

**BROOKLYN VILLAGE NEWS**  
**October 19, 2010**

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Village Board - Nadine Walsten, President  
Economic Develop. - Heather Kirkpatrick, Chair  
Finance - Tim Belter, Chair  
Ordinance - Steve Lust, Chair

Personnel - Dean Van Den Eng, Chair  
Planning/Zoning - Nadine Walsten, Chair  
Public Works - Mark Bruner, Chair  
Recreation - Jill Van Den Eng, Chair  
Safety - Todd Klahn, Chair

**FREE**  
**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!**  
Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm.  
Brooklyn Community Building Gymnasium



**“TRICK-OR-TREAT” HOURS**

Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010

4:00pm-7:30pm

Have a fun and safe Halloween!!!

Visit [www.brooklynwi.gov](http://www.brooklynwi.gov) for safety tips by clicking on the Police Department's link.

## BROOKLYN VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2010

The Village Board meeting was called to order on October 11, 2010, at 6:33 pm by President Walsten. Trustees present were Steve Lust, Mark Bruner, David Natzke, Tim Belter, Dean Van Den Eng. Trustee Klahn arrived at 6:37 p.m. Others present were Clerk Strause, Chief Barger, Roland Arndt, Sue McCallum, and Heather Kirkpatrick.

There were no public comments offered. Trustee Bruner moved, second Van Den Eng, carried to approve the Sept 13, 2010 minutes.

President Walsten announced **Green County Development Corporation** will be having their monthly meeting at the Community Building on Oct 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 a.m. The Village is not a member of the organization but GCDC continues to meet in various locations throughout the county. Walsten stated she will begin **listening sessions** in October and will be contacting various neighborhoods to gather for these sessions. An anonymous letter addressed to the Board made reference to the cost of the LED sign.

Clerk Strause announced the **Village's RTA referendum** approved by the Board last month to conduct at the Nov election on separate paper ballot for the rail transit sales tax increase in Dane County was denied by the GAB (Government Accountability Board) because the handicap accessible machine would not be programmed for this ballot. The Board approved a separate paper ballot for the non-binding referendum to save on programming costs through the county. It is expected the RTA will have a referendum at some point on this issue.

**Unfinished business:** Clerk Strause reported there still has been no return phone call from DOT on the continued billing of the Hwy 92 reconstruction project in the amount of \$3132.61. DOT has been billing annually on this project since 2002.

**2011 Bluegrass** Festival was discussed at length. Walsten gave a synopsis on expenditures in 2010, explaining one time expenses of a banner and website updates. The plan was for higher attendance with a Sunday morning program; however, that did not happen and Sunday morning would be discontinued in 2011. The Bluegrass Committee has met and is not asking for any funds from the Board. The committee is looking at ways to raise revenues and realize a need for corporate sponsorship for this event will be needed. The relationship between the Board and the festival will also need to be looked at. The committee will be putting together a budget for Fri night and Sat only. Benefit concerts, holding a polka fest, auction, and other revenue generating activities have been discussed by the committee, along with maybe having a band competition, charging an entry fee with winners playing at the 2011 festival. Walsten stated she would be seeking additional grants. Wisconsin Public Radio recordings of the festival bands should be used to create a sampler cd to sell was also discussed. Free tickets to residents, taking control of beer sales, maybe a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses/instrument makers are all possibilities. Also a venue other than Bluegrass, i.e., folk, acoustic music, etc., may bring in more attendance. There are other organizations that have been in touch with the committee that may be interested in the festival which would move it out of Brooklyn. Thrive and the Wis Arts Board have commented that it would be unfortunate for the Village to no longer sponsor this event. Walsten asked for Village sponsorship rather than money but that decision will be made after the committee determines if it can raise enough funds for the event.

Trustee Bruner asked why the profit from 2009 was applied to 2010 rather than applied to the loss in 2008. Walsten stated it was too early to project revenues with ideas discussed. Because of the poor weather in 2008 and 2009, the attendance has been deflated coupled with the economic downturn and associated lower attendance at numerous festivals that charge for concerts. Bruner stated the festival was proposed to be self sufficient in three years but has lost \$17,000 over the past six years. Walsten stated the Board approved each annual contribution and outside of the Festival, the Village has not put any money into promoting the Village. The

festival support communicates the Board supports and promotes the community. Bruner asked what tangible results have we seen from this festival in the last 5 years? Walsten stated she has seen the results when attending outside meetings with elected officials, economic development professionals and others that Brooklyn is now known by something positive other than discord. Bruner commented that he does not disagree with the festival to promote the community but the Bluegrass venue is too focused. Walsten reiterated she is not asking for money but support from the Board for the festival. The Bluegrass Committee will continue to meet to work on fundraising and sponsorship.

