VILLAGE OF PARK RIDGE
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2022

AGENDA ITEM #1 - CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION – President Steve Menzel called the Park Ridge Village Board to order at 5:30 pm. Roll call was taken: Trustees Dan Holloway, Barb Friedrich, Gordon Renfert and Kristin Paulson and Clerk Behrend were all present. Resident Jim LaMar and Town of Hull Fire Chief Ken Sadogierski were also present. Residents Thom Patton, Maura Robinson, Gary Bushman, and Brian Kozlowski attended via Zoom along with Stevens Point Fire Chief Jb Moody, the Metro Wire and Kris Leonhardt. Friedrich made the motion to approve the special meeting agenda. Seconded by Holloway. Motion carried by voice vote. No negative votes.

AGENDA ITEN #2 – DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING SNOW PLOWING CONTRACT – President Menzel explained that our current snow plowing contractor, T&C Services, LLC, was unable to fulfill their existing contract with the Village of Park Ridge due health concerns. The Village received one bid from Zblewski Bros, LLC. After some discussion among the board, Renfert moved to approve the snowplow contract from Zblewski Bros, LLC with no changes. Seconded by Paulson. Roll call was taken, Holloway – yes, Friedrich – yes, Renfert – yes, Paulson – yes, Menzel – yes.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING LONG-TERM FIRE PROTECTION – Menzel thanked both Chief Moody and Chief Sadogierski for attending the meeting with very short notice. He also thanked the Town of Hull, Village of Plover, Village of Whiting and the City of Stevens Point for all their cooperation and assistance in providing information pertaining to the future of Park Ridge fire protection. Chief Moody spoke and clarified some items for the Board. The contract with the city would begin in January of 2023 and end in May of 2025. The Villages two existing contracts with the city for Utilities and EMR Services would also expire at this time and could be combined going forward in June of 2025 if the contract is renewed. He said that the fire hydrant requirement wouldn't need to be discussed until contract renewal in 2025. Chief Moody wanted it noted that all the fire departments in Portage County are very professional and capable. He discussed the response time of the SPFD to Park Ridge as being 3-4 minutes. Fire Chief Sadogierski stated that the Town of Hull Fire Department's response time would be similar to that of the Park Ridge Fire Department, 15 – 20 minutes, and that fire hydrants are not necessary as the Town of Hull does not operate with fire hydrants. The Board discussed the three options for the Village: maintaining the current Park Ridge Fire Department, contracting with the City of Stevens Point, or contracting with the Town of Hull. Citing the study done by McMahon on the Park Ridge Fire Department and the costs to maintain it at the level necessary, Menzel stated that this was the most expensive option and the ability to staff a volunteer fire department was becoming more challenging across the country. After some discussion, the Board decided that maintaining the current fire department was not fiscally responsible and moved on to the other two options. The Board discussed the two remaining options and their conversations with Village residents. They concluded that response time was the most important factor and opted to contract with the City of Stevens Point. Holloway made the motion for the Village of Park Ridge to contract with the City of Stevens Point for long term fire protection. Seconded by Paulson. Roll call was taken, Friedrich – yes, Renfert – yes, Paulson – yes, Holloway – yes, Menzel – yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

SHANNA BEHREND
CLERK/TREASURER

STEVE MENZEL
VILLAGE PRESIDENT