

**VALDERS VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 9, 2023**

Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call; President Schneider called the regular monthly meeting of the Valders Village Board to order at 7:00PM at the Valders Village Office 207 S. Liberty Street. Trustees present: Devan Schneider, Paul Baroun, Marcus Bartelme, Dan Sabel & Lyle Schwoerer.

MEETING COVENED &  
ROLL CALL

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Bartelme to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

AGENDA APPROVED

Public Input-None. Motion by Bartelme, second by Sabel to close public input. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Motion by Baroun, second by Bartelme to approve minutes from 9/11/23, 9/14/23 & 9/28/23 as presented by Clerk/Treasurer Bruckner. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Sabel, second by Bartelme to approve the September Treasurer Reports as presented by Bruckner for all department funds. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORTS  
APPROVED

Motion by Bartelme, second by Baroun to approve September Village, Fire & EMS vouchers; check #21378 - #21468 and electronic payments totaling \$488,463.58 as presented by Bruckner. Motion carried.

VILLAGE VOUCHERS  
APPROVED

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Sabel to approve September Utility vouchers; check #8860 - #8868 and transfers to investment funds totaling \$45,673.20 as presented by Bruckner. Motion carried.

UTILITY VOUCHERS  
APPROVED

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Bartelme to change the regular date and time for November and December meetings to Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM and December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM to accommodate for Schneider attendance conflict and budget adoption to allow tax bill mailing on a timely basis. Motion carried.

APPROVED TO MOVE  
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER  
MEETING DATE/TIMES

Motion by Schneider, second by Bartelme to accept the resignation from Witkowski Inspection Agency, LLC for building inspection services effective for permits issued after 12/31/2023. Motion carried. The Village will contact possible interest from others certified inspectors in the area for service proposals.

RESIGNATION OF  
BUILDING INSPECTOR

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Schneider to approve renewal of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance effective 12/01/2023 for employees, with the only change from current plan is for ER visit deductible/copay. The renewal premium with mandatory small group age rate up applied is 10.2% increase overall. Motion carried.

APPROVED RENEWAL  
HEALTH INSURANCE

Motion by Schwoerer, second by Bartelme to reinvest Bank First Certificates of Deposits maturing on 11/11/23 at 4.2%; \$70,000 for the Village and \$40,000 for Fire Replacement Funds plus the interest accrued from the expiring CD. Motion carried. Bruckner explained for the best interest rate they will be new 7-month CD's, rather than a 6-month renewal, the current rate is a bit above 5%.

CERTIFICATE OF  
DEPOSIT REINVESTED

The Board reviewed the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Patrol Reports for September.

PUBLIC SAFETY-  
PATROL MCSD

Review of September report and updates from EMS Director & Fire Chief Christopher Dallas on department operations. Fire had 12 calls. EMS had 57 calls with 4 calls cancelled in route or invalid. Call volume is down 4% as compared to 2022. The Board discussed with Dallas issues with Cvikota Company, our EMS Billing and Collection Service. They have not billed out any of our calls since mid-August. This is the second time this issue has occurred in 2023. This creates cash flow issues to pay monthly operational expenses and is unacceptable. Also, their monthly collection reports for all of 2023 have been out of balance as to what was collected in their system vs. actual deposits by ACH or remote deposit into the EMS bank account, thus creating additional time spent by Bruckner each month. They have provided services to us since 2014 and until 2023 this has not been an issue and have done a great job for the service. After further discussion, a motion by Schneider, second by Schwoerer, to send an official complaint letter seeking corrective actions for breach of contracted services to management at Cvikota Company. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FIRE/EMS  
REPORTS

EMS BILLING-  
COLLECTION COMPANY  
TO BE SENT OFFICIAL  
COMPLAINT LETTER  
FOR BREACH OF  
CONTRACT SERVICES

Dallas presented the proposed 2024 Fire Operating Budget and Fire Protection agreement amounts for Valders, Cato, & Liberty for board review which carries a total increase of \$7,510 over 2023. This increase includes doubling the amount from \$6,000 to \$12,000 for Equipment Replacement. The 2023 Village portion for fire protection services is \$41,218, Cato is \$56,612 and Liberty is \$55,180 calculations are based on 2023 equalized valuations for each district. Motion by Schwoerer, second by Bartelme to adopt the 2024 Operating Budget as presented. The budget and contracts will be submitted to the respective Town Boards for approval. Motion carried. Schneider abstained as he is a member of the fire department.

APPROVED PROPOSED  
2024 FIRE OPERATING  
BUDGET AND FIRE  
PROTECTION

September report/updates from Director of Public Works Austin Shillcox on municipal/utility operations. Required 3-year rotation of various water samples/tests were taken and submitted resulting in no issues found. Through our insurance carrier were eligible to receive a \$500 grant toward the purchase cost of \$1,205 for a locator to find buried utilities.

PUBLIC WORKS  
REPORT

10/09/2023 MINUTES

Robert E Lee & Associates submitted the plans to the DNR for approval of effluent flow meter installation and the permanent chemical feed system. Bruckner noted ARPA Project Pay Request #4 will be forthcoming, the final payment of the project retainage will be in summer of 2025. Kapur is finalizing actual footage of curb/gutter and sidewalk installations per parcel for the creation of the Final Resolution of Special Assessments to be approved by the board. Special assessment installment invoices will then be sent to the respective property owners.

ARPA PROJECT  
PAYMENT UPDATES

After the September meeting Bruckner was directed to contact the Verizon Wireless representative, to obtain additional information and provide our input after review of their Tower Lease Optimization Program proposal. During these discussions it was discovered they had us as an annual renewal in their system and we have a five-year-term renewal lease, which prompts a change in their proposal to the Village. Bruckner received a revised proposal today for the board to review, which reduces the monthly amount of our current tower lease contract. The new proposal extends our current contract for one more year for a monthly least payment of \$1856.08 until 6/30/2025. Then a new proposed monthly lease payment effective 7/1/25 of \$1,520, the previous proposal was \$1,280. It would guarantee the contract through 6/30/2030, and 4% increase for (5) five-year renewal terms thereafter. The current contract has no rent guarantee clause. The board values the business relationship we have had since 2009 and wants to come to a mutual agreement which still protects our interests. After further discussion by the board, Bruckner was directed to draft letter to counter offer a rent guarantee for a period of 10 years to 6/30/2035 with the new monthly amounts respectively, and (4) five-year renewable terms thereafter. The matter will be on the November agenda.

VERIZON TOWER LEASE  
AGREEMENT  
NEGOTIATIONS

Motion by Schneider, second by Sabel to adjourn meeting at 7.:59 PM. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,  
VILLAGE OF VALDERS

Lori Bruckner  
Village Clerk/Treasurer

10/09/2023 MINUTES