

**VILLAGE OF GREENDALE
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
May 6, 2014**

School Board President Crapitto called the Special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Court Room of the Greendale Safety Center—5911 West Grange Avenue.

ROLL CALL

Present: Donna Ouellette, Village Board; Vicki McCormick, School Board; Jim Birmingham, Village Board; Tom Slota, School Board; Todd Michaels, Village Manager, John Hermes, Village President; Joe Crapitto, School Board President; John Tharp, School Superintendent; Ron Barbian, Village Board; Melanie Kuzmanovic, School Board; Al Sikorski, Village Board; Carl Genz, Village Board; Josh Bartelme, School Board; Lea Lassoued, School Board.

Absent: Sally Chadwick, Village Board; Ann Szczygiel, School Board

Also Present: Kathryn Kasza, Clerk-Treasurer, Village
Erin Green, Director of Business Services, School District
Robert, McFaul, Public Works Director, Village
Scott Satula, Director of Inspection Services, Village
Timothy Saidler, Fire Chief, Village
Robert Malasuk, Police Chief, Village
Mark Uecker, Utilities Superintendent, Village
Ken Skronski, State Representative for the 82nd District
GreendaleNow Reporter
Visitors

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Tim Baranzyc, 3560 S 81st Street, Milwaukee, WI 53220, talked about the progress of the Greendale Veterans Memorial at the Broadway and School Street site.

Aleks Skibicki, 4256 Teakwood Ct, Greendale, WI 53129, President of the Highland View PTO spoke about the reasons schools should not be serving as polling places.

Harley Larson, 5586 Municipal Sq, Greendale, WI 53129, had a complaint about the School District's flag etiquette.

Paul Elliott, 5788 Rustic Lane, Greendale, WI 53129, Chief Inspector of Voting Wards 9 and 10, spoke about the reasons polling places should be in the elementary schools.

Shannon Combs, 5809 Sugarbush Ln and Cheryl Kelly 5922 Sugarbush Ct, spoke about the need for crossing guards at the entrance to the parking lot on Eastway and to the East and South of Highland View School. They provided some statistical data handouts to the Board members.

Jason Patzfahl, 5301 Laura Ln, Greendale, WI 53129, Vice President of the Highland View PTO spoke about the difficulties of having elections in elementary schools.

Alison Julien, 5969 Maplewood Ct, Greendale, WI 53129, spoke against having the schools as polling places for future elections for the safety of the children.

Michelle Persike, 6095 Thornapple Dr, Greendale, WI 53129, spoke against having the schools as polling places for future elections for the safety of the children.

Colleen Fechtmeyer, 5921 Currant Ln, Greendale, WI 53129, stated she lives nearby and was concerned about the traffic problems that will occur once the Veteran's Memorial is built.

Ken Skowronski, Representative of the 82nd District, introduced himself and said he was proud to represent such a great community.

Amy Nutter, 8288 Firwood, Greendale, WI 53129, spoke against having the schools as polling places for future elections for the safety of the children.

Cheryl Kelly, 5922 Sugarbush Ct agreed with other parents about taking elections out of the schools.
53:39

NEW BUSINESS

A. BOT 14-19 Discussion about Village of Greendale polling places operating within Schools

Clerk-Treasurer Kasza presented her responsibilities as the administrator of elections for the Village. She gave the Board members a copy of the polling place accessibility survey needed to comply with State and Federal regulations at each polling place. Kasza also reminded the Board that the Village has very few public buildings that can meet these requirements. The Village has spent time and money to make the schools accessible. Kasza also asked the Board to think about the impact on voters during large elections such as Presidential and Governor; not only could there be long lines and parking shortages but also confusion over locations of the polling places.

The staff of the Village recommends the change in the polling location for Ward 7 to the Safety Center and Ward 8 to College Park Elementary School upon notification to the Government Accountability Board (GAB) effective with the August 12, 2014 Primary Election. After the November Election staff can evaluate the possibility of consolidating other polling locations based on space availability.

School Board Member Vicki McCormick was against having any elementary schools for safety reasons but she has no issues with the High School. McCormick said that in-service days on a Tuesday, when elections are held, is an inconvenience to the parents; there has to be another way to make this work. School Board Member Tom Slota stated that he has never heard of a shooting on Election Day but did not want Greendale to be the first. Slota stated that most shootings occur in the High Schools; so all polling places should be moved. Village Trustee Ron Barbian stated that while everyone wants safety of the children to be the first priority, he does not see the problem with in-service days on election days; he stated that in-service days are inconvenient any time, yet they still have them. It is the best option since we don't have any other buildings to use. Village Trustee Carl Genz stated that the logistics of changing polling places is more complicated than people realize. The Hose Tower is an option but it is not ready yet. Right now in-service days is the most reasonable solution until other buildings become available. He said that maybe Spring Break could be scheduled for the first week of April. School Board Member Melanie Kuzmanovic stated that there is inconsistency in the security except on Election Day. Safety needs to trump convenience and all schools should be free from elections. She suggested the Fire Station, the Hose Tower and even St. Al's Church. Village Trustee Jim Birmingham stated that all residents need to have a say in the options that are being considered. He stated that options that work

for everyone should be looked into. Village Manager Todd Michaels said that the difficulty in moving the polling places is finding somewhere to put them. Our Municipal Buildings were built in 1938 for a community of approximately 2000 people. Our government offices are much too small to accommodate the number of voters we have on Election Day, especially in big elections. An inventory of all possible polling places was done and the only feasible ones are the Hose Tower and Fire Station once it has been remodeled. These places will not be finished for a year or two. Doubling up at the Safety Center will create lines out to the parking lot. All these factors will take time and make it difficult to vote in Greendale. School Board President Joseph Crapitto summed the discussion up by saying that everyone is concerned about the children's safety and no one wants to disenfranchise voters. Everyone needs to look at all options and continue to work to reach alternatives.

B. BOT 14-20 Discuss the creation of a Greendale Veterans Memorial.

Erin Green, School District Director of Business Services, stated that the Greendale Veterans Memorial Committee approached the School District about building a Memorial. Five sites were discussed and land owned by the School District on Broad St. and Southway was chosen.

Trustee Birmingham wanted to know how the location was chosen since he had spoken with some residents that were concerned about parking. John Tharp said the Veteran's Group approached the School District and indicated that they had looked at five sites in Greendale and concluded that the ideal location for access and visibility of the Memorial is Broad St. and Southway. School Board Member McCormick asked if a Traffic Engineer has looked at the impact on traffic on that corner, as it is real busy. She reminded the Board that in 2006 the residents voted down a resolution to sell that land to the Community Church. At that time residents wanted to keep that site as green space. Trustee Ouellette wanted to know what other sites were considered. She thought that Gazebo Park would be a better location.

Bill Kewan, 5306 Robin Drive, Civilian Representative on the Greendale Veterans Memorial Committee, stated that the other sites were too small or hidden. One of the criteria for the site is it must be highly visible and accessible. Parking and traffic was also a consideration and Kewan stated that there is parking across the street at the High School. The committee wants to put an all weather kiosk on the corner for information on any Greendale resident that served or is serving in the Military. There will be no parking lot and the Memorial will be professionally landscaped to enhance the green space. Kewan stated that this Memorial will last hundreds of years, keeping that land green space.

School Board Member Slota, who is also on the Memorial Committee, stated that this site will enhance the green space. He stated that the committee did consider the concerns of neighbors about traffic and parking. School Board President Crapitto stated that they will continue to work with the Veteran's Memorial Committee to move forward on the project.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Dave Miller, member of the Greendale Public Celebrations Committee, wanted to announce the kickoff of the Spring fundraising for the 2014 Village Days parade and he told everyone about the Videos of the 75th Anniversary for sale. Village Days is August 8th, 9th, and 10th with the parade at noon on August 10, 2014.

Ted Mainella, President of the Greendale Historical Society, welcomed the opportunity to work with both Boards together.

Noelle Joers-Yanisch, 5595 Oakwood Cir, said she liked seeing both the School Board and the Village Board together working on important issues.

Jason Patzfahl, 5301 Laura Ln, said there is a disconnect between the Village Board and the School Board. He doesn't want to wait to settle this in 5 or 7 years.

Jackie Kraemer, 5729 Clover Ln, stated that most elderly and disabled vote by absentee ballot so she hopes the accessibility issue is not just an excuse.

Kathy Vincent, 6803 W. Grange Ave, said that the children's safety should be first in whatever the Boards decide.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Siefert, CMC, WCMC, Deputy Clerk