



## **BROOKLYN VILLAGE NEWS**

**April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

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Village Board - Nadine Walsten, President

Economic Development – Heather Kirkpatrick, Chair

Finance – Dean Van Den Eng, Chair

Ordinance – Sue McCallum, Chair

Personnel – Dean Van Den Eng, Chair

Planning/Zoning – Nadine Walsten, Chair

Public Works – Dean Van Den Eng, Chair

Recreation – Jill Van Den Eng, Chair

Safety – Steve Lust, Chair

## **BROOKLYN RECREATION COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL DIME-A-DIP DINNER**

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**

**4:30 pm – 6:30 pm, Community Building**

The Dime-A-Dip is a 20+ year old tradition in Brooklyn that brings the community together and raises funds for park improvements.

Residents donate a dish and/or come to feast at the bargain price of a “Dime-A-Dip”! Please come and help support the Brooklyn Recreation Committee!



## BROOKLYN VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2013

The Village Board meeting was called to order on April 8, 2013 at the Village Hall Conference Room at 6:33 pm by President Walsten. Trustees present were Dorothy Frandy, Sue McCallum, Steve Lust, and Todd Klahn. Trustees Dean Van Den Eng and Jessica Hawkey were absent. Others present were Clerk Strause, Chief Barger, Public Works Director Langer, John Strehmel, Roland Arndt. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no public comments offered.

John Strehmel, Village's assessor with Jacobsen Appraisal, recommended the Village do a complete revaluation in either 2014 or 2015. The Village's last complete reval was in 2005. Because of the market decline in the past few years, it is difficult to defend their assessed values using the 2004 sales for the 2005 assessment year. Inequities between properties are occurring especially the duplex/condo market. Stehmel referred to the Dept of Revenue Assessment Manual's uniformity clause where assessors shall maintain equity and uniformity for similar types of properties. Not all building types are going to physically depreciate at the same rate. Jacobsen Appraisal is assessing in 19 municipalities. Contract renewals will be for three years. The cost for a full reval is unknown dependent on new software costs mandated by the Dept of Revenue. The Village's aggregate ratio remains within 10% of the market and is in compliance with Dept of Revenue.

President Walsten reported on her meetings the past month which included a meeting with Dave Fahey, Brooklyn Community Bank on 3/14. Fahey is stepping down from EDC but is interested in economic development and creating a public-private partnership to raise money to be used to enhance and advance various projects that would be a benefit to the Village, i.e., improving public facilities. The League of Municipalities Board meeting was on 3/15. The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting was on 3/16 with special emphasis given by the Chamber that by becoming an "Area" Chamber they are dedicated to supporting Brooklyn's and surrounding communities' economic development as well as the Village of Oregon. The Oregon Area Senior Center intergovernmental contract revision meeting was held on 3/18, and Economic Development Professionals meeting held on 3/27. A meeting with representatives of Belleville on a joint municipal court system was held on 3/19 and will be reported on later in the meeting.

Clerk Strause reported on the Spring election with 22% (66) voting in Green County and 19% (115) voting in Dane. President Walsten was re-elected, along with Trustee Dorothy Frandy. Newcomer is John McNaughton as Trustee and Todd Klahn returning with majority of write-in votes. February income was \$382,918 with expenses of \$653,661 leaving a balance on hand 2/28/13 of \$1,666,952. The League of Municipalities Regional dinner meeting is May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Darlington and New Officials Workshop May 10 in Madison. Anyone wanting to attend should notify the Clerk as soon as possible to pay for registrations.

Frandy moved, second Lust, carried to approve the minutes of March 11, 2013.

**Public Works:** Frandy moved, second Lust, carried to approve the 2013 **Arbor Day Proclamation** with a tree planting celebration scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>. Brooklyn Elementary will participate in the planting. The public is invited to attend also. **Well #1** update: The redevelopment portion of the project is complete and meets the contractor's testing specifications. The pumping equipment will be re-installed soon and the area will be cleaned up in the park. **Business Complex: The WDNR Endangered Resource Review**, required by CDBG before funds are released, was sent on 4/3. A reply from DNR on 4/5 reported that they received the packet. The DNR review cost could be \$75 to \$200. Josh Straka, Strand Engineering, donated his time to help Langer with the packet. Klahn moved, second Frandy, carried to pay for the DNR review. McCallum moved, second Klahn, carried to approve **the Fire Dept burning the structures in the Business Complex**. McCallum moved, second Klahn, carried to approve bidding for **soil borings in the Business Complex** with the Public Works Committee to review and accept the lowest bid. This will keep the project moving. The cost is estimated at \$2-4,000. Design work started on 4/3 and bid advertising should be ready by 4/19 with bid opening to be about 7/11, construction to start on 8/16 with 11/1 construction completed. The final **WPDES permit** has been returned and runs through March 31, 2018. Extra testing is required this year for phosphorus. The Village will have until 2018 to comply with the new phosphorus limits, may need to do some type of adaptive management. **Catastrophic Forestry Grant** update : All DNR funds for this program have been appropriated for this fiscal year which ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. If some funds are not spent by fiscal year end, the Village may be able to get these funds. Public Works will start cleanup in the cemetery and keep track of expenses in case there is money available. An **Emerald Ash Borer** informational meeting will be held Thurs, April 11, in Monroe. Anyone wanting to attend should let Langer know as registration needs to be sent right

