

MINUTES OF TOWN OF HULL BOARD MEETING,
COUNTY OF PORTAGE WISCONSIN,
HELD ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 21, 2010

Call to order by Chairperson John Holdridge at 4:30 p.m. at the Town of Hull Municipal Building, 4550 Wojcik Memorial Drive, Stevens Point WI 54482.

Present: Chairperson Holdridge, Supervisors Dave Pederson, Dave Wilz and LaVerne Syens.

Excused is Supervisor Mel Bembenek.

Others present: Janet Wolle – Clerk; Jim Kruziki – Treasurer; Mark Kluck – Fire Chief; Mark Fritsche – Assistant Chief Mark Fritsche; Patty Amman – Part-Time Clerical; Randy Spurlin – Firefighter and Todd Grunwaldt – Architect.

01. Citizens wishing to address the board non-agenda items. Agenda items are for discussion with possible action.

No citizens present regarding non-agenda items.

Announcements by Chairperson Holdridge:

- The second meeting of the month suggest January 31, 2011 (Monday) at 6:30 p.m. Will go through the audit report. We had objectives that were assigned. The list by Jeff Kropp is very comprehensive.
- The first meeting of the month Monday January 3, 2011 – 6:30 p.m.

02. Review of Animal Control Ordinance between Portage County and Town of Hull

Chairperson Holdridge: Concerned about the Animal Control Ordinance between the local governments and Portage County.

- Portage County agency is the Sheriff's Department and they contract with the Humane Society.
 - o Concern expressed is from urban communities
 - o The contract is based on number of dog licenses sold. The more dogs you get via population the more money you get back.
 - o Town of Belmont gets \$867 back every year; the Town of Lanark gets \$224 back.
 - o Urban municipalities include Stevens Point, Village of Plover, Village of Whiting and Town of Hull are not able to capture the number of dogs we have. Hull has 2,020 households; Lanark may have 300 or 400 households.
 - o The concern is they actually get money back and everybody else pays in.
 - o The Village of Park Ridge Board wrote a letter and the Village of Plover is very interested.
 - o The contractual language is that the first contract is a 3 year contract and then there is a rollover 2 year contract. That 2 year contract ends December 31, 2010. We are already going to be in to the next 2 years
 - o If you are going to renegotiate the contract, or indicate you want to be out of it, I don't think anybody wants to be out of it because generally people are happy with the way the Humane Society and the Sheriff's Department are pursuing these things.
 - o If Hull wants to take action indicating we would like to see renegotiation of the contract, and whatever provisions you come up with, we have to do that by December 31, 2011.
 - o This is something we want to look at as a Board.
 - o We would go on record indicating we would like to take a look at that contract – the contract that would begin January 1, 2013.
 - o If we do that we will bring that back up in the fall or 2011.

- Possibly we could run rabies clinic out here – great way to generate dog licenses. A dog that has its rabies shot is a safe dog.

Supervisor Pederson I think 2 years ago a questionnaire was sent with the tax bill where people had to sign off that they did not have a dog. How successful was that?

J Holdridge – I do not know.

Janet Wolle any number of the questionnaire's came in but I can't tell you if it was good or successful. I can tell you the thought was that those who licensed their dogs did not turn the questionnaire in and those who did not license their dog did not turn the questionnaire in. I do not know how many questionnaires were turned in. Darlene Kropidowski had a binder where she kept the returned documents in alphabetical order.

J Holdridge, how do you get public opinion? One of the ways we know is people showing up at meetings. Often those people who show up at the meetings have a particular opinion on a particular topic or they would not be here. We might want to consider coming up with a survey instrument. On dogs and any number of topics come up with a random sample of households and develop a questionnaire; call them up and ask what you think. If you really want to get the opinion of citizens that is one way you can get close. What if you sample every 2,020 households? The statisticians can do that and it is not that many numbers that you have to come up with.

D Pederson, I suppose we could call do you have a dog and have you registered your dog.

J Holdridge if you are going to do that maybe you want to pick out 4 or 5; you do not want to spend a lot of time on the phone as people will turn you out.

- Citizens will probably be shocked if they find out that the Town of Hull, or the City of Stevens Point or the Village of Park Ridge wants to find out your opinion.
- Board members could divide the task – maybe survey 20 a piece.
- We could get someone to make it pretty statistically accurate. Bob Enright a Plan Commission member would know how to do that.
- We really ought to get public opinion, as much as we can, on these topics.

