

Village Board Meeting
April 13, 2021

Called to order 7:00 pm

Present: Randy Jones, Dan Bergsten, Jim Tollas, Pete Kruit, Virgil Nelson, Bruce Bergsten

Absent: Ralph Rounselle, Trustee
Gina Ormond, Clerk / Treasurer

Mark Liebaert talked about county forest sales of approximately 4.7 million dollars over the winter. We discussed a request by the village for Douglas County to provide approximately \$175K to \$200K or about 10% to 15% from the 8.3-million-dollar Covid relief funds that the county will receive. The village would pay \$4K to \$5K and Norvado would pay 30% to 40%. The funds would be to apply for a grant to install broadband internet in the Village of Poplar. We will need to gather more information on what speeds some residents are currently experiencing. This is very preliminary. If the grant were to be turned down, there would be no cost to the county.

Harold Lance from AMKO Advisors LLC spoke to the board about requesting bids to refinance the sewer load to reduce our interest rate from 4.5% to around 2% saving money and shortening time to pay off the loan. Motion by Randy and 2nd by Jim to proceed with request to get the bids. No negative votes.

March board minutes motion by Virgil 2nd by Danny to approve. No negative votes.

Motion to pay the bills by Jim 2nd by Virgil to approve. No negative votes.

Discussion on updating village ordinances. Nothing new to vote on. Continue as an agenda item.

Discussion on moving money from the money market to the village main account for gravel and road materials. No vote taken. Keeping it as an option should the need arise later in the year.

Discussed the new app on our website to report issues about things in Poplar that need attention such as road repairs trees down or sewer manhole damage or lift station alarms, etc. It is in the testing stage and we are asking residents to try it out and use it so we can work the bugs out. No cost to the village at this point.

Discussed the Hazard Mitigation Plan (Haz Mit Plan). Nothing to report yet. Jim asked to be put on the email list for that.

Discussion for the purchase of a culvert and installing it will be discussed at the April 22nd committee meeting.

Adjusting the camera angles to be able to see towards the fire hall better was discussed and Dan will get a price for that and decide. The coverage of the village hall is not to be compromised.

Discussion for repairs of the floor tiles has been moved to a future agenda item until we find out when we get the Covid relief money and what we will be allowed to spend it on.

The discussion on getting bids for painting the village hall are that we should post it for bids in the Connection Newspaper to get it out there more. (Talk to Jim for details)

The discussions about the Covid relief money and Norvado high speed internet was covered earlier with Mark.

Committee Reports

Fire Dept – We reviewed the minutes.

Sewer – Reported that the 1st Annual PMP Variance report was submitted and approved. Samples were taken at the High School and Elementary/Middle schools lift stations to check for phosphorus levels.

Cemetery – Quiet. Nothing known yet whether the Memorial Day event will take place this year or not.

Parks and Rec & building – Waiting to hear about what we can spend the Covid relief money on and when we will get it.

Roads and Culverts - Dan is talking to Ed Grube about getting gravel for roads. April 22nd committee meeting to make plans.

Future agenda items.

Floor repairs from floods

ADJOURN at 9:20pm Motion by Randy 2nd by Bruce motion carried.