

**VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM  
COMMUNITY PROTECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2024 – 3:00 PM  
9996 WATER STREET**



**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Hart moved, Krist seconded to approve the minutes of September 5, 2024, all ayes.** Motion carried.

**Krist moved, Cox seconded to recommend to the Ephraim Village Board that they request answers regarding the Countywide Radio Upgrade from the County Technology Committee regarding coverage and cost in a letter directed to the County Board. The Ephraim Village Board should also have an agenda item in January or February 2025 as a follow-up to the County meeting after the first of the year, all ayes.** Motion carried.

**Hart moved, Dukehart seconded for the Village Administrator and/or Village Board President to draft a code violation letter sent certified to the owner of 10176 Water Street to prevent future ordinance violations and the need for compliance. To be included with the violation letter is the letter submitted to the CPC committee from the Martinek/Slusser family, all ayes.** Motion carried.

**Krist moved, Cox seconded to adjourn at 4:40 PM, all ayes.** Motion carried.

---

**Present:** John Cox, Tad Dukehart, Laird Hart, Keith Krist, and Carly Mulliken - Chair.

**Absent:** None.

**Staff:** Justin MacDonald – Village of Ephraim Fire Chief and Kim Roberts - Deputy Clerk.

**Guests:** Sara Martinek, Carol Slusser, Bob Volpe (EFD), and John Stahl (EFD).

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mulliken at 3:00 PM. A quorum was present for this meeting.

2. **Changes to the agenda:** There were no changes.

3. **Approval of the previous minutes:**

**Hart moved, Krist seconded to approve the minutes of September 5, 2024, all ayes.** Motion carried.

4. **Visitors' Comments:**

Mulliken provided an update on the 2025 budget and that it was set for a public hearing on November 12, 2024, at 7:00 PM. She noted that the capital reserve account for Fire Department Equipment had an annual contribution increase of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for a total annual contribution of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000).

5. **Discussion on Radio Upgrade:**

A discussion was held regarding the replacement of all portable and mobile radios along with pagers between 2026-2028 as notified by the County Technology Committee. Committee members discussed the County Board packet which showed dead zones for the Village of Ephraim. Cox stressed that even with the new towers in Sister Bay and Fish Creek there is still a lack of coverage in the busiest areas of the Village. He noted that the County is asking the Village to spend a lot of money and the Village deserves to have the same coverage as neighboring communities. MacDonald added that there would not be any updates from the county until after the first of the year. MacDonald explained that the Village Board needs to communicate to the County that they had reviewed the plan for the Village and the strip of white indicating non-coverage is unacceptable and request that it be corrected. Cox agreed that the Village needed to get ahead of the issue; it is too important to the community. He added that even with a three hundred and fifty foot (350') tower in Sister Bay, which is a monster, we still have a lack of coverage.

**Krist moved, Cox seconded to recommend to the Ephraim Village Board that they request answers regarding the Countywide Radio Upgrade from the County Technology Committee regarding coverage and cost in a letter directed to the County Board. The Ephraim Village Board should also have an agenda item in January or February 2025 as a follow-up to the County meeting after the first of the year, all ayes.** Motion carried.

6. **Discussion on Village Noise Ordinance:**

Mulliken explained that the committee was in receipt of a letter from the Slusser/Martinek family. While the letter details other operational concerns for the lodging property, only the noise ordinance will be discussed as the other items are not under the purview of the Community Protection Committee "CPC". Mulliken noted that she had been in contact with the Village Administrator who had been in direct contact with the property regarding the camper trailer. No further issues with camper trailers have been observed.

Sarah Martinek presented the Slusser/Martinek concerns as a neighboring property to the lodging establishment.

A discussion was held regarding the Village Noise Ordinance. Discussion included code enforcement, a code

violation letter addressed to the property owner, the sheriff's department response to 911 calls, and the reliance on local law enforcement. The committee discussed drafting an ordinance violation letter outlining the violations and requesting the owner's assistance in finding a solution to prevent future issues. Mulliken felt that the owner should be made aware of the ordinances and given the chance to comply. Dukehart requested that the letter be sent certified along with the letter submitted to the Committee from Martinek/Slusser. He further requested that part of the solution be that the quiet hours be posted on the business website and on the property so that guests would be aware of the local noise ordinance.

**Hart moved, Dukehart seconded for the Village Administrator and/or Village Board President to draft a code violation letter sent certified to the owner of 10176 Water Street to prevent future ordinance violations and the need for compliance. To be included with the violation letter is the letter submitted to the CPC Committee from the Martinek/Slusser family, all ayes. Motion carried.**

**7. Discussion with Truck Committee:**

A follow-up discussion was held regarding purchasing a Class "A" pumper to replace the 1999 mini-pumper. Jon Stahl and Bob Volpe, members of the Ephraim Fire Department were on hand to lead the discussion. Stahl listed the deficiencies of the mini-pumper (2-door, manual transmission, pumping capacity, and age). It was discussed that the mini-pumper was originally purchased for the North Shore Road area as it was compact enough to handle the tight areas. Stahl discussed the advantages the new Class "A" pumper would provide. With the two (2) in two (2) out rule, Class "A" would allow more people to initially arrive on the scene to attack a fire, the timeline of the ISO rating of the mini-pumper to meet the minimum capacity, the Class "A" would take the load off the main line engine which is used constantly, and the equipment that it would carry with a Class "A" ISO rating (ISO rating is a 100 point scale used to score a fire department's ability to protect the community). Stahl explained that the ISO rating is used to determine insurance rates within the Village. MacDonald added that the Class "A" would be able to carry more hose, pump more water, and carry more crew while maintaining the same length and a marginal increase in height. He noted that the new truck still had to fit in the station that is currently in place; a new fire station is at the bottom of the capital projects list. MacDonald added that the ISO re-evaluation could be good for up to five (5) years. The Committee discussed materials (stainless steel) and drivetrain (4-wheel drive). MacDonald provided insight into manufacturing and ordering timelines and how emission standards play into contracts and delivery.

Mulliken requested visuals and scenarios that compared current uses to the proposed uses for the Class "A" pumper.

Stahl suggested a field trip to the fire station before the next CPC meeting to view the required equipment and see firsthand what is being discussed.

**8. Discussion of general safety issues in the Village:**

Krist expressed concern about people cutting the corner at German Road and Hoganson Lane. He suggested a stop sign on the westbound side of German Road.

MacDonald noted that it would need to be a three (3) way stop to be effective. He also stressed that it would be difficult in the wintertime to get going again after stopping.

Cox discussed the recent WisDOT changes to Ephraim's seasonal speed limit. He explained that it was a serious mistake and didn't understand the logic. He expressed concern that there had been no input from the Village.

MacDonald explained that WisDOT decided to do away with seasonal speed limits. They conducted traffic studies; they own the highway and set the speed limits. There was no communication until we received the letter outlining the changes.

A short discussion was held regarding the Village reaching out to WisDOT and the placement of the speed zones. Cox felt that the next step would be for the Village Board to discuss.

**9. New business for the next meeting:**

- a. Speed Change – WisDOT speed zones.
- b. Fire Truck – Class "A" pumper.
- c. German Road – Hoganson Road (corner – safety issue).

**10. Adjournment:**

**Krist moved, Cox seconded to adjourn at 4:40 PM, all ayes. Motion carried.**

Recorded by, Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk