

VILLAGE OF REDGRANITE  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – March 17, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Municipal Building on March 17, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Jim Erdmann. Roll Call: Jim Erdmann, Mark Juslen, Gary Rodencal, Ellen Caswell and Matt Hagar. Motion by Ellen, seconded by Gary to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Matt Coffey states he has a fence discrepancy, having his fence 30' over on Village property. Looking to purchase the 30" from Village of Redgranite which could benefit the Village monetary gain used to better community, future property tax income, improvement to property increase property tax, growth for a business, decrease cost to Village for lawn care and maintenance and keep a straight property line. Village sold some of property to others so would only be fair if you sold me the 30" Requesting an extra month until board decides on this matter. We can discuss the cost of property, and I will take care of any fees with transferring title. Jim Erdmann stated the Board will get a hold of him. Tammy Taylor stated she wanted to know if Village is pursuing to get another grocery store, such as Aldi's? Jim Erdmann stated Village talked to Aldi's and they said it would be too close to other stores around area, nobody has tried to get one started with competition from Walmart, Stoneridge, Kwik Trip and Dollar General, just a competition he feels why nobody is trying. If anyone would like to come in, they are more than welcome too. Tammy Taylor stated the Piggly Wiggly store is overpriced with mold issue in the building. Jim Erdmann stated mold issue was in store before they went out of business, whole back wall had Black Mold and because not taken care of it has continued to get worse.

Motion by Ellen, second by Gary to approve the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on February 17, 2024. Motion carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT** – Becky reported that we received a letter from Redgranite Elementary looking for donations for event on April 10<sup>th</sup>, last year gave four \$25.00 Gift Certificate from local businesses that Village donated they need a decision by March 28<sup>th</sup>. Jim Erdmann thanked Wild Pines Coffee for bringing in coffee for meeting tonight.

**FINANCE, PERSONNEL, INSURANCE** – Motion by Mark, second by Tim, to approve General Fund disbursements– checks 115518 through 115573 (BankFirst) for a total of \$91,685.25. Water fund disbursements - checks 62006109 through 62006126 (BankFirst) for a total of \$9,621.67. Sewer fund disbursements – checks 63006948 through 63006964 (BankFirst) for a total of \$7,707.78; and payroll of \$51,519.37 creating a grand total of \$160,534.07 and approval of financial reports for general, water and sewer as printed. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Ellen to approve public works employees working 10 hours / 4x days per week effective first full week in April. Jim Fredrick stated that one employee will be on when another is off. Motion carried.

**LIBRARY** - Update was given by Jeannie McBeth. She stated they have been having very successful program this month, and had to turn people away due to space. Doing surveys to see how people hear about events mainly paper flyers, US Post Office and a few on Facebook. Motion by Mark second by Gary for John Kroll be added to Library Board as a Village citizen representative. Jim Erdmann asked if it was just the citizen position? Jeannie stated that they had a citizen vacancy, we need a certain number of county and village trustees also, he would fill that vacancy. Motion carried.

**MACHINERY, GARBAGE, ORDINANCES** – Jim Fredrick gave no update. Motion by Gary, second by Matt for dates for Village spring Clean Up, Leaf Pickup is April 21- May 2, Brush Pick Up April 28 – May 2, Large Item Pick Up May 5 - May 9 Leaves will be picked up every day, Brush and Large Items dates are for residents to get all items set out and the following week we will pick it up. Kyle stated to Becky to get it put in with water bills and on Village Website. Jim Erdmann stated that we had someone to update the website. Becky stated yes. Christa Erdmann stated she was just given permission along with Information to get on Website, and so far, all 2023 and 2024 Board meetings are on there, and 2025 will be on shortly. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Matt for a MPUF-Euro Skid Steer adaptor for \$1,500.00 from Ballweg Implement. Jim Fredrick stated, instead of buying forks and Grappler for Skid Steer bought the adapter and can use John Deere attachments, instead of spending \$6,000.00 - \$7,000.00 on attachments for Skid Steer. Motion carried. Approval of repairs needed for the Orange Plow Truck, took to County they replaced all six Injectors, the Injector Harness and the Full Pressure Fuel Pump. Don't know price till county sends bill. Gary stated we should wait till we get the bill. Jim Erdmann stated he wants to wait for the bill, so numbers get entered in Agenda and Minutes. Motion tabled till we get the bill from Waushara County. Set Date and time for the next Ordinance Meeting. Jim Erdmann stated he needs to talk to Julie Fredrick. Ellen stated she thought the

Municode should send it to the Clerk. Kyle stated he believes there are more codes that need to be finished on our end, then they will reschedule. Jim Erdmann stated I thought we had everything done and sent in, only thing that needed to be added adopting the Waushara County Container Ordinance. Kyle stated thought we still had Flood Plane ordinance to do yet. Jim Erdmann and Gary both agreed that it was all done. Ellen stated that is why Julie sent it in. Jim Erdmann stated we should postpone this till he can talk to Julie, then will send out email to all Board Members to coordinate a time for the meeting, feels there are a few things need to be discussed with some of the new Ordinances that have been adopting.