Motion Supervisor Pederson, second Supervisor Syens, put our contract for Animal Control on a fall agenda to be looked at for consideration of renegotiating. Motion carried.

03. Finance/Budget Committee Status/Review

Chairperson Holdridge recommends we not make this group a formal committee of the Town Board. If we make it a formal committee we are subject to the open meeting law, and have to announce meetings, etc.

- This should be a working group that is able to pull in other people that we might want to talk with about finance.
- The activities that this group does, that's of any substance, comes to the board anyway.

D Pederson you would suggest that there not be any more than 2 board members on it.

J Holdridge I would suggest we de-commission the committee and keep it flex-able. This group may want to meet tomorrow on an issue and if it is a legitimately constituted group we are subject to the open meeting law. We have to publicize, give a 24 hour notice, and keep minutes and everything.

D Pederson but any action taken would be brought to the board.

J Holdridge, any action of any substantive nature would be board action anyway. This was really put together to develop the budget.

Motion Supervisor Wilz, second Supervisor Syens, de-commission the Finance/Budget Committee.

J Holdridge when we met we had Janet Wolle as Town Clerk, Jim Kruziki as Treasurer, LaVerne Syens and John Holdridge. If we have issues we can invite other people in to participate.

Motion carried.

04. Report of Hull Building Committee

Chairperson Holdridge, the Building Committee met for 2 ½ years.

- A good write up went out with the tax bills
- The goal was for them to come up with a plan and then get that to the Town Board and throw it on our laps in terms of what do we do.
- We are trying to do this tonight to formalize it.

Supervisor Pederson I submit that the mailer that went out with the taxes as a summary of the Building Committee report.

- We have information to back-up needs, costs and why things were included in the plans.
- In addition we have a floor plan that has been drawn up as well as the information boards that lay out the safety concerns, the space concerns, etc.
- We have also come up with the financial picture of what the building project will cost.
- Final costs would not be determined until we have bids in.
- At this point we are at a point where we need to turn it over to the board and find out from the board how we are going to proceed from here.

Supervisor Wilz, have we heard anything back from any citizen concerning the flyer that went out?

Clerk Wolle, Barb Brilowski mentioned she had received one call from an individual who wondered about the future meetings as mentioned in the flyer and the fact that the meetings were not on the web site as indicated. The individual indicated he thought we would be receiving more calls. That is the only one I am aware of.

J Holdridge I received the note on that call. I called that person he lives in Marshfield. He wanted to come to a meeting. I had a sense he was sort of concerned about cost although I did not directly ask him. I did say when and if we get to the point where we are going to have a meeting we will contact him.

Supervisor Pederson had comments from 2 neighbors both in support of the project.

D Wilz made 10 random phone calls. Seven or 8 said they had not read the flyer. Two did read the flyer and 1 was kind of okay the other was totally against it. I asked why this individual was totally against it and his comment was in the bullet points about what the building was going to address there was something about a break room. He indicated he was going to vote against it, that he did not get a break at his job and he is about to lose his job. I received 2 comments out of 10; the other 8 put it in file 13.

D Pederson one person talked to hadn't read it because he thought it was a done deal.

Mark Kluck talked with 5 different Hull residents, some who have been at the Open House, who have seen the Fire Department and all 5 of them were for the project. I think once you see the condition that it hit them.

D Pederson plus the limitations on that building

M Kluck they all read the information that was sent out. They had questions and they were hoping for public hearings to come to too get a little more detail. I'm not sure that the board has made a decision on 15 or 20 year financing.

D Wilz:

