



MEETING MINUTES – VILLAGE BOARD (Regular)

Date/Time: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 (6:00 P.M.)

Location: Village Office, 2990 South Pine Tree Road

ROUTINE ITEMS TO BE ACTED UPON:

1. Call to order/Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by Rich Heidel at 6:02pm. Rich Heidel, David Dillenburg, Tim Carpenter, Ed Kazik, and Debbie Schumacher were present.

2. Certification of the open meeting law agenda requirements and approval of the agenda:

Motion by Rich Heidel, second by Ed Kazik, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Payment of Invoices

B. Village Board: Minutes of August 17, 2021 and August 31, 2021

C. Appointment of Vanya Koepke to the Ethics Committee, for a term to expire on May 1st 2023, with the appointment to take effect on October 1, 2021

Motion by Dave Dillenburg, second by Debbie Schumacher, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS, RESOLUTIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS:

None.

8. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS:

A. UPDATE – Village's 2021 Population Estimates:

The most recent estimate of the Village's population from the Department of Administration show Hobart has an estimated population of 10,717, as of January 1, 2021. This is an increase of 263 residents (2.5 percent) over 2020, and 1,118 residents (11.6 percent) over the past two years.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS:

None.

10. OLD BUSINESS:

A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Future of Law Enforcement in Hobart

Motion by Rich Heidel, second by Debbie Schumacher, to suspend the meeting rules and open the meeting to the public at 6:14pm. The motion passed unanimously.

The following members of the public made comments:

- Donna Severson – 362 Crosse Pointe Court
- Al Lankford – 3876 Whitetail Court
- Jennifer Manders – 1480 Grant Street
- Luke Bartel – 1570 Park Drive
- Landon Christian – 1410 Aviator Court
- Sergeant Tremel – Hobart/Lawrence Police Department
- Connie Fleigle – 360 Sunlite Drive
- Karen Swere – 3644 W Mason Street
- Lynne Steeno – 890 Ferndell Acres
- John VanLanen – 2280 S Overland Drive
- Officer Schroeder – Hobart/Lawrence Police Department
- Rachel Fontaine Harrison – 640 Castlestone Court
- Leroy Schlorf Jr – 1416 Riverdale Drive
- Don Hedrick

Motion by Dave Dillenburg, second by Tim Carpenter, that the board return to regular session at 7:15pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Aaron Kramer presented a proposed plan to finance a new police station.

Erica Berger presented a comparison between the officer's salary and benefits between the county and the village.

Motion by Rich Heidel, second by Dave Dillenburg, that the Hobart Village Board decline any contractual relationship as proposed in the Brown County Sheriff's proposal presented to the public on August 3, 2021 and that the Village of Hobart proceed into the future with its own police department, jointly owned and operated with the Town of Lawrence.

Roll Call Vote: Debbie Schumacher, nay; Ed Kazik, nay; Rich Heidel, aye; Dave Dillenburg, aye; Tim Carpenter, aye.

The motion carries.

Motion by Rich Heidel, second by Dave Dillenburg, to recess for 15 minutes at 8:07pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Tim Carpenter left the meeting at 8:20pm.

The board reconvened at 8:26pm.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Cisco Meraki System Upgrade:

The Cisco Meraki system is our local technology firewall. The current system warranty and security updates will expire in January of 2022. Motion by Debbie Schumacher, second by Ed Kazik, to approve the ordering of an upgrade to the Cisco Meraki system as presented to the Board, with the funding to come from the 2022 Capital Budget, with ½ of the cost assigned to the General Government component and the remainder to the Police Department, with ½ that amount being billed to the Town of Lawrence. Roll Call Vote: Debbie Schumacher, aye; Ed Kazik, aye; Rich Heidel, aye; Dave Dillenburg, aye. The motion passed unanimously.

B. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Establish a Public Hearing to Consider a Conditional Use Permit Reducing Lot Area on Parcels HB-3184 (1043 Coronado Ct.) & HB-3183 (1045 Coronado Ct.) and Amend Existing Planned Development Overlay For The Polo Point, Polo Point 1st Addition, and Polo Point 2nd Addition Subdivision Plats Relating To Lot Frontages and Total Lot Area:

Motion by Ed Kazik, second by Rich Heidel, to schedule a public hearing to consider a conditional use permit reducing lot area on parcels HB-3184 (1043 Coronado Ct) and HB-3183 (1045

Coronado Ct) and amend the existing planned development overlay for the Polo Point, Polo Point 1st Addition, and Polo Point 2nd Addition subdivision plats relating to lot frontages and total lot area for October 5, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

C. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Establish a Public Hearing to Consider Rezoning 3500 Block West Mason Street/Haven Place (HB-851-1) from I-1: Limited Industrial District to R-3: Residential District:

Motion by Debbie Schumacher, second by Ed Kazik, to establish a public hearing to consider rezoning 3500 Block West Mason St/Haven Place (HB-851-1) from I-1: Limited Industrial to R-3: Residential for October 5, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

D. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Establish a Public Hearing to Consider Final Plan review on a request for a PDD Overlay located at 3500 Block W. Mason St. / Haven Pl., HB-851-1:

Motion by Dave Dillenburg, second by Rich Heidel, to establish a public hearing to consider final plan review on a request for a PDD Overlay located at 3500 Block W. Mason St./Haven Pl. (HB-851-1) for October 5, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

E. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Establish a Public Hearing to Consider a Request to Rezone Parcels HB-409, HB-419, HB-420, HB-421, HB-422, & HB-424 from A-2: Exclusive Agricultural District to A-1: Agricultural District:

Motion by Ed Kazik, second by Debbie Schumacher, to establish a public hearing to consider a request to rezone parcels HB-409, HB-419, HB-420, HB-421, HB-422, & HB-424 from A-2: Exclusive Agricultural District to A-1: Agricultural District for October 5, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

F. DISCUSSION – Items for future agenda consideration or committee assignment:

None.

G. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

- i. Under Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(g): Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with the respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. RE: Tribal Affairs
- ii. Under Wisconsin State Statute 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. RE: TID Projects/Development Agreements.

Motion by Rich Heidel, second by Ed Kazik, to adjourn to closed session at 8:38pm. The motion passed unanimously.

H. CONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:

Motion by Dave Dillenburg, second by Ed Kazik, to reconvene into open session at 9:12pm. The motion passed unanimously.

I. ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION:

None.

12. ADJOURN

Motion by Dave Dillenburg, second by Rich Heidel, to adjourn at 9:13pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Erica Berger

From: Mary K Bishop <maryk.bishop4@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:17 PM
To: Hobart
Subject: Hobart police contract

We are totally against the abolishment of the Hobart Police force for the following reasons.

1. A significant decrease in needed and prioritized services and protection.
2. Lack of a compelling financial reason to take such a drastic action.
3. A personal vendetta has no place when deciding the safety of our village..

Thank you for allowing the community to way in on this extremely important issue.

Sincerely
MaryKay and Rusty Bishop
915 Kings Pt ct
Oneida , Wi
920-544-8098

Erica Berger

From: Douglas Piirto <reply-to+72ed00e3db0f@crm.wix.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:13 PM
To: Erica Berger
Subject: [villageofhobart] Contact - new submission

Douglas Piirto just submitted your form: Contact
on [villageofhobart](#)

Message Details:

Name: Douglas Piirto

Email: dpiirto@crestlineforestry.com

Subject: Policing Proposal

Message: September 3, 2021--Please let the Village of Hobart Council know that my wife Mary and I oppose moving police services from the Village of Hobart to the Sheriff's Department. We oppose the change because: 1.) the Hobart Police Department set priorities based on the needs of Hobart. The Sheriff's Dept. will set their priorities based on the needs of Brown County; 2.) Hobart police are ever present in our Overland area of Hobart. We live on Wooded Hills and we always see on a daily basis the Hobart police on patrol in various areas of Hobart. The Sheriff's Department will not be as attentive or as nearby as our current Hobart police patrols are. 3.) Dispatch procedures will be different if we go to the Sheriff's Department. Triage will cause Hobart to be lower down on the priority response list given the immense size of Brown county. Overall, we suspect that there will be major delays in first responder response time for both medical and police incidents; 4.) The Village of Hobart already has an identity problem in relation to our mail. The mail system refers to this area as Oneida yet we have a Village of Hobart office. By removing our Hobart police from the streets of Hobart, we will further lose our sense of identity as the "Village of Hobart." 5.) Our local police care about Hobart and are involved with the community. 6.) The most important reason for our opposition relates to precedent setting. Once the decision is made to eliminate the Hobart Police Department then what comes next. Perhaps the Fire Department or perhaps the whole idea of eliminating the Village of Hobart and merging with either Howard and/or Lawrence. Is that really what the people of Hobart want? We think not. Please carefully evaluate this matter as people's lives hang in the balance if response times are delayed. Best Regards Dr. Doug Piirto and Ms. Mary Piirto, 626 Wooded hills Trail, Hobart, WI 54155. Home Phone 920-649-0039, e-mail dpiirto@crestlineforestry.com

