

Village of Richfield
4128 Hubertus Road, Hubertus, WI
Village Board Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2022
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Village President John Jeffords at 7:00 PM. A quorum of the Village Board was present.

Present: Village President John Jeffords and Trustees Dan Neu, Bill Collins, Tom Wolff, and Don Kriefall

Excused Absence: None

Also Present: Village Administrator Jim Healy, Village Attorney John Macy, Deputy Clerk Donna Cox, and Administrative Services Coordinator Katherine Gehl

2. Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Village Administrator Healy verified that the meeting was posted per statute at three local post offices and the Village Hall. Digital copies of the agenda were sent to the West Bend Daily News, Germantown Express News, Hartford Times Press, and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rob Stuesser – 3290 Pleasant Hill Road

Mr. Stuesser stated for the record that he was in favor of the proposed recommendation regarding the Zoning Code. Mr. Stuesser stated that he believed, should conflict arise during future committee discussions regarding the Zoning Code between the Code's old language and any new language, that the old language should supersede the new language.

Cassie Strupp – 4811 Pioneer Road

Ms. Strupp stated for the record that she was in favor of the proposed recommendation regarding the Zoning Code. Ms. Strupp thanked the Village Board for holding the public session and believed that voices were heard. Ms. Strupp asked that the Village remain committed to the A-1 and A-2 districts and maintain the importance of the old language. Ms. Strupp asked that the Board consider the agricultural community and their busy times of year when forming a committee.

Mary Anne Urlakis – 631 Violet Court

Ms. Urlakis stated for the record that she was in favor of the proposed recommendation regarding the Zoning Code. Ms. Urlakis thanked the Village Board for tabling the motion regarding the Zoning Code at the May Village Board meeting. Ms. Urlakis stated that she was in favor of maintaining the original A-1 and A-2 language.

Danah Zoulek – 609 Scenic Road

Ms. Zoulek stated for the record that she was in favor of the proposed recommendation regarding the Zoning Code. Ms. Zoulek stated that she was commenting on the Closed Session agenda item. Ms. Zoulek stated that the Village is very litigious and is spending tax dollars on lawsuits. Ms. Zoulek stated that she has done a year

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of research for Ms. Carla Whitcomb and believes that the potential litigation between the Village and Echos Rental LLC is wrong.

Michael Moen – 4685 Hubertus Road

Mr. Moen stated for the record that he was against the proposed recommendation regarding the Zoning Code. Mr. Moen stated that he does not want the Village of Richfield to become more restrictive like the Town of Erin, Town of Polk, and City of Hartford. Mr. Moen stated that real estate businesses come to the Village for how the Zoning Code is currently, not how it's proposed.

Rebecca Klebsch – 671 Esker Ct

Ms. Klebsch stated for the record that she was in favor of the proposed recommendation regarding the Zoning Code. Ms. Klebsch stated that she grew up in the Village and was able to hobby farm and does not want to rob children the experience of owning and raising animals. Ms. Klebsch stated the importance of agriculture for creating work ethic in children and allowing them to be outside.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Vouchers for Payment**
- b. Treasurer's Report**
- c. Meeting Minutes:**
 - i. May 19, 2022 – Village Board Meeting**
- d. New Operator's License Applications**
- e. Renewal Operator's License Applications**
- f. New Alcohol Beverage License Applications**
- g. Renewal Alcohol Beverage License Applications**
- h. Renewal Unenclosed Premises Permit Applications**
- i. Renewal Coin Operated Machine License Applications**
- j. Renewal Cigarette and Tobacco Products License Applications**
- k. Renewal Target and Trapshooting License Applications**

