

VILLAGE OF MARATHON CITY, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – HYBRID

VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025 – 6:00PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:01 pm

ROLL CALL: K. HANDRICK, C. RUPLINGER, M. AHRENS, K. SORENSON, K. PAUL, B. PARLIER, J. LAWRENCE

All Board Members present. Parlier arrived at 6:03 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

a. Virtual Meeting Guidelines

- i. This meeting will be recorded and available upon request

b. Public Participation at Government Meetings

Attending in person were Frank and Rose Oelrich and Scott Kraft. Attending virtually was Kevin O'Brien from the Record Review, Katie Johnson from Menzner Hardwoods and Melody Hamlin from Funktion Design Studios.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. Discuss and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes for March 5, 2025 Village Board Meeting

Motion – Approve Minutes from March 5, 2025 Village Board Meeting

Motion made by Ruplinger second by Ahrens. Motion passed by voice vote.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Discuss and Possible Action on Park Fund Balance Transfer

Administrator Cherek gave an update on the Park Fund and General Fund Balances. The General Fund, based off of 2024 preliminary audit numbers will be around \$700,000. Actions taken in 2024 to split TID 2 advancements from the General Fund were discussed and increased the General Fund to safe levels.

Administrator Cherek gave a review of the new balance of the General Fund and its ability to absorb the Park Fund Transfer missed in 2021. Overall, the General Fund cannot financially handle any transfer above \$15,000 without long term financial stress placed on the General Fund due to TID 1 & 2 future advances needed. Cherek informed the Board that the only option would be to consider long term bonding as a replacement revenue for the Park Fund as the General Fund cannot make the transfer needed. He went over the ballpark and 2024 street/4th St sidewalk projects as it relates to the long-term bond needed. Overall, \$506,340 would be needed for the Park Fund Balance and \$360,000 for the 2024 street/sidewalk projects.

The Village can bond up to 2 years' worth of future projects. Administrator Cherek is working with Ehlers Financial advisors to find the best way to save on interest rates for the bond needed to be taken out. A discussion over future Village projects were talked about. Cherek will give the Board a list and summary of all projects along with the projects the Village Administration feels are top priority at the next meeting.

Overall, the Village is looking at April ranking projects, June going over debt/bonding options with Ehlers and July approving the 2-year CIP plan and village bond needed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss and Possible Action on Approval of Alexis Hall for EMT

Administrator Cherek shared a letter of recommendation from Fire Chief Hall in favor of approving Alexis Hall as EMT. She was interviewed and passed a background check.

Motion – Approve Alexis Hall as EMT

Motion made by Paul second by Ahrens. Motion passed by voice vote.

b. Discuss and Possible Action on Appointment of Joshua Krautkramer as Assistant Fire Chief

Administrator Cherek informed the Board of Fire Chief Hall's choice of Joshua Krautkramer for Assistant Chief. Joshua has been a member of the Fire Department and EMS for many years and has currently been serving as Department Treasurer. Cherek recommended Krautkramer as Assistant Chief.

Motion – Approve Appointment of Joshua Krautkramer as Assistant Fire Chief

Motion made by Ahrens second by Paul. Motion passed by voice vote.

c. Discuss and Possible Action on Awarding of Bids for Sale of 1946 Fire Tender

Administrator Cherek notified Trustees that the Village published an ad for 2 weeks in the Record Review and on the Village website accepting bids for the sale of the 1946 Ford Fire apparatus with a 1984 Ford Tender chassis. The Village received 1 sealed bid, opened at the meeting.

Motion – Approve Bid of \$3,500 for Sale of 1946 Fire Tender to Richard Seubert

Motion made by Sorenson second by Ahrens. Motion passed by voice vote.

d. Discuss and Possible Action on Conditional Use Permit for PJM Investments / Menzner Hardwoods Co. This Agenda Item got pushed forward to discuss after 4a.

Administrator Cherek presented the Board with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for PJM Investments / Menzner Hardwoods, Inc. for their new parcel site at 345 N. Business Parkway. The CUP includes a variance in the maximum parking spot allowance, the facility design as laid out in the approved Development Agreement and a wood/dust collection system with specified noise level restrictions. It was approved by the Plan Commission on Thursday, March 13, 2025.