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING** –Jim Fredrick had no monthly update. Motion by Gary, second by Mark for New Overhead Door for Public Works Shop. Jim Fredrick stated door is falling apart and rotting, first quote was for \$4,555.00 and second quote was \$3390.00, Jim Fredrick wants the Approval for the \$3,390.00 from Overhead Door. Motion Carried.

**PARKS, CEMETERY** – Monthly update was given by Jim Fredrick. We have the Ice-Skating Rink and Christmas decorations all down and put away, waiting for Vets Park to dry before they move the Warming shed. Having problems with pines tree limbs breaking off, don't know if tree is on last of life cycle or what is happening to them. Worried a branch will fall on someone in the park. Jim Erdmann asked if these were pines in Veterans Park? Jim Fredrick stated that they were, in a couple of weeks, hoping to be able to get some concrete down on each side for the walkway and then start landscaping around Pickle Ball Court all depending on weather. When the weather and temperature are right, they will be coming to surface, color, put lines on and finish the fence. I must get topsoil and seed so the lawn can grow back, and fence off area. Motion Denied by Ellen, seconded by Mark on Renting out Village Picnic Tables. Jim Erdmann stated, Board is nervous about renting out Picnic Table not getting them back or being damaged, what about older tables? Jim Fredrick stated he would only rent older ones out; they need work but are fixable. Jim Erdmann asked how many old ones do we have? Jim Fredrick stated we have about 10. Jim Erdmann states him, and the Board feels if we have old picnic tables not being used, we will consider them, but not using any of them that are in our parks. Ellen stated, what if we passed a Motion to view on a case-to-case basis so we control how far out of the Village we want to go, just so we have control over them. Mark stated that we get a deposit so when they come back undamaged, we return their money, also need to figure out what the repair cost would be. Jim Erdmann stated How much would it cost to buy a Picnic Table? Gary stated that if we took a deposit and gave it back, we still need to retain some for Village for usage of the Picnic Table. Jim Erdmann stated we would have to come up with a fee schedule, something the Parks Committee could come up with. Ellen stated as far as reservations for Picnic Tables. Jim Erdmann stated that we can come up with a set of guidelines and rules. Then Ellen states she feels it would set a precedence on other issues. Kyle stated there are other places if people need to rent Picnic Tables and Chairs such as Wautoma Rental or Hyler Septic, then we're not tying up are Village Employees with having to deliver or pick up if not returned or if they wreck Village Property then Police must get involved. Motion denied. Adjusting the Cemetery Fee Schedule Mike Gethchius stated the Grave Digger wants to raise his rate up \$50.00 more. Also looked at rates from other Cemeteries we are pretty much same price per lot, but we need to address the perpetual care State requires Cemeteries to put 15% away from each plot sold. Omro has a separate charge for Perpetual Care. Their cost for a gravesite is \$950.00, Berlin is \$800.00 a gravesite. Ellen asked if a certain percentage can be taken out now for Perpetual care? Mike G states that Redgranite did not start collecting the Perpetual care fee when it was required. Jim asked how many plots are available. Mike G said numerous plots left. Jim Erdmann stated that his concern is nothing has been put away even if we start now is there enough plots left to put enough away? The village needs to figure out how to start putting some money away for Perpetual Care. Gary asked if it could be tabled till the Parks Committee has time to discuss it with Mike. Mark asked if we have a record of how many plots have been sold over the 40 years. Mike stated that he does not have an approximate amount. Mark stated if we knew that then we could just figure out the amount the Village owes. Jim Erdmann asked if Mike could come in and sit down with the committee and get some of this figured out. Ellen stated to schedule it after April 1<sup>st</sup> to get information together. Mike states he can tell you how many lots have been sold since 2014. Ellen asked where that money goes when we sell a lot for Cemetery. Kyle stated that it goes to General Fund. Jim Erdmann stated that the reason perpetual care was set up so if something happens to the Village, City or Township the cemetery will be taken care of. Perpetual care was set up in 1984, and for some reason Redgranite didn't do it, if they would of the Cemetery would have been set up to pay for dirt, lawncare or any other maintenance needed. Ellen states we need to investigate General Fund and see how much money has been put in there from selling plots, and have General Fund paid back. Jim Erdmann stated we must figure out a way to get some of this money back, but we don't know the interest or anything else. Mike states that Berlin is just using interest for cemetery maintenance because they started it right away. Jim Fredrick states that \$6,000.00 is in our Budget to take care of the Cemetery in General Fund. Jim Erdmann stated that he wants to postpone this till the next meeting so more information can be gathered. Ellen stated that we could talk to the auditors about this subject. Motion by Gary, second by Mark to Approve consolidating the Quarry Committee into the Village Park System. Motion carried. Motion by Gary, second by Mark to get a Contract with Pumping Service for the

Port-o-let used at quarry. Motion carried.

