



# VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Kronenwetter Municipal Center - 1582 Kronenwetter Drive Board Room (Lower Level)

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## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Trustee Chris Eiden called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with an announcement of an upcoming closed session.

### A. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

### B. Roll Call

#### PRESENT

Trustee Ken Charneski

Trustee Tim Shaw

Trustee Sean Dumais (Appeared by Phone)

Trustee Alex Vedvik

Trustee Chris Eiden

Trustee Kelly Coyle

#### ABSENT

Village President Chris Voll

#### STAFF PRESENT

Community Development Director; Pete Wegner

Administrator; Leonard Ludi

Finance Director; Lisa Kerstner

Village Clerk; Bobbi Birk-LaBarge

Village Attorney; Lee Turonie

Chief of Police; Terry McHugh

## 2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Chris Eiden announced the upcoming closed session.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Please be advised per State Statute Section 19.84(2), information will be received from the public. It is the policy of this Village that Public Comment will take no longer than 15 minutes with a three-minute time period, per person, with time extension per the Chief Presiding Officer's discretion. Be further advised that there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action will be taken under public comments.

Members of the public came forward to discuss various topics. Those that spoke were Bernie Kramer - 2150 E. State Highway 153 Peplin; Alex Vedvik; 1955 Woodgate Lane; Kelly Coyle; 641 River Oaks Trail; Jessica Stowell; 2061 Coneflower Way; Elizabeth Vedvik (email); 1955 Woodgate Lane; Guy Fredel; 2240 Ruby Drive.

Concerns were raised about a resolution regarding financial handling and repayment obligations.

The dissemination of campaign material containing discriminatory content was challenged, and village leaders were called upon to be inclusive and respectful leaders.

Calls for accountability from specific village board members were made due to perceptions of harmful and divisive actions.

There was public expression at the potential mishandling of a loan, with an insistence on following legal statutes for transparency and integrity.

Concerns surrounding the budget, particularly regarding police department funding and litigation costs, were also addressed.

#### **4. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND VENDORS**

##### **C. Check Register 3/6 -3/20**

Finance Director Lisa Kerstner requests questions. No questions were asked.

##### **D. Administrator's Status Report**

Village Administrator Leonard Ludi discussed items he wrote in his report.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **E. Discussion and Possible Action: ZONING CHANGE REQUEST (Gronski); Gronski Revocable Trust, 2890 Pine Road, Kronenwetter, WI 54455, requests a zoning change of 55.53 acres from (AR) Agriculture to (RR-5) Rural Residential, at Parcel Identification Number 145-2708-051-0983. The legal description of the subject property: SEC 05-27-08 SE 1/4 NE 1/4 & SW 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC 04-27-08 EX CSM VOL 16 PG 252 (#4484) (DOC #872782) EX COM AT SE COR OF SD CSM N 1324.36' E 60' S 2 DEG W 1326.41' W 24.11' TO BEG EX CSM VOL 41 PG 170 (#10147) (DOC #1133134).**

Community Development Director Pete Wegner stated the Planning Commission recommended for approval of a zoning change request by Gronski for property at 2890 Pine Road.

Motion made by Trustee Dumais, Seconded by Trustee Vedvik to approve the zoning change request.

Voting Yea: Trustee Charneski, Trustee Shaw, Trustee Dumais, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle

Motion carried 6:0 by roll call vote.

##### **F. Discussion and Possible Action: General Legal Services Budget Amendment #2**

Administrator Leonard Ludi explains the budget amendment is for standard business open records requests, attorney investigations, etc. An increase to the legal services budget was debated. Concerns about escalating legal service expenses and calls for fiscal responsibility were highlighted. Discussions centered on the village's recent usage of legal services and associated costs being higher than in previous years.

Coyle approve general legal services coming out of option #2 to take the entire \$45,000 from the Capital Improvement account.

Motion made by Trustee Coyle, Seconded by Trustee Vedvik.

Voting Yea: Trustee Dumais, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle

Voting Nay: Trustee Charneski, Trustee Shaw

Motion carries 4:2 by roll call vote.

#### **6. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **G. Discussion & Approval: CoVantage Fire Truck Financing Letter**

Attorney Lee Turonie explains resident Guy Fredel misrepresented himself as a representative for the Village of Kronenwetter to the head of the commercial loan department at Covantage Credit Union, but he got that cleared up with Covantage. There was extensive discussion about the fire truck financing letter from Covantage. The village board scrutinized the validity and legality of the original loan documents. It was highlighted that the credit union found the current documents satisfactory and there was reluctance to rewrite the loan agreement. Given the current satisfactory standing of the loan, the idea was put forth to ensure the levy for the next financial year would be correctly addressed.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda was approved without itemizing specific topics.