- Think that when the committee met first was prior to me being on the board – it has been awhile.
- A lot of things have happened recently, locally, and across the country and the state.
- Listening to citizens at the Stevens Point Common Council meeting, the subject was the mall and should Stevens Point sell 5.9 million dollars worth of bonds.
 - Many comments about being careful, don't you know that 366 people lost their jobs at the paper mill.
- As a board we need to anticipate some of the big issues that are in front of us or things that are unknown that maybe we need to get known about.
- Watch 60 minutes regarding the catastrophic condition of states in the U.S. now. They are predicting what is happening in some states now and the trickledown effect it will have on local municipalities. They say it will hit within 10 to 14 months.
- The State of Wisconsin is 3.8 billion in the hole.
- Governor Walker or Democrat Tom Barret are both faced with this issue and both could swing pretty heavy things.
- New Jersey Governor took 26% out of his budget, laid off over 3,000 teachers and state employees – cannot fund the pensions. He is still 4 or 5 billion in the hole. He, as did Walker, canceled the high speed rail. We don't need it, we can't fund it.
- These things are going on out there, how is this going to affect us down the road? I don't know. This is real but is unknown. I think we need to look at and see when it becomes known and just let it happen a little bit.
- I believe we need this building project, however am not crazy about the price.
- We should actively continue to stay engaged and even talk about moving forward but I would caution us to slow things down and not worry about hitting an April date, or whatever.
- Be cognoscente of what is happening in the community here and what might be happening in the state and how that might affect us before we get ourselves in to a pickle unknowingly because we don't have information.
- People were cautioning the city to be careful. Do not run my credit card up as a tax holder. How are you going to pay for this 5 years from now, or 10 years from now? That is out there at least from the standpoint of the city of Stevens Point citizens.
- The New Page closing is going to be a devastating loss to the community economically. I don't know how big the impact could be. That is a 15 to 20 million annual payroll as a minimum and they say money turns 6 or 7 times in a community. That could have a sweeping effect.
- I'm wondering how we should look at that and what kind of input we should get from people to validate that. I may be right or I may be wrong.
- I say let's postpone this and take the time we need and if we decide to move forward do it at a better time when we think we have more information about some of these other things. That is my recommendation. I am for the project overall.

Mark Kluck I am going to disagree with you.

- Seven (guess) years ago the Fire Department was authorized to build 2 offices to get us some kind of privacy.
- We have privacy issues and people holding things at home.
- Once we started construction we were asked to hold off and things would move forward.
- It took 5 years after that before things moved forward and it is now another 2 ½ years.
- Our issues are not going away.

- We have serious safety issues. The septic down there is shot. I met with Rusin at the FD.
 - We had a backup this past month in one of the restrooms.
 - The roof continues to leak and it is not going to get any better in spring time.
- We got in to the Building Committee thing as a group and we decided from the get go we were going to cut what we had to cut.
- The F.D. has easily given up over two hundred thousand dollars in cuts.
- We decided to move forward with this for 2 ½ years, it has been a slow pace, but we tried to cover every nook and cranny we have.
- I understand the condition of the mill closing but when I lost my job at Sentry they didn't care, they turned around and raised my taxes. I had to deal with it and I understand.
- We have functional issues. I'm tired of going outside at thirty below and holding a meeting with Mark Fritsche to get privacy.
- I'm trying to keep an open mind but we have some serious needs down there. I understand the position the people are in. I know it is a tough time and I definitely understand that.
- Right now we were told that steel is at a real buy so far, if we don't do this now our project I'm afraid is going to go up and then get cancelled.
- We bought in to this as a combination Fire Department/town thing to get it all together.
- I understand concerns and agree with you 100% but as for putting it on the back burner for now, I don't know.
- I've got guys that are dodging trucks coming out of the building. I'm afraid somebody is going to get hurt.
- That building was built in the 1950's and it was built as a town garage. We modified it in to a Fire Station when the town built this building. That building was not built as a Fire Station and that is why the trucks are wedged in and there is only 2 feet between them.
- We have hit the building with trucks.
- We have smashed through doors on the inside with trucks.
- We have driven out before doors were open – driven through them.
- The hose ladder is a tough thing to climb. There is no safety thing. I don't think it meets any standards.
- The board has a tough decision; I do not envy you at all.
- I'm pleading my case because I have serious safety concerns down there that I think need to be immediately addressed, as in the next couple of months.
- You have to make the final decision but we have to live with it. Living with it another year or year and a half will be tough.
- Some of us have a lot of time invested in this project.

D Wilz, I am not suggesting by any means that we are going to hold off for a year or a year and a half.