Resolution #2010-0015 endorsing the Dane County Alternative Emergency Radio proposal has not changed since last month. Operation and maintenance is expected at \$825,000 a year with the Village's cost estimated at \$3125 annually beginning in 2012 allowing law enforcement, fire, EMS, and Public Works to communicate together. The new plan, DaneCom Light, would begin 12/31/2012 when the switch to narrow band communication is mandated per the federal funding guidelines. Radios will cost \$800 each. Chief Barger said he would try to get grant money for the department radios. Public Works received one radio in 2010 through a grant. Trustee Van Den Eng moved, second Bruner, carried to approve resolution 2010-15. Trustee Belter voted Nay.

**2007 BAN:** Three proposals were received for interior **painting of the lower level of the community building** with two coats of eggshell finish, patching, and caulking. Bruner moved, second Klahn, carried to accept the Public Works committee recommendation to hire Arthur Hallinan for \$950 with the exact color yet to be chosen. Work will begin soon. Sealed bids were received for tuck pointing and sill replacement of the Community Building with a wide range of proposals. Bruner stated he read the proposals very carefully. The work would be done this year starting immediately. Life expectancy is about thirty years and will keep the water out to alleviate structural damage. Bruner moved, second Klahn, carried to award the proposal to Crowley Masonry for an adjusted price of \$11,695 to include five sills. Sill price based on per unit cost of the short sill at \$520 and long sill \$985 each.

Trustee Van Den Eng moved, second Klahn, carried to approve the consent agenda paying October bills in the amount of \$63,377.94 which includes the final payment of \$7459.30 to R&K Construction for the Hotel/Kerch St storm water project and curb & gutter installation on N. Rutland.

**New Business:** Clerk Strause presented a two year **audit contract from Johnson Block & Co for 2010 and 2011**, costing \$16,250 and \$16,490 respectively. The 2010 rate is \$45 over the 2009 price. Trustee Klahn moved, second Natzke, carried to approve as presented.

The Village's representative on the **Fire and EMS District Board**, Roland Arndt, introduced himself. He is in his 18<sup>th</sup> budget season with the department. District Board meeting will be Wednesday, Oct 13th, to finalize their budgets. EMS run volume is about 10-12 runs short from this time last year. EMS budget is based on \$18 per capita. The Village's portion of the last year's budget was reduced by \$54 due to population count. The Fire Dept budget increased \$1080 in 2010. Arndt stated he wants to keep the budget under 2.5 to 3% increase based on equalized evaluation. The Village represents 31% of the equalized value of the fire district. Arndt will provide a call sheet with the budget report. Walsten stated their budget should be kept at the 2010 level if possible.

**Reports: Public Works:** Trustee Bruner reported the **N. Kerch and Hotel St. storm water** project is completed with seeding growing. The final payment to R&K Construction included with the bills includes curb & gutter work on N. Rutland. Three bids were received for **paving the water leak area in front of the Community Building**. Bruner moved, second Van Den Eng, carried to award the contract to the lowest bidder, Wolf Paving, for \$12,890. The area will be cut out and squared off before paving. Three bids were received for removal of a hollow maple **tree hanging over the merry go round at Legion park and pruning of a tree by the pavilion** hanging on the neighbor's house, along with removal of a few stumps to be ground. There is also a Linden tree that is very weak in the playground area. Bruner moved, second Lust,

carried to approve hiring Messner Landscaping Service at a cost of \$2187.50 for tree removal and stump grinding. The tree budget will be over budget by about \$1,000 to be balanced with other public works accounts that will be under budget.

**Water meter upgrade** to replace the current remote readers that are being installed was discussed. The upgraded remote meters cost about the same price. An antennae will be needed in the future on the water tower (approximate cost \$100,000) in order for these meters to be read from the tower which could produce hourly reports for early detection of leaks. There is a one time charge of \$10,000 to upgrade the current hand held reader which would read both old and new meters. The Village in the past few years has been updating the meter system to Sensus but not all meters have been converted yet. Bruner stated within the next five years all readers would be compatible with this system. The updated meters read more accurately down to one-tenth of a gallon opposed to one-quarter of a gallon. The updated meters have a twenty year warranty. The previous Sensus meters have one year warranty. Ninety-six meters were paid for in September with forty-eight being returned leaving a \$5,000 credit with HD Supply. Bruner stated the credit will be discussed at the Nov meeting as it may be used on the new handheld.

