerk. Motion by voice vote. 7:0.

# 11. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Chickens

#### 12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vedvik/Charneski to adjourn the February 24, 2025 Village Board Meeting. Motion carried by voice vote. 7:0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

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February 24, 2025

### <u>Via email</u>

Chris Voll, Village President Village of Kronenwetter 1582 Kronenwetter Drive Kronenwetter, Wisconsin 54455 cvoll@kronenwetter.org

**RE:** Joel Straub correspondence of 2/10/25

Dear President Voll:

This correspondence is in regards to the public comments and letter submitted by resident, former Board member, and former adverse litigant Joel Straub at the Village Board meeting held on February 10, 2025. Joel Straub's comments inaccurately allege that our law firm has a conflict representing the Village due to a telephone call apparently placed at some point by Joel Straub to our firm.

Joel Straub made this same allegation about 6 to 12 months ago and it was addressed at that time. However, due to substantial staff and Board turnover, and Joel Straub's resubmittal of the same allegation, it seemed best to memorialize this in writing. In my short time at the Village I have observed a pattern of persons resubmitting the same allegations whenever there is a new person at the Village.

In reviewing this previously, I was able to determine that Joel Straub made what we call a "cold call" to the firm, basically an inquiry about being a client. As probably all other law firms do, this firm does a conflict check referencing information provided to see if we can take a matter given already existing client relationships. This is a "conflict check." Joel Straub probably passed the conflict check. However, there is no record that anyone at the firm ever called him back. The reason is simple.

A major part of our firm's business is representing municipalities. For professional reasons, we do not also take cases from persons wanting to sue or otherwise attack municipalities. Joel Straub's perceived matter is simply not something that our firm would have entertained taking. A simple telephone inquiry does not create an attorney-client relationship and none was ever established between our firm and Joel Straub. Thus, Joel Straub's efforts did not create a conflict for our firm to represent the Village. We hope that this clarifies things and also that it does not have to come up again. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DEMPSEY LAW FIRM, LLP

Lee D. Turonie Village Attorney

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