

**VILLAGE OF MONTFORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
COMMUNITY BUILDING, 102 E. PARK STREET, MONTFORT, WI 53569  
FEBRUARY 15, 2023 7:00 P.M  
APPROVED MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Chuck Piper.

Roll call: all were present Pat Raimer, Don Pluemer, Shawn Merkle, Patty Koestler, Holly Witzig and Ryan Pilling.

Open Meeting Law compliance check: Agenda was posted February 9, 2023 at the Community Building, Montfort Post Office, Mills Market and at [www.villageofmontfort.com](http://www.villageofmontfort.com).

Motion by Ryan Pilling and a second by Don Pluemer for approval of agenda.

Motion by Shawn Merkle and a second by Pat Raimer to Open meeting to public comments Aaron Freymiller addressed the board questioning how the decision was made to close the pool. Asking if there was any chance for it to be reconsidered. He expressed past fundraising he had done to save the pool as well.

Julie Hawes spoke on behalf of the save the pool group which consisted of approximately 30 people. She ask the board to consider ideas the group has to keep the pool such as doing a movie in the park, having volunteer pool matrons to take attendance, having concessions stands were some of the suggestions offered.

Mindy Toay spoke of living in Montfort as a child, moving away after college and returning to raise her family. The pool was a huge draw to move back. She asked how she could get numbers so the group could plan fundraising ideas as well as putting a sustainable plan together.

Nicole Klaas was on the agenda, but was not in attendance.

Other community members addressed the board on behalf of the pool as well. (Jen Rogstad, Jack Nowak, Jessica Munson, Allacia McIntosh, Betty Olsen, Sheila Ruchti, Rev. Ty Hines, Holly Witzig(as a community member), John Toay, Mary Jo Grebin and Donald Hardy. Sheila Ruchti advised everyone to contact their legislators, representatives and senators to let them know we need them to help with shared revenue or this problem will only get worse.

Due to the community comments, we moved Bob Jelinek from Badger Pool from the New Business part of the agenda up to speak. He introduced himself and let us know that we need to look at the future so there isn't regrets on how we proceed. His example was the Lodi pool. He offered different options for the pool. We can put a pool inside of the current pool. There can be zero entry. You can have a pool less than 2000 square feet that doesn't require a life guard (this does not mean Village insurance will not require it). It is not required by the state. There could be a wading pool. There are many different options, but he advised the group needs to look at the needs are along with attendance and operational cost to determine what would be the best option as any changes made will require it to be ADA accessible. Currently the pool was grandfathered in. With the options given the cost

would be 300-500K. A new pool would be at least 1 million dollars on up depending on what was requested.

Office Duane Jacobsen introduced himself presented his monthly report police officers report He is working approximately 5 hours a week at various times due to working in some surrounding communities as well. It works to rotate between them and Montfort during his shift. He mentioned that the speed limit signs on County I are not the most visible due to shrubs and a power pole. He is going to work with the county to possibly move it and add some additional speed limit signs. He presented a amber solar flashing light that can be added to the signs to draw drivers attention to the sign. Livingston is adding them to their speed limit signs. When asked about other options, Duane was going to look into it and let us know.

Fire Dept Report – No report given. However, at the mitigation meeting Steve Braun advised the siren is not working properly. Ryan was going to look into it,

Maintenance report. They are done cutting trees on the trail. Asked when Wall Street project is going to be done. Clerk will check with Vierbicher to advise the street project timelines.

#### New Business

Jessi Matteson requested that the board consider an adjustment to her utility bill as her water pipes burst between Christmas and New Year's. It was advised that adjustments are not given to the water bill as PSC has rules against that. However, if an adjustment is made it would be to the sewer bill. Pat Raimer made a motion to forgive all but \$120 of the sewer bill as that is her monthly usage average. Don Pluemer offered a second. Vote was taken and it approved unanimously.

Motion to table the Signs for the village to next meeting by Holly Witzig with Pat Raimer offering a second. Motion approved.

Motion by Pat Raimer and a second by Ryan Pilling to approve minutes from previous board meetings 1-18-23. Motion passed with no objections

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Library – Shawn gave a brief overview of the library meetings and advised that Michelle had a difficult time filing the annual report using the budget tracking last year. Clerk Kayla advised that budget tracking will be done in Quick Books so there should not be any errors.

Pool – Meeting was held on February 6. The committee offered up the recommendation of opening the pool June 2 thru August 5. For staffing the would like to offer returning pool manger, head life guards (2) and life guards a \$.25 raise. They recommended hiring Lucas Oyen as the pool manager and having him speak to the returning life guards. Lucas thought he has 5 returning and we would need a total of 9-10 employees.

Lucas will speak with Sawyer Dobson to see if he can certify the new life guards. If not, the board will need to review how they pay for the certification as opening the pool next year is still being debated. In the past the village pays ½ each year so there was an incentive to return.

Pat Raimer made a motion to pay the pool manager \$15.25, head life guards \$12.25 and life guards \$10.25 for the returning guards. New life guards would get \$10. The pool would open June 2 and close August 5 with doggie swim that day.

Clerk report was there is 974 views to the website. The office has been busy collecting Iowa County taxes with some residents from Grant County bringing theirs in versus mailing them to Grant County. Next Tuesday is the primary elections and all workers are confirmed. Grant County Economic Development asked if the village was interested in having a developer from the Fox Valley area look at building 12 to 16 unit apartment complex. No action was taken on the request as village does not have land available. Board asked that Clerk look into ordinance how long one has to complete projects with a building project.

Motion by Shawn Merkle and a second by Don Pluemer to approve General Bills, Water, & Sewer & Auto Pays as presented. Roll call vote taken with Chuck, Pat, Don, Patty, Shawn and Ryan voting yes. No objections. Motion passed.

Motion by Shawn Merkle and a second by Don Pluemer to move to closed session to discuss clerks hours and a bartenders application. Motion made to returned to open session.

Motion made by Holly Witzig to approve bar tenders' application for Noelle Hebgen with Pat Raimer offering a second. Motion passed with all voting in favor verbally.

Patty Koestler offered a motion to have Pat Raimer check with LaVern Hrubes to come train Kayla for 10 hours a week for a short time. Holly Witzig offered a second. Motion passed with a verbal vote all in favor.

Motion by Holly Witzig and a second by Pat Raimer to adjourn at 9:55 p.m.

Posted on: 02-09-2023 – Village Website, Mills Market, Community Building, and Montfort Post Office. Kayla D. Spurley - Village Clerk/Treasurer