**Fall clean up days** utilized four dumpsters including a thirty yard for metal. Some electronics were brought in and turned away. A **water leak break between the main and shut off valve at 107 Cedar St** resulted in the need to replace part of a driveway for the repair work. Bruner moved, second Klahn, carried to award the driveway repair work to Conco Construction for \$1500. One other bid was from Rutland Construction for \$1600. The expense will be paid from the water utility budget.

**Planning & Zoning Commission** will conduct a **public hearing on Oct 25th for the final draft on Chapter 48-18(5)(b) Telecommunication Regulations** per motion by Bruner, second Natzke, carried. Bruner moved, second Klahn, carried to have Rob Roth from **General Engineering review Chapter 48** for a cost not to exceed \$300.

**Ordinance**-Trustee Lust reported the committee continues to review ordinances for the recodification process.

**Safety**- Chief Barger stated Trick or Treat hours will be from 4-7:30 on 10-31 for Halloween. This will be posted on the website and newsletter. Participants should leave a porch light on during this event. Barger continues to work with the emergency preparedness committee to update the plan. Tracs system has new capabilities giving new data to Dept of Justice. Green county officers are forwarding Village cases back to the department for follow up while Dane County handles Village cases when a Village officer is not available. Officer Engelhart is taking NIMS 300-400 classes this month. Barger will be starting the employee evaluation process soon for his department Deputy Brewer and Chief Barger met with an IT person last week to discuss transition of the Village's website and email to Charter. The domain needs to be changed and may need further IT assistance. Barger stated he has been working on the budget and has made some changes that will be presented later in the meeting.

**Personnel committee** will be meeting Oct 21 for annual personnel reviews to be conducted.

**Economic Development committee** will have an **open house on Nov 9<sup>th</sup>** inviting local businesses, Anna Schramke from the Green County Development Corporation, Diane Pasley from Wis Business Development, Olivia Perry, Dane County Economic Development, and local bankers that do commercial loans. Letters will go out to local businesses inviting them to this informative session.

**Recreation**-Trustee Natzke stated there are not enough people on the recreation committee to do fundraising and asked if the committee is responsible to raise all their money for activity other than summer recreation expense. This will be further discussed during budget work. The ice rink will be installed on Nov 6<sup>th</sup> at 11 .a.m. Any volunteers are welcome to help with this project. The committee will be planting two trees by the gazebo. These trees will not grow taller than 12' and can be decorated for the holidays. Public Works will be contacted on this planting. Committee may conduct a survey on what the community wants. If done on election day, they need to be in a separate room, away from the election process.

**Emergency Preparedness Committee** continues to meet. Elected officials will need to take NIMS 100-200 and 700. A January training session is possible. Leif Spilde, Assistant PW director and Assistant fire chief, is currently not a voting member of the committee. Bruner moved, second Klahn, carried to appoint Spilde as a member pro tem to this committee. Also Spilde has been updating the plan and doing a lot of work gathering data for the plan regarding potential suppliers, equipment that could be used, municipal data, contact person information, etc. The committee recommends approval of Spilde as Emergency Management Director so that the Village has a staff person who would be responsible for keeping all this information updated. Walsten moved, second Klahn, carried to approve this appointment of Spilde.

**Recycling** has not had a meeting. **Website committee** continues to work on updates.

**Finance committee** again reviewed Personnel's recommendation as talked last month to **freeze wages and fringe at the 2010 rate**. The recommendation would be to offer two additional half days off for 12/24 and 12/31 with the exception of the Clerk's office that would need to be open on the 12/31 for tax collection. This offer would not increase the budget. The 12/31/09 fund balance was questioned and a pie chart on wages/budget expenses was requested as a visual aid. Trustee Van Den Eng presented a spreadsheet on wage/health ins paid by village from 2008-2010 and the proposed 2011. The spreadsheet does not include overtime or pension payments. Examples were given of what State, University faculty and staff members, Dane County, Madison School District, private enterprises Harley-Davidson and Wolfe Appliance proposals of freezes and furloughs over the past few years. An optional furlough days off rather than directly paying a part of the health insurance by the employees was presented as discussed by the employees. Trustee Klahn stated that the furlough days have not worked for Dane County as overtime could play a part in funding. Trustee Bruner stated he is OK with the wage freeze offer but has a problem with employees taking a net loss because of having to pay a part of their insurance and would rather find other cuts in the budget to make up for this insurance increase. President Walsten stated there would be budget cuts in the 2011 budgets compromised by delinquent water/sewer bills and unpaid delinquent taxes with several other municipalities cutting law enforcement and EMS services.

