

**CITY OF GILLETT  
UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Council Chambers – Municipal Building  
150 N McKenzie Ave – Gillett, WI 54124  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024 AT 5:30 PM  
MINUTES**

**Chair Mohr** called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Alderpersons Nanette Mohr, and Irene Drake, and Public Member Ruth Spang

**Also Present:** Alderpersons Jerry Luther, David Bunker, and Ashley VanStraten, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Anderson, Mayor Jon Blaskowski, Utility Operator Ron Anderson, and Public Works Foreman Nate Anderson. Public Gerald Wendt at 5:45. Sandra Hubbard and Louis Danielson is excused.

**Public Input:** None

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Discussion and Possible Action on cold storage building-

We have 3 estimates. Two of the three will do everything needed. One of the estimates does not do excavation. Public Works Foreman Nathan Anderson stated that he got estimates for each location, one for excavating where the existing cold storage is located and one for east of public works garage. The problem with putting where the existing cold storage building is it is in the lowest spot in that area. They want to make it even with everything else so no water runs into it. Nate Anderson said he got estimates for building size. One building is 50'x72x16 with Spikes Construction Co. cost of \$153,579 and a 40'x 72'x 16 for \$123,976. Cost does not include excavating. Cecil Trucking and Excavating does his work for him; cost of that is \$8,600, next to public works building and \$24,500.00 where the existing cold storage building is. Kauffman Construction only provided an estimate for 50'x 60'x16 building at \$92,900. Fox Structures, Inc.50'x70' building as per spec sheet \$172,462 if 4' frost walls \$197,196. This all depends on the Boy Scout and Girl Scout cabins, they are located next to the garage, where the new location is proposed. Nate Anderson stated he would like it next to the shop where everything else is. Mayor Jon Blaskowski stated we would have to remove the cabins. Nate Anderson said there is not a deed for the scout cabins and they are on City property. According to building code, Nate Anderson stated we have to be 20 feet away from Public Works shop. Nate Anderson said he talked to the building inspector and we would need State approved plans to get a variance from the state. Insurance company told him they do not care how close it is to Public Works shop. To connect the building it would double the cost because a special welding area exhaust fans and different codes. The mayor asked about the snowmobile trail and Utility operator stated it is not a designated trail. Public member Ruth Spang asked how much it would cost to move the cabins? Ron Anderson said they spoke with Preston Zimmerman who is a contractor, and he said minimum cost to move would be \$28,000. Alderperson VanStraten asked about electric & plumbing. Nate said quotes do not include it, that they could do electrical and they don't need plumbing. Ron Anderson said it would be a good idea to run water and sewer, so you would be set for the future. Discussion continued about the cabins -they were moved here years ago as restrooms. In conclusion, the CDA committee and the Gillett Historical Society will be asked if they are interested in the cabins, another meeting will be had to see if the buildings can be moved by the museum. Options of monies from a grant could help with cost, this was brought up by Alderperson Luther. Ron Anderson stated if we wanted it done by the spring we need a time line for variance from the state. Mayor Blaskowski stated that we just had our first budget meeting and we do not know if we have revenue for this. We do not know what our budget is going to handle next year. This is something we approve and we cut another department that is something we have to consider. We cannot move on something without our budget. Alderperson Drake stated that Alderperson Mohr will bring the boy scout/girl scout cabin removal up

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at her next CDA meeting. Alderperson Drake and other members stated that they want to make a decision on cabins by November 4th. Alderperson Mohr stated if historical society does not want them then someone needs to talk to the scouts about what can be done with them. Contact the Amish or put out for bids to have someone remove the cabins, was an option brought up.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on residential garbage and recycling-  
No action. The City of Gillett has a contract with GFL is good until December 2025.
  
3. Discussion and Possible Action on parking restrictions on Armstrong Street- People from Savage Lake apartments are parking on the road. The City cannot provide adequate services or emergency vehicles cannot get down street because of parking. Parking restrictions will be no parking on either side of Armstrong anytime and E. Franklin Street.  
**MOTION: Luther/Drake**  
*Motion to approve Parking restrictions will be no parking on either side of Armstrong anytime and E. Franklin Street.*  
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**
  
4. Discussion and Possible Action on Robinhood Lane Dead End options-  
People are driving around Texas blocks on to the lawn on either side with vehicles. This is at the end of the curb on that street. Alderperson Jerry Luther said someone needs to talk to Laurie Wold the owner of Wildfire, who has the blocks there already. Barricades were discussed or speed bumps. Ron Anderson said at the end of the curb put double guard rail with reflectors. Then it will be blocked with the curb being there. Then a sign stating No Thru street. If there is not a deterrent, they will go around onto the grass- this should eliminate the issue.  
**MOTION: Drake/Vanstraten**  
*Motion to approve decision to put reflective tape on block and move them over to be against the curb. Put 2 posts up one on each side with sign saying not a thru street. Talk to Laurie Wold.*  
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**
  
5. Discussion and Possible Action on bathroom hours-  
Public Works Foreman Nate Anderson said that he purchased two signs saying Public restrooms open April 1<sup>st</sup>-Nov.1<sup>st</sup> 7am -8 pm Weather Permitting. He said in the summer if you leave them open to late they will be destroyed. Ever since he put signs up he has had no problems. Also camera installation helped. People call and ask why they are not open until 9:00? The police department used to lock them. Curfew is at 9:00. We do not have an officer at night.  
**MOTION: Drake/Mohr**  
*Motion to approve bathroom hours April 1<sup>st</sup>-Nov1st 7:00 am to 8:00 pm Weather Permitting*  
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**
  
6. Discussion and Possible Action on transit purchase-  
Public Works Foreman Nate Anderson discussed the purchase of a new transit. Our transit is over 30 years old, and we have to manually level it. It makes jobs like putting concrete outside of City Hall more time consuming. It was a struggle to get things level. They make a lot better ones now. Public Works has money in budget for the purchase.

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**MOTION: Luther/Drake**

*Motion to approve the purchase of a new transit.*

Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Park Grant-  
MSA -Art Bahr talked to the Clerk Chelsea Anderson and he said he did not need anything from us at this time. We did apply for several grants, Art is working on them. Leave Lay.
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Employment applications -  
Alderperson Mohr discussed an application for the Head Utility Operator. Time to set up an interview for October 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 for applicant.
9. Set Next Meeting Date –Public Works Meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:30 pm.
10. Adjournment at 7:23 PM.  
**MOTION: Luther/Drake**  
*Motion to adjourn.*  
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted by  
Deputy Clerk /Treasurer Lisa Anderson