

**Village of Holmen
Special Board Meeting
Holmen Village Hall – Board Room
Thursday, March 14, 2013
6:00 pm**

President Proctor called the Special Holmen Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm on March 14, 2013, at the Holmen Village Hall.

Board members present: Nancy Proctor, Tony Horvath, Neal Forde, Dawn Kulcinski, Mike Dunham, Dan Moser and Ryan Olson. Also present were Administrator Heinig, Park & Recreation Director Brogan, Police Chief McHugh, Public Works Director Olson, Clerk/Treasurer Hornberg, Park & Recreation Asst. Director Reinhart, Lt. Collins, MSA Consultant Andrew Bremer and Jean Burgess.

President Proctor turned the meeting over to MSA Consultant Andrew Bremer for the kick-off discussion on new facilities planning.

Bremer reviewed the facilities planning schedule and asked for initial feedback on aspects of the sites. From comments made this evening, MSA will prepare five site plan options to present to the Board at a special meeting to be held on April 15, 2013.

Board members gave their ideas and thoughts on the best use of the facility sites as well as the predominant needs of the Village at this time. The billable area for construction was reviewed. Ideas varied quite a bit on which buildings should be placed at which location but a consistent factor in the discussion was using the previously created facility plan to prioritize needs as well as the impact on taxpayers.

Trustee Dunham mentioned the importance of choosing needs rather than wants, to keep in mind the total impact on taxpayers and get the best value for the community. He feels a Village center concept may help keep overhead costs lower and feels the plan should focus on Village rather than metro needs. He also feels it is important that the residents have information on community needs in order to get feedback on those specific needs during the Public Information Meeting that will be held on May 6, 2013.

Trustee Moser feels that the most important need is for additional space for the Police Department; he expressed his desire to see options including costs at the next meeting.

Trustee Kulcinski had ideas regarding placement of a new Village Hall which would include Park & Recreation, Public Works and Police Department facing Halfway Creek Park, and include tourism and historical areas, in addition to potential business activity such as an ice cream shop.

Trustee Olson stated he felt a library facility was more than a place to store books; he felt the access to information was the most important reason for the Village to provide an adequate facility to meet those needs. He also feels a Police Department is important but feels we should follow the original facility plan and place the new Police Department on the existing library site. He also mentioned that the Friends' of the Library were waiting to begin community fundraising to support a portion of the total library cost; reducing the financial requirements of the Village.

Trustee Horvath expressed his original hesitation for the acquisition of the properties so feels his suggestions are only to make the best of an unfortunate situation; he feels public safety needs may be met with more enthusiasm than a library. He feels any potential development should have the capacity to be used for more than one purpose with minor reshaping; he feels the budget for the facilities planning should be reduced significantly and in the future could be expanded if development occurs.

President Proctor felt the site would best be used for a two-purpose building housing a Library and Community Center. She suggested a Police Station could be placed on the new site near Main Street but also feels there is ample room for a building and parking at the existing library site.

Bremer inquired as to including in a building a space for leasing which Trustee Olson felt would be a potential problem to remove renters from private businesses and also to have businesses operating on tax-exempt property.

Bremer asked how the Board would feel if the building were owned by a private owner with the Village leasing desired space; that idea was met with some interest.

Bremer informed the Board that in addition to the Public Information meeting, the residents would be able to provide input on the facility plans with a link on the Village website to a short online survey.

Motion by Moser, seconded by Dunham to adjourn at 6:56 pm. Carried unanimously.

Angela A. Hornberg
Village Clerk/Treasurer