Current **debt service** payment, balances, interest spreadsheet was presented. Trustee Van Dan Eng presented a six year spreadsheet on debt showing what would be paid off in the next two years and the eventual refinancing of the 2007 BAN.

Draft budgets were presented for the General Fund, Water and Sewer Utilities, departmental proposals, Debt Service Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Mt. Hope Cemetery Fund, Capital Projects Fund, TIF Fund. Review began with departmental proposals. Clerk Strause presented a levy limit worksheet draft indicating the budget increase could be \$17,470 calculated by the 3% growth rate established by DOR. Debt is excluded from this ratio with the increased debt service in 2011 at \$22,016. The Board set Oct 18<sup>th</sup> and Oct 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm for continued budget work nights. The budget hearing date is set for Nov 8th.

Bruner moved, second Belter, carried to adjourn at 10:10 pm.

Carol A. Strause, MMC

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT OFFICE HOURS**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH**  
**1:30-3:30 PM AND 6:30-7:30PM**  
**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BUILDING**

## **Presidents' Letter October, 2010**

**Nadine S. Walsten**

Fall is my favorite time of the year and the most recent warm spell has been an unbelievable bonus! With each passing sunny day, my denial that winter is coming deepens, and I put off those chores necessary to prepare for the cold. I am grateful to a friend who suggested I put Dawn dishwashing soap and water in a 32 oz spray bottle and spray the soapy mixture on the southern doors and windows to ward off the Boxelder bugs. Seems to work on those Asian beetles, too. I will need to rinse off these areas when I wash the windows but for now, my house is almost free of the critters and are no longer seeping in from the outside. Creepy critters just in time for Halloween.

It is budget season for the Board and I am committed to having an operating budget as close to 2010 levels as possible. Most of the trustees feel the same which means everyone, residents included, will feel the pinch of our tight economic shoes. Because only 2% of our tax base is commercial, every decision we make hits every homeowner hard. Compound the loss of property taxes due to a weakened job and housing market with the severe rise in sewer rates,( again, 98% of our users are residences), and the average Brooklynite is caught in the crossfire of property taxes and sewer utility costs. Some items will go up but to accommodate those, I expect we will look for other areas of operations we can cut. If we make any large expenditures, it should be restricted to implementation of an economic development plan but until the economy improves, it will remain unclear what we can do. I do believe we must take advantage of any economic development opportunity that presents itself but only with sound understanding of our options. I've spoken of this before: From a tax standpoint only, we must increase our commercial tax revenues to 30-40% of our municipal budget because providing public services to businesses costs substantially less tax dollars than providing the same services to residences. One caveat regarding the 2011 budget: If we have an opportunity to bring business to Brooklyn, we must give that serious thought, while assuring ourselves we can hold our budget in line if we do.

Speaking of economic development, the Economic Development Committee will be holding an Open House for area businesses and entrepreneurs on November 9 at the Village Hall. We are planning to have resource people from Dane and Green Economic Development offices as well as a representative of a finance packaging company who specializes in helping small businesses obtain funding for their operations. Invitations will be sent.

In an attempt to increase the dialogue between myself and the residents, I will begin to hold Listening Sessions on the evening of October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Village Hall. My focus will be to meet with residents of different neighborhoods and hear the concerns and ideas from that part of the Village. Watch for your notice in the mail. I plan to start with Brooklyn Commons, then Douglas Dr, north Rutland, etc.



# BROOKLYN POLICE DEPT

## \* \* \* REMINDER \* \* \*

Winter parking ordinance will be in effect beginning November 15<sup>th</sup>. No parking on Village streets\* between 1 am. – 7 am each night. If you have questions regarding winter parking, please contact the Police Department at 455-2131 \*(100 block of Hotel St. from 3 am – 7 am)

## TRICK-OR-TREATING HOURS

**When:** Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

**Time:** 4:00pm - 7:30pm



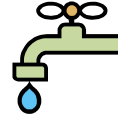
The Village of Brooklyn wishes you a very safe and Happy Halloween! For important safety tips, please visit the Village of Brooklyn website at [www.brooklyn.wi.gov](http://www.brooklyn.wi.gov) And click on the Police Department link.

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPT

Leaf pickup will begin as demand requires. Residents are asked to rake leaves into the street gutter with NO twigs or other debris mixed in.

