

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET
May 15, 2024

Donnie Kern called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present at the Village Hall: Brandon Krohn, Caleb Garn, Donnie Kern, and Bob Gunther

Present via Zoom: Chris Dubak, Mike Kappers, Ryan Sicard and Brad Stuczynski, MSA

Minutes

Committee reviewed the April 10, 2024 Public Works minutes. *Motion by Garn, second by Krohn to approve the April 10, 2024 Public Works meeting minutes and motion carried.*

Public Comment

Brenda Forrest - 602 Raymond Street – Kern read a written statement from Brenda. She is concerned a dog park at Village Park doesn't align with the vision for the park.

Braeden Peterson – VP for the Somerset Youth Baseball Association. Concerned about ISA. Feels they will significantly hinder field time. ISA took New Richmond's field times. It costs \$100 for youth to play for SYBA, and it costs \$2,500 to play for ISA.

Dan Gilkerson – Somerset Youth Hockey. Doesn't like the idea of the dog park on the east side of the hockey rink. Youth hockey uses the park for hockey camp in the summer. We are a nonprofit association. 99% are Somerset kids. The dog park doesn't go well in Vet's Park – need to honor the military.

Deb Kohler - 470 Forrest Drive – Has lived here her entire life and has never been able to enjoy Village Park until after 8pm. The board needs to take a step back. She is also concerned about money being taken away from our current parks. Why are we rushing?

Brad Nemec – 610 Hud, 613 Spring & 209 Bluff Dr – Concerned about the dog park being across from my house. Vet's Park is very busy. Why are we in such a hurry? Where did this come from? Talked to Shane Demulling, no one has come to the town with this. Just like concerts – no one has a problem when it's not in their backyard. You need to take a little more thought.

Katie Byboth - 1904 37th Street from the Town of Somerset – The town has been asked and said there is no need for it. Not interested in Parnell Prairie. She is pro dog park but open to waiting.

Nathan Letourneau - 608 Hud Street – Have done some research. Don't put it in a residential area. He looked at other parcels the Village owns and listed all the areas it could be at.

Sean Parnell - Star Prairie – From ISA – We are trying to preserve the associations. Talk to Nate at Star Prairie and we pay to use their field. ISA would only schedule after you have everything you need. Would like to partner like they do in Star Prairie and Osceola. They understand that the associations and small towns come first.

Kristi Letourneau - 608 Hud Street – Vet's Park is utilized by so many young kids.

Project Updates

General Updates on Active Projects: A project update memo was provided.

- Gunther updated the committee on various items. He did point out that the Village has an agreement with the Plourde family to get utilities over to their property by 8/31/25. That is what the TID 5 task order is for later on the agenda.
- CORP survey closes on Friday. There have been 140 responses to date.

Unfinished Business

Outdated Ordinances – Title 11 Chapters 3 & 6: Handouts were provided.

- Discussion amongst the committee.
- Title 11, Chapter 3. Offenses Against Property
 - Proposed Changes
 - Remove 11-3-4d
 - Remove 11-3-5c7 & 11-3-5c11

Motion by Garn, second by Krohn to table recommendations on 11-3-5 and motion carried. Motion by Krohn, second by Garn to strike 11-3-7c and motion carried.

- Title 11, Chapter 6. Public Nuisances
 - Proposed Changes
 - 11-6-2 Table – Garn suggested looking at other municipalities.
 - 11-6-3h – Adopt from Brandon’s suggestion
 - 11-6-3k – Strike after Refuse.
 - 11-6-3l – Table, look at other municipalities.
 - 11-6-5f – Remove
 - 11-6-5m – Remove
 - 11-6-5o – Remove “ashes, sawdust”
 - 11-6-8a – Add “Zoning Administrator” after Building Inspector

Motion by Kern, second by Krohn to recommend to the Village Board the proposed changes for Outdated Ordinances – Title 11 Chapters 3 & 6 and motion carried.