away. Monthly reports were reviewed. An Emergency Management meeting will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup>; dumpster days start April 19<sup>th</sup> until April 28<sup>th</sup>; brush pick up starts tomorrow; ball park fence quotes have been received.

**Fire-EMS report:** Roland Arndt reported on the Fire District Board meeting held on March 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss an **intergovernmental agreement between the District and the Village sharing labor costs** for the new Fire Chief, Leif Spilde. The contract language in draft form was reviewed to have the Fire District pay for administrative duties performed by Spilde. Many locals do not realize how many hours the previous chief spent at the station after work hours, every night of the week and weekends. Roland thanked the Village for stepping up and offering an arrangement to assist the Fire Dept with administrative duties. Roland stated the Dept is now in need of leadership. The person that can give this based on education and experience is Leif Spilde who has the support of the other firemen. Roland looked at the Fire District agreement as amended in 2005 at the request of USDA due to financing the new fire station. By agreement this is an intergovernmental cooperative agreement which binds all participating municipalities until all revenue bonds are paid. At the Fire District meeting on March 27, the proposed agreement was discussed and rejected by Town of Union, however, there was no vote on the agreement taken at this meeting as the Town of Brooklyn Board postponed their decision until after the April election. Town of Rutland had no representative at the meeting. The agreement could cost the District \$11,000, but a part time fire chief could cost \$36,000. At 7:31 p.m., Klahn moved, second Frandy, unanimously carried by voice vote to convene to Closed Session pursuant to 19.85 (1)(c) to discuss salary negotiations for Leif Spilde. At 7:52 pm, Klahn moved, second Walsten, unanimously carried to reconvene to open session. Trustee Klahn moved, second Frandy, carried to remove the insurance cost in the per hour rate for Spilde in the agreement and offer the Fire District a one year contract. President Walsten voted Nay. This agreement will again be discussed at the next Fire District meeting.

**Safety Committee:** Trustee Lust presented the **Special Event/Licensing Policy and Application forms** stating the Village did not have a policy before to review license applications and also there was no application for special events. The committee has not approved this draft form yet. McCallum stated they would be meeting with local organizations to get input before finalizing draft. Chief Barger stated the Labor Day celebration is too large for his department to handle without special policing which would require more costs to provide a safe event. He felt the Village would be better protected by creating a policy. Fees could be waived by the Board or additional expenses passed on to the event sponsors for security or any other special needs. The policy would give the Village knowledge of what is needed for an event and what extra costs might be incurred. The Village Board can then decide to waive any fees to help sponsor the event. All special events would be required to fill out an application for a permit to be reviewed by the Chief and Committee with recommendation to the Board. Fees and exemptions should be clearly identified. There was a heated discussion as concerns over the current draft's lack of criteria and specific details, why permit fee is being charged to taxpayers, etc. The policy will continue to be worked on. Chief Barger met with the Brooklyn Elementary officials on March 8<sup>th</sup> to continue with our emergency response plan preparation. Barger and Fire Chief Spilde monitored a "test" lock-down drill on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Changeover to NewWorld RMS is still in progress. A meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> in Cross Plains looked at another records management system as current New World users are looking to change to a different system. New World is not going well and is very cumbersome. A second Laser unit was swapped with WISDOT for a new hand held radar. Barger stated he would be meeting with the Fire Dept committee tomorrow night to plan this year's Labor Day fest. Equipment is being switched to the new squad car this week. Some equipment will not switch to the new vehicle. **Policy #106 Unbiased Policing** was presented. Trustee Frandy moved, second Klahn, carried to approve this policy. The hiring process continues with background checks being done on two people out of the three interviewed.

