

**City of Fox Lake**  
**Committee of the Whole Synopsis**  
**June 17, 2020**

The June 17, 2020 committee of the whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Bednarek, following a special council meeting, in the community center. Those in attendance were alderpersons John Mund, Dan Ault, Dennis Linke, Peter Hartzheim, Robert Jenswold and Don Zilewicz. Also attending were city attorney Mike Devitt, city administrator Dean Perlick, public works superintendent Gene Huettner, librarian Erin Anders, utilities superintendent Brad Ruenger and city clerk Susan Hollnagel. Jenny Quirk was in the audience.

**Purchase of Jetter-Vac**

Ruenger said there is nothing in the water/sewer department to unclog a main sewer line. He said luckily most of the clogs have been in the property owner's line. He said the DNR requires a certain percentage of the lines to be checked each year. Ruenger said if there is a backup in a manhole, which is an enclosed space, they can not do it and must hire it. He said they are looking at a Jetter-Vac that has a 1,500-gallon tank, with a boom, that can suck out the clog, without anyone going into the manhole. Ruenger said the public works department would pay for a 1/3 of the costs so they can use it for cleaning out storm sewers. Huettner said they are looking at a used one for \$106,500-. He said a new one would cost around \$500,000-. Mund asked how old it was. Ruenger said it was a 2008 that West Bend had on a lease and it is in great shape. Huettner said they are holding the machine until they hear from the city. He said they could do it on a 5-year purchase, with the cost being split between storm sewer, water and sewer. Jenswold said if the water and sewer have the money, he is in favor of the purchase. Huettner said it can also be used to clean out water boxes. Ruenger said they just had 2 lift stations cleaned out and it cost \$1,500-. Zilewicz asked if they would be able to finance it. Huettner said he would be checking around for rates. The Mayor said it looks like they should get the Jetter-Vac.

**Emergency Siren**

Huettner said the removal of the siren, in the industrial park, would cost \$3,775-, if they need to remove it if the property is sold. The Mayor said they were considering putting a siren by the sewer plant. Perlick said there is no law requiring the city to have a siren. He said a new one would cost \$19,336-, materials and installation. Quirk said as a consideration for the EMS, when the siren goes off for inclement weather, they go to resident homes to get the residents to safety, and they never hear the siren. Huettner said even if they remove the one in the industrial park, there is still one on the water tower. Huettner said the one that would be removed is 3 phase and the cost to wire it in is astronomical, like \$10,000-. The Mayor asked if a new one would have a battery backup. Huettner said yes and the sound should be heard for a mile. The Mayor asked Huettner to get costs and have it for the July committee of the whole.

**Basketball court-Riverside Park**

The Mayor said children from St. John's had asked if the city could put a basketball court in Riverside Park. He said they would install a 24' X 24' slab, with David Schumacher offering the backboard from his

home. He said the costs would come from the funds collected from the boat launch fees. Linke said they should check to see if we can use the boat launch funds for this project. The Mayor said they are checking.

### **Community Center policy**

Devitt said Perlick had contacted him regarding renting out the community center. He said technically the community center is closed, since the number that can be at a gathering is limited. Devitt said the city needs a plan and procedures on what is allowed. He said if the city rented it out one weekend, then rented it out the next weekend and someone got sick, who is responsible for the illness. He said there is no precedence on what to do. The Mayor suggested holding off and leaving it closed. Zilewicz said we should have them sign a waiver when they rent it. Hartzheim asked what it would cost to sanitize after each use. No one really knew. Ault suggested adding the cost of the sanitation to the rental charge. Perlick asked if small non-profit groups could use the center, like the Girl Scouts. Devitt suggested having the small groups sign a waiver and start increasing the numbers incrementally. The Mayor asked Perlick to work with Devitt. Devitt said the city could use the CDC's recommendations. He said the city should table it and wait and see what happens and consider what we need to do to reopen.

### **COVID business loans**

Perlick said the council received a summary of the loans approved. He said 9 applications were received and all were approved for loans, with a total of \$23,600- in loans given. The Mayor said those that owed water bills and/or personal property taxes had those amount taken off the top of the loan, with the balance going to the applicant.

### **Library**

Anders said they opened to the public on Monday, June 15, allowing 10 people (including staff) in the library. She said they have closed the bathrooms and the bubbler. The Mayor said they would be closing off the bubbler in the municipal building.

Anders said they have hired Air Care to replace the furnace. She said the library will no longer be a "cooling center", as the air conditioner does not cool. Anders said they will be budgeting for the second unit in 2021.

With no other business to come before the committee of the whole, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.