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## WATER SAVING TIPS OF THE MONTH



1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
3. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.

The Clerk's Office and Public Works Dept. will be closed on Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving Day.



## WRITE ONE LESS CHECK EACH MONTH!!

Pay your water bill automatically on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Contact Kim at 455-4201 ext. 10 for more information or e-mail [kimbrewer1@frontier.com](mailto:kimbrewer1@frontier.com)



## **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Village Board for the Village of Brooklyn will conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed 2011 Budgets on November 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building, 102 N. Rutland. Budgets can be viewed at the office of the Village Clerk, 102 N. Rutland, Brooklyn, WI during regular hours, Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**PLANNING AND ZONING  
COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING  
October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
6:30pm  
Brooklyn Community Building**

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing of the Planning and Zoning Commission will be held on Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6:30pm in the lower level of the Brooklyn Community Building regarding the latest revisions to Village Ordinance **Chapter 48-18(5): Telecommunication Regulations.**

Anyone unable to attend the hearing may submit a written statement to the Clerk before the hearing.

A copy of the proposed ordinance changes, is available for public viewing in the Village Clerk's office, Monday through Friday 7 am to 5 pm.

**\*\*SENIOR LUNCH\*\***

**Thurs., Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> - Noon**

Please note that there will be *NO* senior lunch in **November** due to Thanksgiving. There will be a special senior lunch on **Thursday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>** at noon in the Brooklyn Community Building.

# FREE Family Movie Night!



Join us for a fantastic family  
movie

in the Community Center  
Gymnasium

**Sat., November 6<sup>th</sup> at  
7:00pm**

(doors open at 6:30pm)

Enjoy Fresh Popcorn, Assorted  
Candy, Chocolate and Soda.  
Available at the concession stand  
in the downstairs kitchen.

Bring a pillow, blanket and chair.  
And get ready for a  
*FREE* fun family night  
together.

**Do you want to know what's playing? Here's  
your clue:**

Mr. and Mrs. Fox live a happy home life with their eccentric son and visiting nephew. That is until Mr. Fox slips into his sneaky old ways and plots the greatest chicken heist the animal world has ever seen.

**If you can't figure it out, call 455-4201 ext. 44  
to find out!**



## **Brooklyn Police Department Halloween Safety Tips**

The Village of Brooklyn officially recognizes "Trick or Treating" to take place on Halloween afternoon and evening from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The "trick" for parents is to help their children find the "treat" in a safe Halloween so we have some suggested safety tips below.

We do think of Halloween as a time for treats and fun; however, on a more serious and important note, the National Safety Council says that roughly four times as many children aged 5-14 are killed while walking on Halloween evening compared with other evenings of the year, and falls are a leading cause of injuries among children on Halloween. Most Halloween-related injuries can be prevented if parents closely supervise school-aged children during trick-or-treat activities.

The National Safety Council suggests the following for children out on Halloween:

- ✓ Go only to well-lit houses and remain on porches or front steps rather than entering houses
- ✓ Travel in small groups while being accompanied by a responsible adult
- ✓ Bring treats home before eating anything so parents can inspect them
- ✓ Fruits should be washed before eating
- ✓ When in doubt, throw it out
- ✓ Use flashlights, stay on sidewalks and avoid crossing yards
- ✓ Cross streets at the corner only and stay together before crossing
- ✓ Do not cross between parked cars
- ✓ Walk and don't run
- ✓ Treat bags or sacks should be light colored and have reflective trim for visibility
- ✓ Wear bright, reflective and flame retardant clothing
- ✓ Costumes should not hang below the ankles to avoid tripping and falling
- ✓ Costume accessories like swords should be made out of cardboard or flexible materials
- ✓ Use face painting instead of masks as masks can obstruct a child's view
- ✓ Avoid hats that will slide over eyes
- ✓ Avoid wearing long baggy or loose costumes
- ✓ Be reminded to look left, right and left again before crossing the street
- ✓ Discuss route and return time before venturing out
- ✓ Feed children a good meal before leaving to help avoid eating treats before inspection
- ✓ Dress for the weather

The Brooklyn Police always urge children to avoid accepting things from strangers so we urge parents to explain to their children that Halloween is a special night and that accepting treats from strangers is acceptable. Parents should explain safety matters with children and what they should do in certain situations. Children will react more appropriately when armed with information rather than being scared or frightened into action.

**J.F. "Harry" Barger**  
**Chief of Police**  
**Brooklyn Police Department**