**New Business:** Frandy moved, second Klahn, carried to have **open book with the assessor on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm and Board of Review on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 6 until adjourned.** Frandy moved, second McCallum, carried to appoint Mike Gehrman to Board of Review. **CDBG:** Before **CDBG funds** are released, the Village needs to adopt policies to be in compliance with Section 3 of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Frandy moved, second Klahn, carried to approve policies as written for 1) Selection Procedures for Procurement Transactions, 2) Protest Procedures/Dispute Resolution relating to procurement, 3) Standards of Conduct, 4) Designate Labor Standards Officer to be Mark Langer, PW Director. The Finance Committee recommended **recognition of Municipal Clerk's week May 5-11, National Police week May 12-18 and Public Works week May 19-25.** Klahn moved, second Frandy, carried to authorize \$10 per employee for a joint luncheon. **Robert Anderson filed a lawsuit** against the Village, Walsten and Strause for preventing him from getting a job as PW director in Darlington claiming defamation of his character for comments made and articles in the Oregon Observer. The lawsuit has been turned over to liability insurance's attorney. The need for **portable toilets for Depot Days** was discussed having

had complaints from last year for the lack of facilities. There was no motion to require portable toilets but recommendation that Depot Days consider providing portable toilet. Klahn moved, second Frandy, carried to approve the school prairie burn by the Fire Dept. **Habitat for Humanity** will have an open house at 330 Second St, on 4/20/13 at 11 a.m. This is Habitat's 25<sup>th</sup> year with their first house being built in Brooklyn. Walsten will welcome the new family and trustees and residents are encouraged to attend

**Unfinished Business:** – Discussion will continue Thursday night at an EDC meeting to **name the new street in the Business Complex**. A meeting was held with Belleville representatives on 3/19 to work on details for a **joint municipal court system**. Another meeting will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> to continue working on details. The draft will be sent to our attorney for review. When the new Board is seated, **the Committee of the Whole will meet to review ordinances for recodification**. When a representative is appointed from the Methodist Church, the **Ad Hoc committee will meet to review the Community Building Policy**. A **joint meeting with the Planning & Zoning Commission, EDC, and Village Board to discuss pricing/marketing of the Business Complex lots** will be held soon. A draft **Oregon Area Senior Center funding agreement** was presented. The new contract is rewritten without the Town of Dunn's membership. My Senior Center swipe software will identify usage of all using the programs and will be able to identify from what municipality they live. The data collected now will be reflected in the budget apportionment. The next joint meeting will be on 4/29 at the Oregon Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. Because each municipality in the joint agreement was asked to have their own attorney review the draft contract, Klahn moved, second Frandy, carried to have our attorney review. No vote will be taken on the contract until all legal reviews are complete.

**Consent Agenda:** Frandy moved, second Klahn, carried to approve payment of April 2013 invoices as listed and set the date of April 16<sup>th</sup> for the Village's reorganizational meeting.

**Committee Reports: Planning & Zoning** will be discussing a proposal from Vierbicher at the next meeting.

**Ordinance-** Frandy moved, second Klahn, carried to approve an amendment to Chapter 39.07 Wastewater Measurement, Sampling and Reporting . **EDC-**Copies of the 2013 draft Strategic Economic Development Plan were handed out to those trustees who did not have one. Walsten asked for all to review and make recommendations. Walsten also requested feedback on the **"A,B,C's" of Economic Development article "Putting it Together"** . She identified some of the important points in the article as those items will be coming back to the Board for discussion (i.e. social media marketing, improved web site capability, joining "Locate in Wisconsin" networks, etc.) She also called attention to the important relationship between economic development and community development—improving the amenities of a community not only encourages people to move here but to move their businesses here. There currently is no Brooklyn-focused support group (i.e. civic organization such as "Brooklyn Boosters") that would use funds raised to provide enhancements to this community ;which leaves the local government the only source of funding for such projects. Recreation-McCallum moved, second Frandy, carried to move \$600 from the Special Revenue Fund to be used for timing equipment for the Fun Run and Get Fit Programs. Emergency Management will be meeting May 7<sup>th</sup>. Recycling committee members will be appointed at the April 16<sup>th</sup> special Board meeting. McCallum moved, second Klahn, carried to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Carol Strause, Village Clerk-Treas.