**H. March 11, 2024, Village Board Meeting Minutes**

The village board minutes were approved.

**I. Operator "Bartender" License Application - Jason Holmes**

The operator's license was approved as presented.

Motion made by Trustee Vedvik, Seconded by Trustee Coyle.

Voting Yea: Trustee Charneski, Trustee Dumais, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle. Trustee Shaw no longer present.

Motion carried 5:0 by voice vote.

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

**Consideration of motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85 (1)( c ) for consideration of employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – to wit Approval of Offer Letter for the Director of Public Works and Utilities, Kayla Lumaye.**

Trustee Tim Shaw disconnects from the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Motion made by Trustee Coyle, Seconded by Trustee Vedvik to move into closed session to discuss employment and evaluation matters, specifically relating to the employment offer for the Director of Public Works and Utilities position.

Voting Yea: Trustee Charneski, Trustee Dumais, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle

Motion carried 5:0 by roll call vote.

The closed session began at 7:39 PM.

**9. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

**Consideration of motion to reconvene into open session.**

Motion by Trustee Coyle. Seconded by Trustee Charneski to reconvene into an open session. Motion carried 5:0 by roll call vote.

The open session reconvened at 8:11 PM.

**10. Discussion and Possible Action: Offer Letter Approval Director of Public Works and Utilities**

Motion made by Trustee Dumais, Seconded by Trustee Charneski to continue employment negotiations with candidate Kayla Lumaye.

Voting Yea: Trustee Charneski, Trustee Dumais, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle

Motion carried 5:0 by roll call vote.

**11. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

Trustee Tim Shaw requested earlier in the meeting to have Clerk Bobbi Birk-LaBarge's Media Interview with Channel 9 news discussed again.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Trustee Charneski, Seconded by Trustee Coyle to adjourn at 8:24 PM

Voting Yea: Trustee Charneski, Trustee Shaw, Trustee Dumais, Trustee Vedvik, Trustee Eiden, Trustee Coyle

Motion carries 5:0 by voice vote.

Village Board Meeting Minutes Prepared by: Clerk Bobbi Birk-LaBarge

Village Board Minutes Approved by Village Board on 04/08/2024

**From:** Alex vedvik <alex.vedvik@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 25, 2024 5:44 PM  
**To:** Bobbi Birk-LaBarge; Alex Vedvik; Christopher Eiden  
**Subject:** [External] Elizabeth Vedvik Public Comment 3-25-2024

Good evening Kronenwetter Village Board,

As a constituent it was brought to my attention some campaign messaging in support of Ken Charneski, Sean Dumais, and Cindy Lee Buchkowski-Hoffman that was very concerning. I was offended by the racist and homophobic undertones from a member of the Village Board who was elected in a non-partisan capacity to represent all constituents in Kronenwetter. While my expectations for Ken Charneski are low, I found his messaging both repulsive and reckless to list a personal attack against my husband, other members of the board like Mr. Coyle and Mr. Voll, as well as other candidates that are merely running for Village Board.

All it takes is somebody looking online for our addresses, the majority of us have families, and safety is paramount. On a personal level, we have dealt with hate mail and e-mail and cars driving by our home shining headlights and brightlights in our front window at night. While I know Ken's motive is to intimidate us and other families, this is not okay.

I would also like to point out on a different note, I found it highly concerning as a Registered Nurse, that a fellow Registered Nurse who in her own words works in a management capacity for multiple ambulatory surgery centers in the area, would be okay with her being attached to racist and homophobic rhetoric. If she is okay with this, I pray nobody I know will require her services in any capacity if they are anything other than what she and Ken appear to deem in line with who is accepted in our Village. It is disgusting and not okay in today's day and age.

I expect more from fellow nurses. I expect better out of our local leaders and those running to be leaders of the Village my family calls home.

Thank you.

Meeting Date:

03-25-24

### PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-IN SHEET

It is the policy of this Village that Public Comment will take no longer than **15 minutes** with a **three** minute time period, per person, with time extension per the Chief Presiding Officer's discretion.

NAME	ADDRESS	TOPIC
Bernie Gramer	2150 E St 153	Replan
Michael Helmuth	1582 Old Hwy 51	
Kelly Coyle	641 Rives Oaks Trail	
Jessica Stawell	2061 Woodflower Way	
Alexander Vedvik	1955 Woodgate Ln	
Elizabeth Vedvik	1955 Woodgate Ln	