Motion by Trustee Wolff to approve the Vouchers for Payment, Treasurer's Report, Village Board Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2022, Applications for New Operator's Licenses, Applications for Renewal Operator's Licenses, Application for New Alcohol Beverage License, Applications for Renewal of Alcohol Beverage Licenses, Applications for Renewal of Unenclosed Premises Permits, Applications for Renewal of Coin Operated Machine Licenses, Applications for Renewal of Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licenses, and Applications for Renewal of Target and Trapshooting Licenses all per their attached lists; Seconded by Trustee Neu; Motion passed without objection.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- a. Discussion/Action regarding the RVFC Fire/EMS and Public Safety Referendum to potentially be placed on the ballot at the election being held on November 8, 2022**

Village President Jeffords introduced agenda item 6a. President Jeffords stated the genesis of the discussion for a referendum was in August of 2021 when the Village was working on the 2022 budget. President Jeffords stated that a referendum question needs to be developed.

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Fire Chief Tony Burgard gave a brief oral presentation on the agenda item. Chief Burgard explained the decline in volunteers and increase in calls that the RFVC has been seeing. To work to address the decline in volunteers, a booklet was sent out to the community that received a good response and had people asking questions about how to volunteer. However, the process to become a volunteer is rigorous and makes it hard to commit people to volunteer. This was not feasible with the current levy so this prompted the discussion of a referendum.

Trustee Wolff inquired what was required to become a volunteer.

Chief Burgard explained that it is required that an individual enroll in one (1) full semester at a local technical college to become a volunteer and also do 80-110 hours of continuing education over a period of time after becoming a volunteer.

Motion by Trustee Kriefall to direct Village Staff to prepare a referendum question related to Fire/EMS and Public Safety for consideration by the Board at the regular Village Board meeting on July 21st at 7PM; Seconded by Trustee Wolff; Motion passed 4-0 with Trustee Neu recusing.

b. Discussion/Action regarding Ordinance O2022-05-01, an Ordinance to Recodify the Chapter 70 Zoning Code & Zoning Map and to contract with eCode 360 for Code Recodification

Village President Jeffords introduced agenda item 6b. Village President Jeffords thanked all those that attended the community roundtable and stated that following the meeting, the path forward was to replace the RR-1 and RR-2 language in the proposed Zoning Code with the original A-1 and A-2 language and then begin the creation of a committee to discuss agriculture in the Village.

Trustee Neu apologized for not being able to make it to the roundtable discussion and thanked all who called him with their concerns.

Trustee Collins stated that he believes what happened with the Code discussion gives the Board an opportunity to reflect on issues that occurred and how to avoid it in the future and encouraged residents to read the Richfield Happenings newsletter and call Board members if ever they have questions or concerns.

Trustee Kriefall thanked everyone for coming and expressed the need for the Board to hear from people and views this as democracy in action.

Motion by Trustee Neu for the Village Board, in listening to its constituents, to direct Staff to reinsert the A-1, Exclusive Agricultural District and A-2, General Agricultural District into the proposed Zoning Code thereby preserving all the currently existing agricultural rights which exist in the presently adopted Code and forward the totality of the Zoning Code back to the Plan Commission for review and recommendation at their meeting being held on July 7, 2022 at 7PM. Village Staff is further directed that the proposed Zoning Code, with the inclusion of the A-1 and A-2 Districts, be scheduled for a public hearing at the regular July meeting being held on July 21st at 7PM; Seconded by Trustee Wolff; Motion passed without objection.

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7. PUBLIC COMMENTS (...Continued)

None.

8. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Discussion/Action to enter into Closed Session under Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g) conferring with legal counsel for the governing body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the governing body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. – Echos Rental LLC for property at 3090 Polk Street identified by Tax Key: V10_031400L**

Village President Jeffords read aloud the Closed Session agenda item.

Motion by Trustee Neu to enter into Closed Session per Wisconsin Stats.; Seconded by Trustee Collins; Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Motion by Trustee Wolff to Reconvene in Open Session; Seconded by Trustee Kriefall; Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Discussion/Action regarding matters addressed in Closed Session outlined above**

No action.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Wolff to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 PM; Seconded by Trustee Kriefall; Motion passed without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Healy
Village Administrator