

**VILLAGE OF GRAFTON**  
**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 7, 2016**  
**\*AMENDED**

President Brunnuell called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Board members present: Jim Brunnuell, Sue Meinecke, David Liss, Lisa Harbeck, Tom Krueger, Dean Proefrock and David Antoine

Staff/Officials present: Village Administrator Darrell Hofland, Director of Administrative Services Paul Styduhar, Police Chief Charles Wenten, Village Attorney Mike Herbrand, Director of Planning and Development Jessica Wolff, and Village Clerk Kaity Olsen

Others present: News Graphic Reporter Melanie Boyung and Lisa Sohrweide and other members of the public

**MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Liss, seconded by Trustee Meinecke to approve the 02-15-2016 Village Board meeting minutes and File the 02-22-2016 Joint Library Board and 02-23-2016 Plan Commission meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A correction to the 02-15-2016 Village Board minutes was requested by Trustee Krueger; on page three of the Village Board minutes during the closed session, the statement should read 'the Village Board discussed the *amendment* to the pre-annexation agreement with Heartland Development Group'. The correction was accepted.

**PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

None

**BUSINESS PRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENT**

None

**RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES/ACTION ITEMS**

Unlawful tax claim on 2015 property taxes received from parcel number 10-050-02-13-003, New Life Church, 1402 Seventh Avenue

Director Styduhar commented that Wisconsin State Statute 70.01 states "(t)he assessor shall assess all real and personal property as of the close of January 1 of each year." Since the property was not purchased by New Life Church until January 30, 2015, the tax exempt status of the church did not take effect until January 1, 2016. The Village Assessor, Ozaukee County Treasurer, and Bureau of Local Government Services of the Department of Revenue were all contacted and all agreed with the determination to deny the claim.

Pastor Ramsey Fandler, New Life Church, 1402 Seventh Avenue, thanked all for hearing his claim. He asked the Village Board to show kindness and understanding in the purpose for his request. His congregation is less than 30 parishioners and they are a small non-profit group. The 2015 property tax amount of \$6,625.84, which is a lot of money to a small group such as themselves.

Attorney Herbrand commented that he is unaware of any laws that would allow municipalities to make exceptions or bear the right to waive property taxes.

Further discussion was had and it was commented that this is rather unfortunate for New Life Church and the Village will try to work with them on paying this amount due.

Motion by Trustee Antoine, seconded by Trustee Krueger to deny the unlawful property tax claim for parcel number 10-050-02-13-003, New Life Community Church for 2015 property taxes. Motion carried 6-1 (Harbeck-nay).

Item 1/Report of the Plan Commission

Resolution endorsing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2015-2020 was offered by Trustee Liss.

Motion by Trustee Harbeck, seconded by Trustee Proefrock to adopt the resolution endorsing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2015-2020.

Director Wolff commented that this strategy identifies numerous economic opportunities within the seven counties comprising the Southeastern Wisconsin region. The CEDS has been adopted by the seven county boards and is optional for the communities but is recommended by Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Due to the high incomes and property values of the Village of Grafton, the Village is not eligible for funding, but the Village can show its support.

Motion carried.

Item 2/Report of the Plan Commission

Resolution approving the Public Participation Plan for the Comprehensive Plan Update was offered by Trustee Meinecke.

Motion by Trustee Liss, seconded by Trustee Krueger to adopt the Resolution adopting the Public Participation Plan for the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Director Wolff thanked the department heads and Trustees for completing the Grafton comprehensive plan questionnaire. Ms. Wolff further stated that, per state statutes, any amendments to the Comprehensive Plan require procedures to foster public participation.

Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT AND OFFICERS REPORT**

None

## **LICENSES**

### Reconsideration for Denial of Issuance of Operators License to Lisa A. Sohrweide

Lisa Sohrweide, 660 North Spring Street, Port Washington was present to appeal the denial of her operator's license.

Police Chief Wenten stated that a standard background check was conducted where it was realized that there were several citation omissions on her application. A standard letter was sent to Sohrweide offering her the chance to correct her application. No response was received so the denial was recommended by Chief Wenten.

Attorney Herbrand commented that the nature of the offenses were not reason enough to deny the license and if the application had been completed there would not have been a denial.

Motion by Trustee Meinecke, seconded by Trustee to Antoine to reconsider the denial of issuance of an operator's license to Lisa A. Sohrweide. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Harbeck, seconded by Proefrock to approve the operator's license for Lisa A. Sohrweide conditional upon a completed license application. Motion carried.

## **REPORT OF BILLS**

Several questions regarding purchases were asked and answered.

Motion by Trustee Krueger, seconded by Trustee Antoine to approve the payment of Village expenditures in the amount of \$464,226.84. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Liss commented that the final GALA concert of the season will be this Friday and the performance will be by Lovin' Kind.

Trustee Harbeck inquired as to whether or not any Village retirements were coming up this year. Administrator Hofland indicated that none have been identified.

## **ADJOURN**

Motion by Trustee Krueger, seconded by Trustee Proefrock to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.