- I'm just saying I don't know how quick we can get some unknowns known but my big concern is if we push this thing through and yes public sentiment certainly is part of it and we are always going to have people say I will vote for nothing.
- I'm concerned that it might pass and all of a sudden the state wheels something at us and now we levied the people for this and now we have to come up with another two hundred thousand dollars to replace the shared revenue that the Governor cut off. Those are important costs too.
- I don't want to look in the mirror and say what were you thinking?
- I'm not trying to be unaggressive because I believe in taking bold actions too. I think right now, with what is going on, that is my sentiment. We need to honker down and not try to hit an April 1 date. Maybe it is later in the year until we can find more. That is where I am struggling now.
- I would not have said this 3 or 4 months ago, some things have happened. We knew about the state deficit in Wisconsin for over a year and a half and we openly talked about it as a board.
- The budget committee set aside dollars for possible repair/maintenance if a referendum would fail to deal with some of these issues.

D Pederson – Todd (Grunwaldt) have you seen this dilemma in any of your other projects or are they up against seeing change in their financial picture?

T Grunwaldt – the only indication I have are several projects are lingering, they are noncommittal.

- ✓ I have some projects in the two to three million dollar range that are sitting because of financing. They go for private financing and then find that their terms are not feasible for them to work it out.
- ✓ Everyone is slow and very cautious.
- ✓ I think that is common for me as well as other architects throughout the state.

J Holdridge, there are two parts to a budget the revenues and expenses and our revenues include state shared revenue and road aids based on so much per mile. That is probably 20-25% of our revenues.

- There are serious questions on what we will get from the state this year.
- If we have a substantial short fall where are we going to make that up?

Patty Amman, before you would have a referendum the idea was to have information meetings. We really don't know what the public is thinking and it seems that the informational meetings would be an opportunity to find out some of the unknowns

J Holdridge, this is outside of what the people think. This is state aid.

P Amman, I'm not talking about the state aid

J Holdridge the point I am trying to make is that this body is the one that is duly elected and we've got to look at all aspects of this. The Republicans swept the Democrats out and their issue was state spending, deficits.

- There is a big revenue issue and that is something we have to deal with because we are the ones who ultimately have to answer down the road.
- For the building, remember we are talking about a commitment of 15 to 20 years.
- What happens if we need to make a major road reconstruction or a new fire truck is needed or new dump truck or grader is needed?
- Those are all part of the financing question, they are big ticket items. Where does that money come from?
- The Metro Fire concept is of interest to me. Maybe that should be accelerated. The Metro Fire Departments should start talking very seriously about their equipment needs or staffing needs.

M Kluck, I agree it would be interesting to see it accelerated however it cannot because of the contract that is out there. Things have to fall into certain dates that are listed in the contract. This is a contract from the Village of Whiting and the Village of Plover. They are the ones who started the Metro Fire.

- Whiting has agreed to discuss consolidation of their Fire Department with Plover's Fire Department to form one Fire Department.
- They have problems with revenues but they also have a Fire Chief who can no longer be their Fire Chief because of his new job at the Sheriff's Department. Dan Kontos will be stepping down.

J Holdridge is the training facility on hold?

M Kluck – I don't know for sure. They are looking at a full consolidation. Stevens Point signed a year ago the agreement to go to Metro Fire. They have been working for the last year on that indoctrination and there is about 6 months left to go. My other understanding is that they cannot accept a formal request from another department to join in for possibly 6 months to a year after that. We are down to about this time next year before they would say "Town of Hull let's sit down and start knocking out the nails". That could take a year.

J Holdridge I am thinking about the mill that is going down in Whiting.

D Wilz, Dan talked about that too. It was not everybody join at once. We are going to take it slow, work it in and make sure it works right and well before we

M Kluck, we continue to meet with them and work with them. We have been on their house fires and they have been on our chimney fires with a ladder truck. That will not stop while this whole process is being worked out.

J Holdridge it should be slow but if we start looking at economies where we can save some and they can save some that is a big step forward.

M Kluck we have a problem with our command van. Hull put away \$75,000 this year. There may be an opportunity that if Point, Hull and Plover are willing to kick in it may only cost us between \$25,000 or \$30,000 or \$50,000. We would not be saving \$150,000 to fund it ourselves.

J Holdridge I think Stevens Point is trying to get out of or greatly reduce their full-time Fire Department. There are union costs and they continue to climb. They have to keep the ambulance and that function but my concern is the out years. We don't know what the state is going to do. Some of the concerns that Dave Wilz has I have too. If we go with a project and we don't have a handle on the revenue part of this and all of a sudden the Town of Hull levy of 14% goes up substantially, what are the schools and county going to do? The schools went down this year but the county went up. I look at the households, the ones that have to pay the bill. We need to make sure where we are going.