**POLICE, FIRE** – No update was given due to being on a call. Update given by Chief Kyle Tarr. He stated Brie went to Chiefs convention last month. We had Firearm Training at the prison, still investigating calls from Prison. Brie is working on getting our first quarter bill for the Prison which will be mailed by the end of the month. Brie went to Active Shooting Training; she has the knowledge to do Active Shooter Training at the School along with Officer Hendrickson from Wautoma they will be doing drills with the schools. In fact, Friday did a drill with Little Sprouts Daycare. Matt will be doing Drug Inter-Addiction School in Fort McCoy for two days. Matt is working out well, works weekends either with Brie or myself. Matt handles calls during the day, while Brie or I work on Prison cases trying to get caught up. Matt works on Ordinance Violations and traffic enforcement. I am going to Emergency Vehicle Operation Training next month at Fox Valley Tech., which is required by Annual Certification. Also Pipeline Education Training with Fire District is yearly training. Working with Flock have the agreement signed with DOT to put cameras up, still trying to contact a person at Alliant Energy so we can get the camera put up at the Quarry. We have places for the Automatic License Plate Readers to be installed at each end of town, and put a Condor on stop and go lights in town. Trying to get a hold of LTV for our trailer having some issues with it and technical support is not very helpful. Flock has talked to us stating they will help us if the other company does not respond. Jim Erdmann asked if that was for a camera at the Quarry. Kyle stated that technical support does not get back to him or Jason. We have Saturation Patrol scheduled for April and will have County Officers here with a couple of dogs. Getting prices together for a committee meeting for approval of a new squad car. Reached out to one applicant has prior Law Enforcement experience but must be recertified. Kaitlin is doing a good job, getting us caught up on all our paperwork, going to have her work on cost and budgeting sheets.

**SEWER, WATER** – Brent gave a monthly update. Exhaust fan has been fixed above screen room, pumping clear water off our sludge storage tanks to try and keep cost down. Steaven and I took chainsaw safety class since we have been helping Jim with brush. Steaven has two more classes and test this week. Finished the CCR Report to be included with utility bills this month. Motion by Mark, second by Gary for a new Gearbox/Motor not to exceed \$4,000.00 from Sabel Mechanical. Brent stated that gearbox/motor in south clarifier needs to be replaced, more cost efficient to get new box than rebuild but will save old gear box in case needed, motor running hot needs to be replaced. Motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Gary for repair parts from Dorner. Brent stated Dorner came out and rebuilt the clay valve in Well 1 controls water pressure, should be replaced every seven to eight years, Motion carried. Motion by Gary, second by Mark for heater replacement and wiring for \$1,813.02 done by Jon Lundt Electric. Motion carried.

**STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DITCHES** - Update was given by Jim Fredrick. Brushing on Cottonville and Warren Street will continue for a couple weeks yet. Austin is doing a great job. Cottonville had two bids for gravel, one for \$20,000 and the second one for \$18,00, then County will charge \$1,200 for shaping road to get double chipped. Two estimates for the double-chip seal, one for \$20,000, the second for \$28,000, County will be getting the job. Foster road will be Scotts Construction fixing that road. Cortney Lane is bad, cannot even patch it anymore, going to have an Engineer who is helping at the County shop to give an estimate of redoing this road. Getting bids to replace culverts price is around \$8,900.00 for all the culverts. Consider approval of a letter going out to residents with dead trees in yards to be removed. Jim Fredrick states that dead trees have been removed from Village property, but residents have trees on property that need to be taken down before damage happens or someone gets hurt. Kyle stated that we need to check what ordinance is for removing dead trees. Jim Fredrick states tree by library is on the village, county is going to help do traffic control. Jim Erdmann stated to get addresses for property owners who have dead trees and get Ordinance together. Motion by Mark, second by Matt for \$1,197.00 from Mid-American Research Chemical for weed control. Jim stated that, chemical sprayed in parks and ditches to kill weeds. More cost efficient to buy enough chemicals for two years. Motion carried.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Nothing to Report**

**Items to be placed on April 21, 2025, Regular Board Meeting:**  
Set up meeting.

- 1) Orange Plow Truck .
- 2) Date & Time/Ordinance Meeting
- 3) Cemetery/Perpetual Care
- 4) Dead Tree Letter

Motion by Ellen, seconded by Matt to Adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm by Jim Erdmann.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christa Erdmann  
Village Deputy Clerk