



**SPECIAL TOWN OF EAGLE BOARD MEETING
HELD JOINTLY WITH VILLAGE OF EAGLE BOARD
October 5, 2011
APPROVED MINUTES**

Village President Rich Spurrell and Town Chairman Bob Kwiatkowski called their respective special Board meetings to order at 7:00 p.m. Town Clerk Pepper confirmed Open Meeting Law requirements. Roll was taken: (Town) Supervisors Davis, Malek, Rasmussen, and West – all present; Chairman Kwiatkowski – present. (Village) Trustees Degenhardt, Greenberg, Rice, Royston, and Scheff – all present; President Spurrell – present. Trustee Block was excused. Also present were: Town Clerk Pepper, Town Treasurer Pasterski, Fire Chief Heim, Assistant Fire Chief Hein, Assistant Fire Chief Baker, Captain Steinbach, Firefighter Wilton, Library Director Chase, Library Board President Hagen, Library Board Member Traver, and Recreation Director Heywood. Town Chairman Kwiatkowski and Village President Spurrell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Spurrell announced that the Boards may convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(c) for purposes of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Topics of discussion: Recreation Director and Fire Chief.

Public Comment – Town Treasurer Pasterski requested that he be permitted to speak during the budget presentations.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Greenberg, seconded by Trustee Scheff to convene into closed session at 7:03 P.M., pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) for purposes of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Topics of discussion: Recreation Director and Fire Chief. Upon roll call vote: Trustee Degenhardt – aye; Trustee Greenberg – aye; Trustee Rice; Trustee Royston – aye; Trustee Scheff – aye; President Spurrell – aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Supervisor Malek, seconded by Supervisor Davis to convene into closed session at 7:03 P.M., pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) for purposes of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Topics of discussion: Recreation Director and Fire Chief. Upon roll call vote: Supervisor Davis – aye; Supervisor Rasmussen – aye; Supervisor Malek – aye; Supervisor West -aye; Chairman Kwiatkowski – aye.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Chairman Kwiatkowski, seconded by Supervisor Malek to reconvene into open session at 8:01 P.M. Upon roll call vote: Supervisor Davis – aye; Supervisor Rasmussen – aye; Supervisor Malek – aye; Supervisor West -aye; Chairman Kwiatkowski – aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Royston, seconded by Trustee Scheff to reconvene into open session at 8:01 P.M. Upon roll call vote: Trustee Degenhardt – aye; Trustee Greenberg – aye; Trustee Rice; Trustee Royston – aye; Trustee Scheff – aye; President Spurrell – aye. Motion carried.

Employee Health Insurance Plan – President Spurrell explained that the Village is considering joining the state health insurance plan. The downside to joining would be that anyone who qualifies for Wisconsin Retirement would also qualify for the health insurance. The difference with the part-time employees would be that the municipality contribution would only be 25%, rather than the Act 10 maximum contribution rate of 50% - 88% for full-time employees. President Spurrell explained that all current employees can pick the health insurance program that best suits them. Once on the plan, any new employee would have to join the standard plan for a period of one year, after which he/she can choose their plan. Another benefit to the employee is that the deductible goes down. The cost savings for the Village alone could be \$1,100 per month however after the underwriting process; the state could charge a surcharge of up to \$900 per month for the first year. The second year would be half that amount. Trustee Royston added that the Village will not sign until the underwriting has been completed and they know the final numbers.

Municipal Building Budget – Discussion took place regarding the minor changes to the budget and the building reserve monies.

A motion was made by Trustee Royston, seconded by Trustee Rice to accept the Municipal Building Budget as presented. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davis, seconded by Supervisor Malek to accept the Municipal Building Budget as presented. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

Recreation Department Budget – Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that the Town Board has requested a 10% reduction in all department's proposed budgets in order for the Town to balance. The Town has already had to reduce 36% out of next year's road program to balance. In other words, in this instance, the Recreation Department needs to find a way to reduce the proposed budget down to \$45,000. President Spurrell added that the Village is not locked on a number and went on to explain a few discrepancies in the proposed budget.

Discussion followed regarding cutting programs. President Spurrell stated his opinion that just because a program doesn't make money doesn't mean it is a bad program. Recreation Director Heywood stated her opinion that as director, it is her responsibility to offer quality and quantity programs to the community. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that he believes that the self-sufficient programs are good programs.

In response to President Spurrell, Director Heywood explained that the proposed Town and Village contribution has not changed from last year. In previous years, the department has had to come to the Town and Village to ask for additional funding and she fears that by reducing the budget, the

department will need to ask for additional funding again.