P Amman, despite the fact that you have these issues, I understand that, but while you are mulling that over and working toward a decision, it seems that one could potentially move ahead in having informational meetings to at least get that part done, rather than just holding everything up. Determine how much detail you want to give people before they are overwhelmed.

J Holdridge those are crucial issues, the financing package is absolutely crucial.

P Amman people have questions about the project; with the informational meeting(s) we could clarify some things. A lot of times there is just misinformation or people just don't know.

J Holdridge a lot of the information we don't know is financial. We know financial on the building, but some of the other questions we don't know.

P Amman there will always be some things that you don't know but we have a lot of information that can be shared with people. To say we are not going to have an informational meeting until everything is known, you will never have a meeting.

Supervisor Syens, don't get me wrong, I am in favor of this project.

- The mill closing (in Whiting) was announced at a terrible time of the year, just before Christmas, to take place in February, the reality of the job loss at New Page, is not going to hit until the day they do not go back to work the next morning.
- I don't disagree at all with Patty about informational meetings, I think we have to get a lot more information out to the public about what is going on, what are our needs, what are we doing.
- I also think we have to discuss cost but we have to watch timing as far as the referendum is concerned.
- At this point I don't think any of us can project what the outcome of this closure is going to be on the entire area. We know it is going to be devastating, devastating to all of the people that are losing their jobs, but also to all of the rest of the things that go in to losing a job.
- If we go to an April referendum, thinking about the closing of the mill in February, now the shock is really home, and we will start to feel the effects of the shock issue. Assuming we go to a referendum in April and we vote it down, now what? Where do we go from here?

- I would feel, right now, as far as referendum is concerned we not lock in a date for a referendum until after we have some informational meetings to feel the pulse of what are the people in the Town of Hull telling us then determine a referendum date and determine whether this is going to be feasible.
- A lot of things could happen; will the mill start up again?

M Kluck have heard they (New Page) are retraining all of the employees and almost half have decided to move out of the area and pick up jobs with one of the 3 other mills. They are not going to stop making that paper, they have to do that at the other mills they have. They are offering the employees to go with them. Somebody tells me it is not as bad as it looks and somebody tells me yes it is. I don't know.

L Syens that is a good question, I also have read this. They could take 50% of that workforce and move it out of town it still has an effect on the economy of the entire area.

M Kluck do you like the idea of the meetings to get a pulse?

L Syens I think we have to get the pulse of the people to find out because if we go to the referendum and get shot down, we then say now what.

J Holdridge if we have a public informational meeting are we going to give them the financial then

L Syens I think we have to

J Holdridge of the conditions of the Town of Hull in its entirety.

L Syens we have all preached transparency around here and I think we have to.

Mark Fritsche with current data I would agree with.

J Holdridge what do you mean by current data?

M Fritsche where we are right now.

M Kluck you cannot project into the future that the state is going to pull away one hundred thousand dollars.

J Holdridge, the state is one issue that is a revenue issue. The other issue is the indebted issue reconstruction of roads and/or new equipment – these are big costs for us.

L Syens we have to make the people aware of the possibility as in our budget plan we put away \$100,000 for maintenance. When we discussed this we talked about using the current Fire Department building, in the event it was approved to build a building, we would use that building (Fire Department) for cold storage. If we use that building for cold storage we still have to do something about the roof. So that \$100,000 that was put aside should easily take care of the roof. There will still be expenditures but we have to have transparency.

M Kluck I agree but it is a little bit different in having an occupied building that you worry about vs. cold storage. There are so many different selling points to this.

J Holdridge that line item \$100,000 talked about remodeling, possible new building and maintenance.

M Fritsche relating to Patty's comments, I don't think she was referring that we take and push for a referendum in April.

P Amman – no I was not.

M Fritsche what we should do is have the informational meetings. Use that meeting to survey people on what their thoughts and feelings are. That would give the board an idea, information as to what their (board) timings could or should be relating to when to have a referendum.

J Holdridge the other thing that is very important is the general improvement of the economy. There is no question that today our economy is not in good shape.

M Kluck I talked to 5 people, not on the Fire Department, and they are saying you have to do this, this is ridiculous. There is talk about a referendum. Has the Board decided if you are going to do a referendum? When this building was built, I don't think there was a referendum. I think it was just a public hearing and the Board said we are going to do it.