Aaron Kramer

From: johnc98634@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 2:56 PM
To: Rich Heidele; Dave Dillenburg; Ed Kazik; Debbie Schumacher; Tim Carpenter; Aaron Kramer
Subject: Contracting Law Enforcement to the Sheriff's Department

All,

I wish to share several thoughts regarding evaluation of the option to contract Hobart-Lawrence law enforcement to the Brown County Sheriff's Department.

I do not have a position on contracting to the Sheriff's Department or keeping the Hobart-Lawrence police force as is at this time. However, I share the following:

- I commend the village board and administrator for looking into this option. You are the stewards of tax payer money and responsible to the village residents for maintaining the health and safety of the community. You are doing due diligence in evaluating what will work best. Based on board meeting minutes and local media reporting you are continuing to look at multiple factors that will impact your final decision.

- Balancing individual workforce (police department) needs against budgets and finances is always a challenge. I understand the concerns raised by the current Hobart-Lawrence officers regarding benefits, longevity, insurance premiums, shift schedules, etc. Taking care of the law enforcement team is important. At the same time, most businesses and government entities go through these analyses periodically to determine the most effective and efficient way to do business. And it often revolves around finances and budgets. It isn't an easy process - ultimately a decision must be made and not all parties impacted will be satisfied or happy with it.

- A number of municipalities in Brown County currently contract their law enforcement with the Sheriff's Department. They are equivalent to or larger than Hobart in terms of population density and size. To my knowledge this arrangement seems to function effectively so there is precedent here if the decision is made to go with the Sheriff's Department.

- I have managed personnel working shift schedules and seniority type shift bidding for the past 18 years. I know the Hobart-Lawrence officers have concerns in this area. At the same time, the Sheriff makes valid points for the schedule his officers are on. As stated previously, not everyone will be happy with whatever decision is made. Based on my own experiences, effectiveness and efficiency must be considered and sometimes that calls for a hard choice between personal desires and what is best for the operation/organization.

- This has become a contentious issue. I don't know if more communication ahead of time with the Hobart-Lawrence police department and the community regarding this process being undertaken would have helped. That is hindsight at this point.

I am probably not sharing anything you haven't already heard or considered. I thought it important to give you my view as a village resident.

Thank you for your efforts in this area.

John Carlson

Aaron Kramer

From: Bob and Joan Peters <jmprap@netnet.net>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 12:24 PM
To: Aaron Kramer
Subject: KEEP THE HLPD

This note is in response to the discussions about dissolving the HLPD. We find this to be a very bad idea. Over the years a lot of planning, thought, and hard work has gone into creating a fantastic police department in Hobart. Monies have been earmarked, raised through fundraisers, donations from people along with many other businesses. They have body cams, and a K-9 dog. May people have been so generous and believe in our police officers. Our police know Hobart and are always visible and ready to help and assist on a daily basis. Anyone of them is ready at a moments notice as they work their shifts. We do not need to be second fiddle to the county who cannot get to us to assist in an emergency as fast as our Hobart officers can. They know the village inside and out as they travel the roads on a daily basis.

Hobart has grown over the past 22 years we have resided here. There are small, medium, and large business that have come to the village. We have an increase of homes, apartments condos, and care facilities. We have a large base to be able to afford and KEEP our POLICE OFFICERS.

We find it extremely upsetting that this is even being brought to the table. It appears to be extremely biased and vindictive on the parts of a couple of trustees. This world has enough problems, stop adding to it. Keep your personal differences to the side and do what is best in the interest and future of Hobart. KEEP OUR POLICE OFFICERS. They are the ones that know the village and how to protect us all.

This reminds us of what happened on Cnty J when one day the speed limit is 45 mph and the next day it is 35 mph. We had to fight to get it back to 45 mph, this is a county road.

Seriously, stop ramrodding the the people of Hobart. Stop thinking of yourselves and think of Hobart as a whole and the GOOD these men and women do to protect us all. Our tax dollars are hard at work to protect Hobart.