Spring Parks Improvements Update – Dog Park Location:

- The Somerset Champions brought this forward from the CORP Plan. Kern spearheaded it – let’s get it done. We aren’t here to rush it, just don’t want to see it go away. I’m fine with it not at Vet’s or Village Park, or not even doing it.
- Garn said he’s been talking with the Champions for over a year. Until tonight, this was the first time someone had other ideas.
- Brad Nemec said we used to get a letter saying something was going to affect their land.
- Krohn talked to the town, and they aren’t opposed to Parnell Prairie.

Motion by Kern, second by Garn to table pending on meeting with Public Works and reviewing the CORP Survey results and motion carried.

Street Use Permit – Pea Soup Days: A handout was provided.

- Chris Dubak informed the committee that Public Safety recommended Bartt Palmer’s route.

Motion by Kern, second by Garn to recommend to the Village Board Bartt Palmer’s parade route ending at Depot Street and motion carried.

Ball Field Maintenance Agreement: A handout was provided.

Motion by Garn, second by Krohn to recommend to the Village Board the Ball Field Maintenance Agreement as presented, amended motion to add “Village Park” after Larry Forrest and motion carried.

New Business

Ball Field Use – Impact Sports Academy West:

- Kern asked if the fields are open, anyone can use them?
- Parameters need to be established.
- Parnell said he needs 4 days in August. About 150 kids are expected for try-outs.
- The whole idea is to partner with the Village. Rain dates are tough to accommodate changes. If we are scheduled, we can't adjust either.
- Kern asked Parnell to talk to the SYBA for this year.

Water Tower Discussion/Storage Needs Study Task Order: A task order was provided.

- Brad Stuczynski, MSA explained what the change order was for.
- Tower #1 was inspected in 2021. Need to look at rehabilitation or a new water tower.
- If the village decided to build a new water tower, need to look at the need for it.
- Kern, wondering if we can get this done for the July meeting?

Motion by Kern, second by Krohn to recommend to the Village Board the Water Tower Discussion/Storage Needs Study Task Order to MSA in the amount of \$14,500 with a strong recommendation of a July deadline and motion carried.

TID 5 Utilities Improvement Task Order: A task order was provided.

Motion by Krohn, second by Garn to recommend to the Village Board the TID 5 Utilities Improvement Task Order to MSA in the amount of \$91,430 and motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Pay App #19: A pay app was provided.

Motion by Krohn, second by Garn to recommend to the Village Board the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Pay App #19 to Staab Construction Corporation in the amount of \$43,639 and motion carried.

Village Branding: An email was provided.

- Champions want to take this back up.
- Kern asked if we wanted to debate this?
- Gunther asked, "How is this Public Works"?

Motion by Kern, second by Krohn to recommend to the Village Board any kind of Village Branding be sent to the full Village Board for any discussion and any recommendations and motion carried.

Village Park & River Bridge Fencing Quote: A quote was provided from Cyclone Fence.

- Gunther said there was an accident at Village Park, and we need to make sure it doesn't happen again. There was also a safety concern near the bridge pedestrian crossings.
- Kern asked when he could start. Gunther said if you're ok with me telling Dave to start before the Village Board meeting, he can start immediately. Kern said, "I'm ok with it, tell Dave to start".

Motion by Krohn, second by Garn to recommend to the Village Board the Village Park & River Bridge Fencing quote to Cyclone Fence in the amount of \$8,280 and motion carried.

Hiring Process – Public Works Employee

- Gunther wants the committee to set the parameters.
- Krohn would like to sit in on the interviews.
- Full Public Works Committee and Jim.

Closed Session

Motion by Kern, second by Garn to convene into closed session at 7:18 p.m. as per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment of a public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – Public Works position applications. After a roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Open Session

Motion by Krohn, second by Garn to move into open session at 7:45 p.m. No action taken.

Public Works Department Report

- An update memo was provided.

Public Works, Water, Sewer and Parks Bills

- The committee reviewed the bills.

Motion by Garn, seconded by Krohn to recommend to the Village Board approval of the Public Works, Water, Sewer and Parks Bills as presented and motion carried.

Future Agenda Items

- Outdated Ordinances – Next set & tabled items
- Dog Park Location

Adjourn

Motion by Krohn, seconded by Garn to adjourn and the Public Works Committee meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.