Clerk Wolle – that is true but we had the money in the bank to pay for the building.

J Holdridge, that makes a difference.

L Syens, when the Plan Commission, did the I-39 project we sent out a questionnaire to those residents and we had an amazing return.

D Pederson – 72 %.

L Syens – perhaps after a couple of informational meetings if we can get the PC Gazette and the Stevens Point Journal to listen and people who attend the meeting will be talking about it. Those that will make the most noise about discussing the project are those who are against it, but at least the word is going to go out and then perhaps send an I-39 type questionnaire out to the households to give us a type of good feel as to where this might go.

J Holdridge there was a great return but it came back about 51 to 49 – it told us nothing. My point is let's tell them the whole story relating to finance in the town. I don't have a problem with people being against the project. If people understand the financial situation, and when they go to vote, what more can you ask you in a representative democracy. That is direct democracy. When the Board votes on it, that's the modern democracy. I favor direct democracy. If you make the argument, you have the numbers right and people see the need they will be supportive. However there are people who are struggling.

T Grunwaldt, you are looking for a reaction and the information meeting is to get reactions and to inform people.

L Syens I think we will get more reaction to the mailer the week after Christmas than what we have now received.

D Pederson, these meetings are going to be attended by some people who are going to say 'convince' me, sell it to me, let me understand why we need this before they will support.

M Fritsche if the pulse says this is not a good time, may be you look for a plan B and do some minor repairs to get you through another year.

J Holdridge that is a good point. The question I would raise is do we have a safety or public health problem in these buildings that can't wait. We don't want our personnel to be in facilities that aren't up to code, that aren't safe and healthy facilities.

M Fritsche we have no answers to any of the answers that are raised about the septic system. Last week we did start to get some floor drains backing up for the first time. Maybe the only people who will show up at the meetings are those against the project, but if we know that is a percentage of the people

D Wilz regardless of whatever you find out you know more now than you did before. When I started out it was on the emphasis on should we go to referendum in April. No we have things we have to deal with. I'm in favor of finding out stuff. How do we validate what people are thinking?

M Kluck I would schedule tours of the Fire Department at the informational meeting(s). There are 18 (8x10) glossies of problems that we have at the Fire Department – I will post on poster boards for the information meetings.

J Holdridge if we told people in a flyer that we are going to have meetings, we need to figure out when we are going to have the meetings, etc. Whether anyone turns up is another question.

D Pederson (reading from the flyer in the tax bills) Citizen meetings will be scheduled to view the plans and discuss the current building problems, solutions, costs and possible financing options with the Building Committee and the Town Board. Your input is needed at these meetings. This project will require citizen approval. Please watch for scheduled meetings in the papers and on our website.

D Wilz – we have told the people more is going to happen.

J Holdridge that is a comprehensive list of what is going to be provided to the citizens.

T Grunwaldt – would you get a better turn out on a Saturday?

D Pederson I do think that the Saturday suggestion is a good one because a lot of people can't take the time or won't take the time during the week.

M Kluck – getting in to summer with these meetings, you now have people on vacation.

D Wilz, if we are going to do this we need to get going.

D Pederson, I would think March, April and maybe something goes out with our newsletter (survey idea). The decision on dates needs to happen earlier.

D Wilz, I will contact someone to talk with in town about how the school districts, the protocol, of how to get referendum information out. Here are the things you need to be about and this is how you approach it. Is it 2 big meetings or is it a meeting in every subdivision? What is the most effective way to get information out?

J Holdridge the ones you think are your supporters, may not be. And that is every reason not to take anybody for granted. The ones you want to influence are the voters. It is always the question of pacing and timing. As you get closer to the key vote that is the time to pull out the stops and probably have the neighborhood support bases. You have to have a plan, you have to be comprehensive and you have to be transparent, you let everything out there. If you don't do that this stuff will get out, people will be talking about it, there will be letters to the editor, etc. You might as well put it out as best that you can and face what you have.

M Kluck I recommend that the board think about this for a couple of weeks and maybe put it on the January agenda and have some dates to hold the meeting.

J Holdridge I suggest Mark come up with an agenda for a meeting. What are you going to do at this meeting, you have 15 people who show up at the meeting, what are you going to present? This is a whole complex; I do not think this is a vote on the Fire Department.

