

JOHNSON VILLAGE TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING
TUESDAY, APRIL 1ST, 2014
Approved 4/14/14

Present:

Trustees: Gordon Smith, Ellis O'Hear, Walter Pomroy, Chris Parker, George Pearlman (6:45)

Others: Duncan Hastings (Manager), Steve Towne (Public Works Superintendent)

Call to Order

Gordy called the meeting to order at 6:30. Duncan noted that George would be there but a few minutes late.

Gordy stated the first agenda item was report on Main St. crosswalks. Duncan handed out a written report, which included an evaluation of the cause of failure and recommended repair from the subcontractor that installed them (Stonewall Hardscapes), copy of letter putting Engineering firms on notice of possible claim, pictures of construction and memo from OCE regarding design issues. Duncan and Steve reported that the crosswalks had been looked at by GW Tatro and they were interested in working with the Village to develop a plan for repairs but felt the Village should first meet with Otter Creek Engineering and Lamoureux and Dickinson to review the failures. Duncan stated that he thought the report from Stonewall hardscapes presented a reasonable explanation of why the crosswalks failed, but was concerned that the proposed repair would actually work. Walter stated that Duncan should be authorized to confer with Stitzel, Page and Fletcher law firm for advice and information prior to meeting with OCE and L&D. The Board concurred. Gordy stated that he wanted to make sure that we came up with a repair action that was going to be able to be done in a timely fashion and not drag on for months and months. Walter stated that it is important that we follow a process that leaves us in a good position for pursuing legal action and maximum reimbursement of costs for repairs. Various possible repair options were discussed, but it was agreed that we need to gather more information and evaluate the options once more is known. The Board concurred that this was a priority issue that needed a good resolution. It was agreed that Steve Towne and the Village crew should work with VTRANS District 8 to implement temporary repairs, which may include removing some bricks and replacing with cold patch.

The Board reviewed the bank proposals for financing the MW&L transmission purchase, if approved by the voters at Annual Meeting. Union Bank offered a commitment letter of 2.4% and Community National Bank at 1.875%. Merchants Bank declined to submit a proposal. Union Bank called several weeks after the first commitment letter and indicated they could do 1.8% financing. The Board felt that the only original proposals should be evaluated for purposes of selecting a bank. After discussion Walter moved to accept the Community National Bank proposal at 1.875% for a loan of \$270,128.00 for a term not to exceed five years, and to authorize Rosemary and Duncan to have loan documents prepared for Board signatures, pending positive vote at Annual Village Meeting, seconded by Chris, unanimous approval.

The Board discussed Annual meeting, scheduled for 7:30 that evening, and reviewed the budget and meeting articles. Duncan handed out an informational sheet he had prepared for article 11, the MW&L transmission purchase. The Board discussed open Trustee seats.

Duncan stated that there was an amendment form that needed Gordy's signature for the Water System Planning Loan, Loan Forgiveness final approval for \$11,000.00. Walter moved to have Gordy sign, seconded by Chris, unanimous.

Walter moved and George seconded to adjourn at 7:22 and the motion was passed.

Minutes submitted by Duncan Hastings