## **MOTHER-DAUGHTER SPRING POTLUCK BANQUET**

**Friday, May 10, 2013 – Brooklyn Methodist Church**

**Jinja Jewelry Fair Trade Sale starting @ 6:00pm**

**Banquet and Hope Institute of Uganda Program starting @ 7:00pm**



In January, Pastor Gail and Al visited medical clinics, schools and libraries sponsored by Hope Institute of Uganda. Jinja Jewelry Fair Trade Shop in Janesville supports these projects by selling handcrafted jewelry and accessories for men and women made by people in Uganda. All products are made from recycled material or sustainable goods so no two items are exactly alike. Pastor Gail and Al stayed with Pastor Rose Masiza in Jinja, Uganda who makes colorful beads from recycled paper. Jinja Jewelry Fair Trade items will be available throughout the evening for purchase to support projects in Uganda. Bring a dish to pass and table settings for the potluck! Be sure to invite your family members, friends and neighbors for this special evening.

**President's Letter**

April, 2013

Nadine S. Walsten

On March 28, the School Board candidates, as well as the Village trustees/President, held a candidate forum and only 5 residents attended. In this era of social and print media, I thought my research had prepared me for making an informed vote. That was generally true, but I was impressed by how much more information I gained as residents asked questions about many important issues not found on web sites during this informal gathering. Approximately 60% of our communication is nonverbal--which means we risk missing so much when we substitute written messages and postings for face to face conversation. The vote tally was 183 between both counties, with a turnout of 22% for Green and 19% for Dane. I'm guessing "election fatigue" played a big role--no surprises there.

On April 16, the Board will hold a special meeting where we will "seat" the new Board, complete with oaths of office, appointment of committees, and review and recommit to the professional conduct standards our elected officials have adopted to uphold. If you are interested and wish to join in the decision making process of your local government, there are resident openings on the Recreation Committee, Economic Development Committee, and Recycling Committee. Get in touch with me (best by cell phone--235-0966), a trustee or the Clerk's office, and we'd be happy to share with you the focus of each committee. You don't need experience just an interest and willingness to serve.

**Some important items to share:**

- 1). **April 20 at 11:00 am at 330 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Habitat for Humanity will be holding a House Blessing ceremony followed by a pot luck luncheon at the Lutheran Church, 101 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.** This event is not only a House Blessing for the new residents, but a celebration of Habitat's providing low cost home ownership for the past 25 years in Dane County. The first Habitat house built was built here in Brooklyn so this is a special celebration for us. Bring a dish to pass and join other residents in welcoming the Stuntebeck family to Brooklyn.
- 2). **On 4/26 at 10 am, the Village and Brooklyn Elementary will have an Arbor Day Celebration in Legion Park with the planting of two trees.** The public is invited!
- 3). **Well #1 update:** The repairs have been completed and it will be in service during the next week or so. At no point has the water quality been compromised. The cost projections for this repair is approximately \$100,000, however, this should not effect our water rates. To keep things in perspective: a new well costs approximately \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000.
- 4). **Municipal Clerk's Week is May 5-11; National Police Week is May 12-18 and Public Works Week is May 19-25.** We have an excellent staff and they are providing services most of us take for granted. Give them a smile and wave in the month of May!

Nadine

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# PUBLIC WORKS DEPT

## Spring Clean Up Dumpster

Fri. April 19<sup>th</sup> - 12 noon – 7 pm  
 Sat. April 20<sup>th</sup> - 10 am – 4 pm  
 Sun. April 21<sup>st</sup> - 10 am – 2 pm  
 Mon thru Fri - 7 am – 7 pm  
 (Apr 22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>)  
 Sat. April 27<sup>th</sup> - 10 am – 4 pm  
 Sun. April 28<sup>th</sup> - 10 am – 2 pm

Dumpster will be located at the Treatment Plant – Windy Lane (S. end of Village on Hwy 104)  
 \*\*\*Please be prepared to show proof of residency



## **Brush Pickup Has Begun**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month)

Please place brush in the terrace at the curb, staying away from any electrical/telephone equipment. All cut ends need to be placed in the same direction-parallel to curb.

**Note: Leaves/grass are NOT picked up in the spring. You can bring them to the compost pile at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on S. Rutland.**

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## **OPEN BOOK & BOARD OF REVIEW**

**Open book** will be held on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 4 – 6 pm at the Village Hall (210 Commercial St). If you have any questions regarding your property assessment, take this opportunity to talk with the Village Assessors.

**Board of Review** will be held on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-adjournment at the Village Hall (210 Commercial St). (*You must make an appointment.*)

## SENIOR POTLUCK LUNCH

A community potluck lunch will be held on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in the Community Building kitchen at Noon. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy some good company and conversation!