M Kluck I can't talk for the Municipal Building/Garage – I understand the issues. Let the Fire Department talk for 15 minutes, let Pete, Marilyn, Barb or Janet talk for 15 minutes. Maybe the Building Committee should meet one more time.

M Fritsche, I think that is the next step. The agenda item tonight was to do a report to the Board and whether or not the Board accepts it or not. What the Board does with it after that is the Board's decision.

Motion Supervisor Syens, second Supervisor Wilz, accept the Building Committee report.

J Holdridge – I assume we accept it, possible more investigation, maybe not, questions that the Board members have and then we need to look at the path forward, where we go from here.

Motion carried.

05) Computer Service Contract – Heartland Business Systems.

Jim Kruziki Heartland Business Systems is our new computer service contract company. We want to sign an agreement with the company that Mark Gilliland now works for. There are 2 issues:

- The pricing is \$150 an hour but we can prepay and buy blocks of time and have a substantial savings – a 40 hour block of time would service us maybe over a 2 year period. There is no expiration on the time we buy – it will carry over from year to year.
- The issue in the budget is that we have not budgeted for a \$5,000 expenditure this year, but if we split the \$5,000 in 2 years we have 40 hours and we will have about a thousand dollar savings over the \$150 rate.
- We spent about \$2,700 this year in computer services and we have remaining about \$3,200 (total about \$6,000)
- 2011 budget is about the same.

D Pederson, does this include the Fire Department and the roads?

J Kruziki, it includes this building the office and the roads. Clifton Gunderson was at about \$135 an hour. With the block pricing the cost with Heartland will be \$125 an hour. The main thing is maintaining the server, setting up new systems.

D Wilz, what do you have going on at the Fire Department relating to computers?

M Kluck we have RCO Computers out of Wisconsin Rapids that does ours. They come in 4 times a year and do a total maintenance on the system, clean it up and make it operational. They also handle the backup system. We don't have a server. It would be nice if we could tie it in and get it all under one company. I don't know if we can do that logistically.

D Pederson how does your contract compare to what we are looking at with Heartland?

M Kluck I think it is \$1,350 for 2011.

D Wilz, is it hours or visits?

M Kluck – it would be 4 visits probably 1 ½ hours per visit because he is handling 4 computers. He does the Adobe upgrades. We can't open a specific file sent to us by Portage County because we don't have Windows 7 upgrade. He has been reasonable and punctual.

D Pederson that works out to about \$220 an hour.

M Kluck if it takes 3 hours and he has to take a part back/have to work on it in his office he does not charge extra.

J Holdridge who will monitor to make sure the tasks assigned will be complete?

D Wilz, what is an hour, does that include travel time?

J Kruziki – I am not sure. As far as supervising time, it depends on who is here and Barb is very good at that, keeping very good records.

- ✓ Let's do the contract before the end of the year so we can use our \$3,000+ from 2010 – can we over extend that budget by that \$5,000

J Holdridge, what is the total cost?

J Kruziki - \$5,000 for 40 hours of IT work. The issue is that we have used a big part of that expense (Computer Consultant) at the beginning of this year, we did service work on the printer, and new computers were installed along with upgrades for all computers in the office. I'm asking approval to overspend that line item. On the overall budget it will not have a negative impact.

Motion Supervisor Wilz, second Supervisor Pederson, the Board approve the recommendation of Treasurer Jim Kruziki for Heartland Business Systems to be our new support people for our computers and that we also authorize Jim to get the contract completed before the end of our fiscal year and overspend the line item as needed for the \$5,000 block of time. The line item for 2011 which has been budgeted for will not be needed and should be returned to the General Fund. And the hour portion of the contract be monitored so we clearly understand what an hour is.

J Holdridge, how many hours a week will the IT person be here?

J Kruziki, it is very sporadic. Right now we are in the process of planning to get our server replaced.

J Holdridge, 40 hours for computer servicing might not be enough.

J Kruziki, this past year we probably had less than 10 hours of IT time. There have not been any problems or issues. Half of the 40 hours will be used up quickly for the server replacement and the other half will be carried over.

Motion carried.

06) Adjournment: Motion Supervisor Wilz, second Supervisor Syens, move to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Janet Wolle, Clerk