

**VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH BOARD MEETING**  
**September 11, 2023 6:00pm**  
**130 N. Chestnut St. Lower Level Boardroom (East Rear Entrance)**

**Members Present: President Beissel, Trustees Bench, Borner, Anderson, Neeley, Schutz and Hines.**  
**Staff Present: Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Brad Roy, Public Works Director Vick, Chief of Police Ladwig, Library Director Meyer, and Attorney Loberg**  
**Public Present: Collin LaFave, Dale Auckland, Karen Meyer, Paul Gerrard, and Brad Sonnentag.**

**MINUTES**

- 1. Meeting called to order at 6pm by President Beissel.**  
**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.**
- 2. Approval of minutes – 8/7/2023, 8/14/2023 and 8/22/2023. MSC Borner/Hines to approve the minutes. No further discussion. Unanimous.**
- 3. Approve payments and deposits. MSC Schutz/Neeley to approve the payments and deposits. No further discussion. Unanimous.**
- 4. Public comment on non-agenda items.** Collin LaFave presented articles outlining problems at existing Bigadan digester facilities and asked questions regarding the Ethics Ordinance.
- 5. Discuss/Approve an adjustment of the 11/01/2022 utility bill for Bradley Sonnentag.** The utility bill was presented and the meter reading history of the account. **MSC Hines/Schutz to provide a credit of 50% of the 11/01/2022 utility bill. No further discussion. Two in favor (Hines/Schutz) and four oppose (Borner, Bench, Neeley, Anderson). Motion failed.**
- 6. Discuss/Approve Resolution 2023-9 Authorizing a WEDC Community Development Investment Grant Application.** The Community Development Investment Grant was explained, and the application from Baker Rental Properties for redevelopment at 349 W. Main St. was presented. **MSC Bench/Borner to approve the resolution as presented. No further discussion. Unanimous.**
- 7. Discuss/Approve a Developer’s Agreement for the WEDC Community Development Investment Grant.** The Developers agreement between the Village and Baker Rental Properties was presented. **MSC Borner/Neeley to approve the Developer’s Agreement. No further discussion. Unanimous.**
- 8. Discuss/Approve Mutual Aid Agreement for Water, Sewer and Public Works.** The Mutual Aid agreement and the surrounding communities involved were presented. This is a continuation of the agreement signed in 2012. **MSC Bench/Neeley to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement. No further discussion. Unanimous.**
- 9. Discuss/Approve bid for 2023 Public Works Truck.** Public Works received bids for a new ¾ ton truck. Two bids were received: Ellsworth Ford Inc. \$45,114 and Luther Hudson Chevrolet GMC \$48,095. **MSC Borner/Hines to accept the Ellsworth Ford bid. No further discussion. Unanimous.**
- 10. Discuss/Approve bid for 2024 Public Works Capital Equipment.** Public works accepted bids for 2024 Capital Equipment: Wheel Loader, Motor Grader, and PRO 1048 Metal Pless Plow. The received bids were presented. **MSC Schutz/Borner to accept the bids. The status of the 2024 budget and the possibility of borrowing for these purchases were discussed. One in favor (Schutz) and five oppose (Borner, Bench, Hines, Neeley, Anderson). Motion failed.**
- 11. Discuss/Approve a Street Use Permit application by Ellsworth E3 Community Development Corporation, for the west side of North Broadway St. from 243 N. Broadway to 259 N.**

**Broadway St. on October 14, 2023.** The application and deadline were presented. **MSC Anderson/Bench** to approve the Street Use Permit. **Five in favor (Borner, Bench, Hines, Neeley, Anderson) and one oppose (Schutz). Motion passed.**

**12. Discuss/Approve Letter of Commitment for Tax Increment Financing for Gerrard Companies.**

Paul Gerrard presented the residential housing development in Crossing Meadows. He is applying for funding from the State and needs a Letter of Commitment from the Village for TIF. A draft letter was presented outlining that the Tax Increment District has not been created and would need final approval by the Village and the Joint Review Board. The financial assessment is still being completed by Ehlers. **MSC Borner/Hines** to approve the letter of commitment, contingent on Ehlers confirming the financial assessment. No further discussion. **Unanimous.**

**13. President's Report.** The President's report was presented.

**14. Committee/Commission meeting reports/recommendations.**

- a. **TID Joint Review Board**
- b. **Plan Commission**
- c. **Board of Appeals**
- d. **Board of Review**
- e. **ETZ**
- f. **Water and Sewer**
  - The 8/22/2023 minutes were reviewed.
- g. **Street & Sidewalk**
  - The 8/22/2023 minutes were reviewed.
- h. **Salary and Labor**
- i. **Parks, Recreation, & Development**
- j. **Finance, Purchasing, Buildings**
- k. **Public Safety**
- l. **Health, License, Welfare**
- m. **Solid Waste, Cable TV, Special Committee**
- n. **Cemetery**
- o. **Community Development Authority**
  - The 8/17/2023 minutes were reviewed.

**15. Department Head Reports:** Department activity/update

- a. **Chief of Police presented his report.**
- b. **Director of Public Works presented his report.**
- c. **Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer presented his report.**
- d. **Library Director presented her report.**

**16. The Board will adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.**

**MSC Bench/Neeley** to adjourn to closed session. Roll Call Vote. **Unanimous.**

**Discuss potential Ellsworth Bioenergy Payment in Lieu of Taxes and possible terms of any accompanying Memorandum of Understanding.**

**MSC Hines/Borner** to reconvene into open session. Roll Call Vote. **Unanimous.**

No action was taken.

**17. Adjournment. MSC Borner/Anderson to adjourn. Unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted by Brad Roy, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer**