

VILLAGE OF TWIN LAKES VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

Village Hall, 105 E. Main Street, Twin Lakes, WI

CALL TO ORDER AT 6:30 PM BY PRESIDENT SKINNER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ ROLL CALL:

Present: Trustees Kevin Fitzgerald, Sharon Bower, Ken Perl, Bill Kaskin, President Howard Skinner. Absent: Barb Andres, Aaron Karow. Also Present: Administrator Laura Roesslein, Interim Police Chief Katie Hall, Clerk Sabrina Waswo.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT: *Skinner/Bower motion to approve Corporate Checking (including General Fund, Sanitation, Capital Projects-E/M, Sewer Utility, Lake Rehab, Sewer Hook-Up, Sewer Replacement, and Tax Account): 35813-35877 Manual Checks: 202-203, Payroll Related Checking and State/Federal Tax Wires: 18399-183404 Expenses – \$300,384.71. Motion carried 5-0.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS & QUESTIONS: The Village Board will receive comments on agenda items.

Bill Poetker, 1607 E. Lake Shore Dr., stated the Lake District voted unanimously to recommend the removal of the piers on October 31 or whichever date is the closest weekend. Additionally, the Lake District unanimously rejected a grant extension to Sewer Pack. They were tasked with completing this years ago, and the Lake District believes that ample time has passed and wants to hold them accountable for meeting their own deadlines.

PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEE SHARON BOWER - ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, JUDICIARY, LICENSING

Village offices are closed this Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving.

Actions related to the consideration and approval of the 2024 Village Budget including establishing the tax levy:

- a. Public Hearing on the 2024 Village Budget.
Skinner/Fitzgerald motion to open the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.
No comments.
Skinner/Bower motion to close the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.
- b. *Bower/Fitzgerald motion to approve Resolution R2023-11-1 adopting the 2024 Village Budget as amended.*
Administrator Roesslein stated that the levy increased by 1.5%. For a \$300,000 home, the village portion of taxes will rise by \$8.73, resulting in a total village portion of \$1,350.42. This village portion accounts for 19% of the overall tax bill. *Motion carried 5-0.*
- c. *Bower/Skinner motion to approve Resolution R2023-11-2 approving the 2023/2024 mill rate and levy.*
Motion carried 5-0.
- d. *Bower/Skinner motion to approve the Official Wage Schedule effective January 1, 2024, to reflect budgeted pay adjustments.* Kaskin questioned the need for raises. Administrator Roesslein pointed out the cost of living is approximately 5%, while village employees are currently receiving a 2.5% raise. President Skinner stated a wage study is scheduled in the upcoming budget to determine appropriate pay levels for each position in comparison to similar-sized municipalities. Kaskin emphasized his responsibility to maintain low taxes and expressed a reluctance to grant annual raises to employees. *Motion carried 4-1 with Trustee Kaskin voting “no”.*

TRUSTEE AARON KAROW - BUILDING AND ZONING, PLAN COMMISSION, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

October 2023 Building Permits: 43; Valuation: \$3,096,832.00; Fees Collected: \$38,309.03.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT HOWARD SKINNER

Skinner/Bower motion to approve a request by Twin Runners Snowmobile Club to allow snowmobile access through Legion Park. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion regarding trees planted near property lines.

Theresa Porter, residing at 1906 Sunset Drive, requested the village create an ordinance preventing the planting of trees within a specified distance from the property line. President Skinner was unsure what the village could do as it is private property and emphasized the challenge of enforcing ordinances already in existence due to staffing limitations. He pointed out that even with such an ordinance, it would not address her current situation since the tree in question had already been planted and an ordinance cannot be retroactive. He reminded Theresa of her right to trim trees encroaching on her property. The board suggested installing an 8-foot section of fence, but Theresa deemed it impractical for the area.

Theresa expressed displeasure and foresaw a major problem if additional trees were planted, potentially eliminating her side yard. The board suggested talking to the neighbor to work things out politely, recognizing it might be difficult but considering it a worthwhile effort.

ADJOURN – Skinner/Bower motion to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

/s/Sabrina Waswo, Village Clerk