Concerned Residents of Hobart,
Bob and Joan Peters
3762 Rolling Heights

Erica Berger

From: Laura Lear <lauralear1184@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 1:38 PM
To: Erica Berger
Subject: Support the Brown County Sheriff's Office proposal

Hi Erica,

I have a conflict on Tuesday so I'm not able to attend the village board meeting. Instead, I wanted to write and express my support for the Brown County Sheriff's Office proposal. I hope you are hearing from others who feel the same. It's a responsible move to offer Hobart residents more protection and services, especially as the village continues to grow. Our current officers have an opportunity to stay and they won't lose their Hobart-Lawrence "brand." I suspect this also offers them more opportunities for advancement.

Please pass this along to the board. Thank you.

Laura Lear
920-362-0208

Christian Reynolds
352 Shady Drive
Hobart, WI 54155
creyn@cmreynolds.org

September 7, 2021

Hobart Village Board
Village of Hobart
2990 South Pine Tree Road
Hobart, WI 54155

Dear Board Members:

I have had the pleasure of attending and participating several of your meetings with our scouting organizations. Today I wish to write as a concerned citizen, and comment on the proposal with the Police Department.

Let me begin please by stating my support for law enforcement of any department. Professional police forces are under attack in this "day and age", and I fully appreciate the daily challenges they face, and always pray for their safety on the job taking care of matters within the community.

I am **vehemently opposed** entering a contract with the Brown County Sheriff's department. In a community where "Greatness is Growing", the contracting of police forces removes local control, and I feel will introduce many problems in the near and far future. As a taxpayer, I do not mind paying a bit more to keep our Hobart & Lawrence local and dear to us. I also fear that if the Board approves this contract, and then doesn't like it, that reactivating local control will be too costly to consider. In my opinion, the best way to avoid the problem is to not choose it to begin with.

There is nothing preventing Brown County from offering a "sweet deal" like Spectrum Cable does, and then significantly change the deal down the road. By keeping H & L Police local, you as a Board control the costs.

The few times I have interacted with the police have been pleasant and professional. The bat whack to my mailbox, and the inspection for crime at my neighbors was handled quickly and professionally. Our family also went to the K9 event at Daydream Acres to raise money for the police dog, and we would do so again in a heartbeat. I also like to see the regular patrols on HWY 29, along with the occasional drive by to the parks, and other locations within the community.

Please stop this terminating action with the sworn officers! During the interview process, the Village selected these fine individuals, and it is important to remember that the officers *selected Hobart & Lawrence too*. Employment works both ways, and I cannot think of a greater morale killer than to threaten the employment security, and tamper with officers whom are doing an outstanding service to the community.

I implore the Village Board to terminate this proposal immediately. Please support your local policing agency, and remove this stress from our local officers, so that they may continue their service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christian Reynolds", written in a cursive style.

Christian Reynolds

Statement from Trustee Tim Carpenter

First of all let me thank all of you for attending tonight. I would also like to thank to police department for their patience allowing us more time to gather information, ask questions and compare numbers to be sure we are making an informed decision.

The board and staff have worked very hard over the past years to establish Hobart's own identity. Whether it is our signs indicating you are entering the Hobart village limits or by getting the postmaster to acknowledge the 54155 zip code not only as Oneida but also as Hobart. This also includes the Hobart Lawrence police department having the large letters on the sides of the squads with Hobart Lawrence officers inside those squads.

As you heard from Aaron earlier our population has grown dramatically over the last couple years. This is also the case with the Town of Lawrence. So with growth we as the governing boards have to continue to look at ways to continue to supply services for our residents with the lowest impact to the wallets of our residents. This is what Debbie and Ed were doing by reaching out to the sheriff to compare services. After receiving that information it was realized there were not any savings for the sheriff to take over services. This also goes against our effort to create our own identity. Now with all this growth we are going to experience issues with not only our police department but we are going to have to grow our fire departments, our public works and our village office.

We have worked well with the Town of Lawrence on many issues including our police department. This relationship has allowed both communities to have elite police coverage at a very reasonable cost. My hope is we continue this wonderful relationship with our neighbor to the south as it has proven that municipalities can work together to share services.

Judging by the letter signed by every officer opposing this change for several reasons that sent a strong message to the board.

Now it is time to remove the shadow over our fine officers and remove the fear of doubt they won't have a job in the future this is not what they deserve for doing such a fantastic job keeping both communities safe.

With that said my vote is in favor of the motion to keep just that OUR Hobart Lawrence police department just the way that it is!