

**Village of Holmen
Special Board Meeting
Holmen Village Hall – Board Room
Thursday, January 17, 2013
6:00 pm**

President Proctor called the special Holmen Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on January 17, 2013, at the Holmen Village Hall. The following Board members were present: Nancy Proctor, Tony Horvath, Neal Forde, Dawn Kulcinski, Mike Dunham, Dan Moser and Ryan Olson. Also present were Scott Heinig, Angie Hornberg, Al Peterson, Steve Johnston, Sheryl Jacobson, Courtney Spoke, Doug Morman, Rachel Teske, Brad Williams and Jean Burgess.

President Proctor inquired as to the desire of the Board to allow time for public comment. Motion by Horvath, seconded by Moser to open the floor for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

Sheryl Jacobson spoke in regards to her appreciation of all viewpoints in the room but reminded the Board that this was no longer an issue of yes or no for fluoridation; the decision had already been made by the voters in 2008. She stated the constituents had been patiently waiting for the implementation of the fluoride and that now the time had come for the Board to uphold their promise to fluoridate.

Motion by Horvath, seconded by Kulcinski to stop using fluoride pending an outcome of an April referendum.

President Proctor requested Attorney Peterson to comment on what was involved in order to place a referendum on a ballot. Attorney Peterson stated that a resolution would be needed and in order to approve a resolution legally according to Chapter 5, Rule 5.9, Section L, the resolution would need to go through the proper committee before bringing to the full Board for approval unless a 2/3 vote was achieved in favor of bypassing the appropriate committee.

Trustee Horvath felt that since a similar resolution had been discussed in 2008 and that the meeting had been properly noticed, he felt that the requirement did not apply.

Attorney Peterson indicated that this was a new motion and a new resolution so the ordinance would apply.

Administrator Heinig agreed with Attorney Peterson and stated that this was a Government Accountability Board monitored item and it would need to be adopted by the Board properly, using proper process by Committee and Board as stated in Rule 5.9.

Trustee Horvath inquired as to how the special meeting held in April, 2011 which bypassed committee approval was any different than this meeting.

Administrator Heinig stated the difference was this is a motion to approve a resolution therefore it requires the process be followed. He assured the Board that they could review the resolution and if desired, implement the 2/3 vote in order to skip the committee process.

Trustee Olson agreed that a special Board meeting can be called by two board members but if action is required to approve a resolution, then it needs to go through the committee first or require a 2/3 vote to skip the committee process. Olson suggested that the 2/3 vote be taken.

Trustee Horvath felt that the language in the Code did not support the 2/3 requirement and stated that this information would have been helpful to know ahead of time.

Trustee Olson questioned Trustee Horvath on what he expected the outcome of the vote to be.

Trustee Horvath stated he would withdraw his motion and inquired on making a new motion if the 2/3 vote was not in favor of suspending the rules.

Attorney Peterson advised the Board that no matter the motion for it to be valid, action would need to be taken in order to bypass the committee process.

Trustee Dunham commented that he respected the advice given by staff, and felt the only way to approve this referendum would be to go through committee process or to vote to suspend the rules.

Trustee Horvath indicated that he felt there had been a substantial change in opinion since the 2008 vote in regards to fluoride; he stated there would be no harm in hearing voters on the issue again.

President Proctor referred the motion to the Public Works Committee for future review.

Motion by Horvath, seconded by Kulcinski to suspend Chapter 5, Rule 5.9, Section L. The motion failed with Kulcinski, Horvath, Moser in favor; Dunham, Forde, Proctor and Olson opposed.

Motion by Horvath to hold a referendum on whether or not to fluoridate using the exact same language that was used in the 2008 referendum. Horvath felt that the original referendum had already gone through the appropriate committee process and therefore could be approved at the special Board meeting.

Attorney Peterson indicated this would still be a new motion so the same rules would apply.

Trustee Horvath withdrew his motion.

Motion by Horvath, seconded by Kulcinski that the Village of Holmen should proceed with fluoridation using Sodium Fluoride rather than Fluorosilicic Acid. Public Works Director Olson was asked to comment on the chemicals indicated in the motion. Olson stated that Fluorosilicic Acid was the industry standard in the State of Wisconsin for fluoridation; he explained it was a safe material, a liquid and a mild acid that can be more consistently added to the water system. He feels it is not harmful or it would not have been recommended by the Department of Health & Human Services. He stated the current system was not designed to use Sodium Fluoride which is a powder, and at this time he can't answer for certain if the system can be modified to accommodate a different additive.

Trustee Dunham inquired as to turning the Sodium Fluoride powder into a liquid form to use in our system.

The motion passed with Kulcinski, Dunham, Horvath and Moser in favor; Forde, Proctor and Olson against.

Trustee Dunham also requested of Administrator Heinig and Attorney Peterson that they begin the process to codify the use of fluoride in the Village water system.

Attorney Peterson stated that while codification of the fluoride referendum was not required, he and Administrator Heinig agreed it would be an appropriate action to take.

Motion by Horvath, seconded by Olson to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Angela A. Hornberg
Village Clerk/Treasurer