## **EMS/Fire Department Pancake Breakfast**

**When:** Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** Serving pancakes, eggs, and sausage from 7-11am  
**Where:** At the Fire Station – 3 blocks west of the tracks  
**Cost:** Adults \$6, Kids 10 and under \$4  
 Fire truck rides following breakfast!

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Activity for March

911 Disconnect	1
Suspicious activity	2
Traffic crashes	2
Traffic Incidents	32
Assists	11
Traffic citations	11
Traffic warnings	6
Parking violation	8
Open Records request	7
Disturb/disorderly	1
Financial/fraud	1
Ordinance violations	3
Drug charges/comp	1
Alarms	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>



## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Depot Days in Brooklyn

Saturday April 27 10 - 5pm

Sunday April 28 10 - 4pm

[www.Depotdays.info](http://www.Depotdays.info)

608-455-3121

### **FREE:**

\* Community Building: Model Train Layouts, Wooden Train Playset, Local artist's show & sale.

\* Downtown at the tracks: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Vintage car show Saturday 1-4pm, contact Rich Walford for preregistration, 455- 1713.

\* Village-wide Garage Sales Saturday & Sunday (Some Fri.). Listing Great Dane.

\* Fire Engine Rides, Fire Station Sunday 8-11am.

### **Admission:**

\* Community building: Bake Sale, Concessions, Child's Train Raffle.

\* Downtown: "Speeder Car" rides on the hour, Inflatables, Concessions.

\* Fire Station: Sunday all you can eat pancake breakfast 7-11.

Fun filled weekend for the whole family !!

Sponsored by the Brooklyn Area Chamber of Commerce.

## Village Wide Garage Sales April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

Ads can be placed in the Oregon Observer and Great Dane.

Watch the Observer for more information or call 835-6677.



## **STREET SWEEPER**

Please be advised that street sweeping will take place throughout the Village on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. Please have all vehicles off the streets by 6:00am.

## **CLOSED**

Please note that the Village Clerk's office will be closed on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> for education and training. Please use the drop box outside the Clerk's office for utility payments. You can also use the drop box in the drive-thru lane of UB&T. Utility payments will be considered timely through the end of the day on the 26<sup>th</sup>.



**News from Your Senior Center**  
**By Rachel Brickner, Outreach and**  
**Case Manager**

The Oregon Area Senior Center has two Outreach workers on the staff whose role is to provide information to the community about issues affecting seniors. We handle a wide variety of inquiries on a broad range of subjects. You do not have to be a senior yourself to call for information. Here are some examples of the kinds of questions we have answered in the last few weeks:

- “I just received a call from someone saying he was from Medicare and they are going to issue new cards, and could I please verify my Medicare number for him. Was this a scam?”
- “My parents want to make a gift of cash to their children, but I am wondering what will happen down the road if they have to go into a nursing home. Will the government want that money back?”
- “I am having trouble paying for my heat bills. Is there any help available for someone on a fixed income?”
- “My mom is thinking of moving here from up north. She doesn’t have much for assets. Are there any affordable senior housing options locally?”
- “I have a new prescription that is really expensive. What can I do to be able to afford my medication?”
- “I can’t keep on taking off from work to take my dad to the doctor, but he doesn’t drive any more. Is there some other way for him to get to his appointments?”
- “My parents are not going to be able to live in their home on

their own much longer. How do we find the best place for them to go? There are so many choices and price ranges and we don’t know where to start.”

- “My wife is in a nursing home and probably won’t be able to come home. Will I have to sell my house to pay the nursing home bill?”
- “I am going to turn 65 in a few months. What do I need to do about Medicare and Social Security? Do I have to sign up for them? Should I sign up for them?”
- “Can you do something to help my elderly neighbor who I keep seeing outdoors inappropriately dressed for the weather? It worries me.”

Those are just a sampling of the kinds of questions we are trained to answer. We have knowledge about resources that are available to help in many different situations, and would be happy to speak with you. Please call 835-5801 and ask to speak with Rachel.

Are you hungry for a taste of summer? The Senior Center’s **Annual Brat Bash** will be held on **Friday, May 10** from 10:00-2:00 at the Senior Center. There will be live music to enjoy at noon. A full-sized, fresh grilled brat with chips will cost \$3.00, a fresh grilled hot dog with chips goes for \$2.00, and soda or bottled water will be \$1.00 each. Come join us for this welcome rite of spring!

**BROOKLYN REC RUN**

When: Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Run-8am, Walk-8:05am

Where: Legion Park

Cost: \$20 if pre-registered by May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013. \$25 for same day registration. Sign up at

[www.brooklynrecreation.org](http://www.brooklynrecreation.org)