Trustee Greenberg stated that, based on a total population of 5,500 people, the cost is only 90¢ per person. In response, Trustee Royston explained that, based on the \$25,000 contribution, the Village is subsidizing \$560 per person.

President Spurrell explained that his concern for taking \$5,000 out of the budget is that the participation fees would increase to offset the budget reduction.

Supervisor Malek explained that the committee has battled with the budget and would have a difficult time cutting \$5,000. The Recreation Department does not have a surplus to work with.

A motion was made by Trustee Greenberg, seconded by President Spurrell to contribute the same amount of money as last year. Trustee Rice stated that all departments need to make a sacrifice. Trustee Greenberg stated that recreation is the one program we offer to the community that costs the least. Upon voice vote, motion failed with Trustees Degenhardt, Rice, Royston, and Scheff opposing.

A motion was made by Supervisor Malek to contribute the same amount of money as last year. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

A motion was made by Chairman Kwiatkowski, seconded by Supervisor Rasmussen to reduce the contribution by 10% or \$2,500. Upon voice vote, motion carried with Supervisor Malek opposing.

A motion was made by Trustee Royston, seconded by Trustee Scheff to reduce the contribution by 10% or \$2,500. Upon voice vote, motion carried with Trustee Greenberg and President Spurrell opposing.

Library Budget – Library Director Chase reviewed the circulation numbers, Town versus Village. Director Chase explained that Alice Baker Library is one of three libraries which has a positive circulation this year; revenue is based on circulation. Director Chase explained a few of the changes in the department's budget. Director Chase stated that a 10% reduction in funds could affect the library not meeting the library standards. Discussion followed regarding the proposed lower cost for health insurance.

President Spurrell explained that based on the new circulation numbers, the Town's portion will be 55.5%, the Village will be 44.4%.

Discussion ensued regarding budget cuts and reducing the hours of operation. Director Chase explained that reducing hours could affect circulation. In response to Trustee Degenhardt, Supervisor Davis explained that the Town, although asking for a 10% reduction, will not let the library fall below the 85% library standard.

A motion was made by Chairman Kwiatkowski, seconded by Supervisor Malek to table the approval of the Library budget until the proposed new health insurance numbers are in. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Scheff, seconded by Trustee Rice to table the approval of the Library budget until the proposed new health insurance numbers are in. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

Library Board Member Traver asked the Boards to table all department budgets until these insurance numbers are firm. In response, Chairman Kwiatkowski replied that the Board will review all budgets, based on the projected cost savings.

Fire Department Budget – Chief Heim explained that he and Captain Jeff Steinbach have worked diligently on the proposed budget.

In response to Supervisor West, Chief Heim explained that all but nine (9) turnout gear no longer meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. The standard that took effect in 2009 states that turnout gear must be replaced once the gear is ten (10) years old, no matter the condition of the gear. Chief Heim explained that although the budget shows a replacement number for twenty-five (25) gear, he has since found a consortium where the department can purchase thirty-one (31) turnout gear for the same price. In response to Supervisor Davis, Chief Heim explained that the oldest of the nine (9) remaining gear was purchased in 2004.

Captain Steinbach explained that since the August 20, 2011 proposed budget, they have reduced the budget by 8%. Chairman Kwiatkowski added that the possible insurance savings could lower the budget further. Discussion followed regarding borrowing the funds for the turn-out gear over a four-year period. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that he is unsure whether or not municipalities can continue to use debt service to offset the levy.

A motion was made by Chairman Kwiatkowski, seconded by Supervisor Rasmussen to table the approval of the Fire Department budget until the proposed new health insurance numbers are in. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Scheff, seconded by Trustee Royston to table the approval of the Fire Department budget until the proposed new health insurance numbers are in. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

President Spurrell referred to page six (6) of the fire department's proposed budget. President Spurrell explained that the Village is mandated to give their \$1,500 transportation aid directly to the fire department. This number comes off of the Village's state aid. Chairman Kwiatkowski explained that the Town is not involved in this program, which is mandated by the Health Department.

Fire Chief Heim added that the fire department has received a grant of \$10,000 for \$20,000 worth of equipment. The membership is currently discussing donating the remaining \$10,000. Chairman Kwiatkowski complemented the membership for their consideration and that the membership has provide other equipment paid for by the membership fundraising.

There being no further business on the agenda, a motion was made by Trustee Scheff, seconded by Trustee Greenberg to adjourn at 9:34 p.m. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

There being no further business on the agenda, a motion was made by Supervisor Rasmussen, seconded by Supervisor Malek to adjourn at 9:34 p.m. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

Lynn M. Pepper
Eagle Town Clerk