Motion – Approve Conditional Use Permit for PJM Investments / Menzner Hardwoods, Co.

Motion made by Ruplinger second by Sorenson. Motion passed by voice vote.

e. Discuss and Possible Action on 2025 Post Office Floor Surfacing Project

In the fall of 2024, it was brought to Administrator Cherek's attention that the Post Office floor is in need of repair. The Village owns the building and USPS leases the space, therefore, it would be the Village's responsibility to make needed repairs.

Cherek met with the Postmaster who began collecting estimates for the repairs. Estimates range between \$17,000 - \$20,000. Trustees guided Cherek to work on getting his own estimates. Cherek does not believe the project would need to be put for bids as it should fall under the \$24,000 limit.

f. Discuss and Possible Action on 2025 Veterans Park Sewer Line

Administrator Cherek opened discussion on the repairs needed on the Veterans Park sewer line. He reminded the Board of the sewer backup discovered during Fundays in September 2024. At that time, Rick's Sewer Service conducted an inspection using a camera system and discovered a lack of cleanouts in the system, significant line separations, leaks and buildup of debris.

Cherek received an estimate for the repairs ranging between \$18,000 - \$23,000. The estimate does not include the cost of repairing blacktop after sewer line is complete, which would be a projected additional \$20,000 to the total cost. He stated the project would need to be put out for bid.

No action was taken at this time.

g. Discuss and Possible Action on Noise Complaint at 4th and Pine Street
This Agenda Item got pushed forward to discuss after 6d.

Administrator Cherek notified Trustees of a seasonal noise complaint over the 4th St and Pine St indoor baseball/softball hitting facility. He has been receiving calls and emails from neighbors about the disruption that the ball hitting the west wall of the building creates in their households. He stated that Police Chief Geske had officers patrol near the area while people were using facility. They reported little noise and activity.

Cherek invited residents Frank Oelrich and Scott Kraft to address the Board at the meeting over their concerns. After some discussion with Oelrich and Kraft, the Board agreed to have Cherek reach out to the building owner and/or facility lessee to assist them in securing the nets in an attempt to prevent the balls from hitting the west wall.

7. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

a. Discuss and Possible Action on Repealing of Section 14.2.108(I)(2) of the Subdivision Code entitled General Provisions

Administrator Cherek explained with this Ordinance, a parcel, or adjoining parcels, could be split without review as long as new parcels remain the same size. This could allow new parcels to potentially cross zoning boundaries. Approval of this repeal would make any land survey reviewable. The repeal was approved by the Plan Commission on Thursday, March 13th.

Motion – Approve Repealing of Section 14.2.108(I)(2) of the Subdivision Code Entitled *General Provisions*
Motion made by Ruplinger second by Parlier. Motion passed by voice vote.

8. VILLAGE BOARD WILL GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PER WIS. STAT. 19.85(1)(e) “DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASE OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION.”

MOTION – VILLAGE BOARD WILL GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PER WIS. STAT. 19.85(1)(e) at 8:02 pm.

Motion made by Ahrens second by Ruplinger. Motion passed by roll call vote.

C. RUPLINGER - Yes
M. AHRENS - Yes
K. SORENSON - Yes
K. PAUL - Yes
B. PARLIER - Yes
J. LAWRENCE - Yes
K. HANDRICK - Yes

- a. 400 Block
- b. DG Market

9. VILLAGE BOARD WILL RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION – Village Board will return to Open Session at 8:56 pm

Motion made by Ahrens second by Sorenson. Motion passed by roll call vote.

M. AHRENS - Yes
K. SORENSON - Yes
K. PAUL - Yes
B. PARLIER - Yes
J. LAWRENCE - Yes
K. HANDRICK - Yes
C. RUPLINGER - Yes

10. TAKE ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION IF NECESSARY

No action taken from Closed Session.

11. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS & SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

- a. Regular Village Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 2, 2025 – 6:00 pm
- b. Special Meetings as Needed

12. ADJOURNMENT at 8:57 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Ahrens second by Lawrence. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cassie Lang
Clerk, Deputy Treasurer