

**Village of North Fond du Lac**  
**OFFICIAL MINUTES - Meeting of October 26, 2009**  
**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

PRESENT: James Moore, Village President  
Mike Streetar, Trustee  
Mike Will, Trustee  
Jim Scharf, Trustee  
Keith King, Trustee

OTHERS: Joe Maramonte  
Rita Murphy  
Laurie King  
Michael McCauley  
Steve Schumacher  
Robin Lemke

STAFF PRESENT:  
Chuck Hornung, Administrator  
Chief Bill Lamb, Police Chief  
Paul Nelson, Fire/EMS Chief  
Nick Leonard, Director of Engineering and Planning  
Donna Richards, Village Clerk

**Chairman: MOORE**

*Meeting was called to order by Chairman Moore at 6 PM.*

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS.**

**1. Discuss the 2010 budget, and the Village Pool.**

Administrator Hornung talked about the open session on Wednesday night, and that a lot of great ideas came out of that meeting. Have a draft budget and the topic of the Village Pool. There will be a closed session at the end of the Board meeting, to discuss how to handle the shortfall, and what the options are. Mr. Hornung handed out a two-page Budget Summary which reflects a shortfall of \$185,497 (attached). This number has gone up as there as a mistake made where some funds were counted twice. Interested citizens were invited to speak.

Steve Schumacher 1909 Chapman: Lifelong resident and lifeguard. Asked if we know how many kids have learned to swim at the pool. Asked if we know how many workers have worked there over the many summers. Mr. Hornung answered that he thought between the three sessions for lessons (2 free, 1 paid) that roughly 300 kids may learn to swim, but not sure if they really learn, or come back another time to learn. Mr. Schumacher said we should look at modernizing the pool or possibly getting a new pool. In either case it should be more family oriented, with a playground, a picnic area, shaded areas for families. Other communities have very nice pools. He said things can be done.... Berlin has a great area, Omro. Taylor in Fond du Lac was modernized to be more family oriented after ready to close it. It makes us a community, give something to remember. And being a lifeguard is a great experience for kids. Does not think that we should close it down without first exploring options and creating a back-up plan. President Moore explained that this is the first year that we haven't been able to absorb the various funding losses we have taken. There were some good ideas at the meeting as to how to lower the deficit at the pool. At Taylor, it was contingent on neighbors taking it on. Shared revenue is less, economy is rough. Looking at options. Steve Schumacher says we have to look at making it more attractive. Mike Will says he'd doesn't want to close it. Wants to cut the lifeguard costs by \$10,000, staff tightened up, raise fees at the pool, and charge day care full price. Need to move forward. We have taken these losses for years. If we run out of money, we'll have to shut it down early. We should try to raise some money, as a challenge to the Board, to keep costs out of the capital budget+. Moore says no one wants to close the pool.

We have several weeks before we have to adopt the budget. Mr. Hornung says we should set a target of what we want to raise to cut the costs. Many people at the Wednesday meeting want to help. Maybe work with the Y.

See if we can meet whatever goal is set. Mr. Scharf says getting a new pool or modernize this one makes him nervous. This would be a great expense. 50% of NFDL is retired. Mr. Moore said we need more programming to attract kids to the pool. Water Ballet for example. This was a bad summer, weatherwise.

Laurie King said the pool closed fast; as she was arriving to bring her children, it was already closed. Attendance is down, and some carloads go to the Fond du Lac pool. Kids can't ride to Fond du Lac on their bikes. She really likes the independence that children gain by riding their bikes or walking over to the pool themselves. She said we should add a slide, a picnic area, sand, shade, etc. We should charge for swimming lessons. Too many guards sitting around. They should be sent home or on-call (and paid a portion of an hourly rate, unless called in.)

Mike Streetar asked if the YMCA has been talked to yet. Mr. Hornung said that he was waiting for some direction at this meeting, as to whether to proceed to look at options for keeping the pool open. Asked if any set hours are guaranteed to pool staff. Was not thought to be the case. Mr. Streetar was not sure about the ideas of volunteering, need certified people as lifeguards. Thought that while North Fondy Fest might help in good years and Optimists are always called upon, can't be relied upon for everything ongoing. No price break is needed for

day care center. It was mentioned by several persons that the pool is an attraction for new and current residents, as a way to keep kids busy in the summer.

Mike McCauley 533 Florida Avenue said that we should change the terminology. The pool is not a loss, it is a service to residents (not expected to break even.) He would support it even without having kids at home. He thinks we need two or three years of responsible data, and to better understand the community's needs and wants before possibly shutting it down. He said there may be other ways to save money, such as not leaving the lights on all night on "OO".

Joe Maramonte – Jeffrey Ct. says we should look at enhancements to the area for when people get out of the pool. He does not think people are leaving to go to the County Pool. He personally has never been there. Thinks we should think about getting a slide for the pool. Spend 2-3 years doing fundraising for enhancements, and to keep the kids coming. The Y has a million programs... we need to look at this, and figure out ways to have more to offer, to bring families over to the pool.

Rita Murphy 1606 Westwood added a few comments.

Mr. King says he doesn't want to see it close. Supports some of the ideas Mr. Will has, to save costs so it is less of a drain on the budget. He wants to save and keep the pool open, doesn't want to raise taxes.

Mr. Hornung talked about the next steps in the process. We are planning to adopt the budget on November 30 after the Public Hearing. There are also meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup>, where citizens can express themselves, and we will better understand the options.

Robin Lemke 128 McKinley asked about the Fundraising Committee. Also asked about the Y. Will businesses in the Village help to knock down the deficit? She would like a committee to be formed to coordinate the efforts. Mr. Moore asked if there were any other suggestions or concerns to be expressed on the Pool or the budget in general.

Mr. Will asked about some carpeting and tile items, and whether those could be pushed back. The tile repairs are for cracked tiles, and should be replaced. The carpeting is in the offices, and it is getting to the point where there are tears and it is embarrassing to bring someone back. Mr. Will asked whether the squad cars can be pushed back to a five year replacement. Chief Lamb said that they were rolled over every three years, now it is every four. These are city miles, and the cars idle much of the time. While the cars may have 50,000 to 60,000 miles on them when sold, that is misleading. It is hard to know at the end of a car's life how much is spent on repairs or how much time it will be out of service. And when we start down this road, then there may be two cars needed the next year. Hard to know. Mr. Will asked about the garbage truck. That can't be pushed back. There is concern that the back end will break in two, where the garbage goes.... It is all rusted out.

Chief Lamb expressed concern when police departments have older vehicles that look bad. It gives a bad image of the community.

**B. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD. (None.)**

**Future Possible Agenda Items can be discussed under Unfinished Business and New Business. No action will be taken at this meeting on discussions under the next two items, and discussion should be greatly limited until placed on the agenda:**

**C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS. (None.)**

**D. NEW BUSINESS. (None.)**

**E. CLOSING OF MEETING. 6:40 P.M. the meeting was closed.**

Respectfully submitted,

James Moore, Trustee