

SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP
September 21, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members present: Marty Hura, Ben Prescott, Paula Tubalkain, and John Clark, (Giles Seith arrived at 7:12.)

❖ Motion to excuse Giles and Paul by John Clark, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes.

Others present: Mayor Linda Clark; Clerk-Treasurer, Jenny August; Village Administrator Bruce Rininger, Chelsea Gregor, Administrative Assistant, Rich Iafelice and Jennifer Brown from CT Consultants

Citizens present: None

Discussion of Capital improvements and Grant Opportunities

Rich reviewed a list of some funding sources and grants that are available and might be beneficial to the village. He also re-capped some of the recent projects that are either in the works or have been recently completed, as well as the OPWC Round 31 W. Prospect St. Project that the village was denied funding. That project is something that our application can be enhanced and submitted to "Small Government" for a loan this spring. These are 0% loans for up to ten years. Mayor Clark said we need to decide how much of our road levy money we are willing to put towards this in case Small Government is going to consider funding. The road levy money has commitments for several years. The W. Prospect St. project of drainage and roadway is over \$530,000, which would be a 90/10 grant. ODOT does 3% loans up to 15 years. OPWC loans are 0%. Small Government also does loans at 0% for 10 years. Otherwise, Rich can look into doing a drainage project for West Prospect and we can worry about paving it later. We might be able to apply for a critical infrastructure CDBG and work with Lisa Reeves from Portage County Regional Planning for the blighted infrastructure.

To recap the ODNR Natureworks 75% Grant, this was approved. The project is about \$180,000. Portage Parks district has committed \$40,000 and DMRC has committed \$25,000. The max on the grant is \$150,000, so with PCRFP it should not cost the village anything.

Northeast Quadrant Waterline- This is a high priority project because it has a 4 in. diameter pipe. The pipe is so small and is higher up, therefore it has low pressure. If we ever had a fire up there it would be unsafe. We applied for a grant and a loan. The village turned down the loan because of our situation with the school, and now that we are developing a good working relationship with the school, it may be time to work on this grant again, possibly discuss it at the school Board meeting that is coming up.

Waterline Valve Replacement- We have a lot of valves that do not work. This type of project would likely rank highly for funding.

Mayor Clark is waiting to hear back from Senator Ecklund on the Matts Road bridge.

Potential projects that were discussed:

Community Neighborhood grant- a statewide grant for sidewalks, etc.

Jennifer talked about working together with the county to reduce costs to give us a better chance of getting government money because it will cost less overall if everyone is working together and solving two problems at once. She also suggested checking into AMATS funding. There are sub-committees within AMATS.

Safe Routes grant- we applied before and were denied. Mayor Clark would like Rich to apply for this one again.

There are "Jobs & Commerce" grants for industrial areas. This might be for the Matts Road bridge area. Paula Tubalkain said we should focus on revitalizing the Matts Rd. area in order to create or expand industry.

TIF- Tax Increment Financing- Special Improvement Financing. This can be for up to 30 years, and the businesses involved must agree to it. Ben said the UH building was granted a tax abatement because they were improving the property. It became a CRA (Community Reinvestment Area) and as the village CRA officer, he has to file on line every year.

For Parks and Park Improvements, there is money available through the Western Reserve Land Conservation fund. Jennifer said there is something called "Kaboom funding".

Telemetry- Water plant was built 19 years ago and the waste water plant was redone about 12 years ago. The telemetry system parts are not sold anymore so we would no longer be able to make repairs to our system. Good opportunity for OPWC funding.

Mayor Clark said she would like to focus on West Prospect and Matts Road.

Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn at 7:57pm was made by John Clark and seconded by Ben Prescott. All voted aye.

Mayor Linda Clark

Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer