

Summary Notes
Meeting of the Pewaukee Merger Advisory Committee
Wednesday, November 18, 2009
6:00 p.m., Pewaukee City Hall

Roll Call

In attendance at the tenth meeting of the Pewaukee Merger Advisory Committee were, representing the Village of Pewaukee, Village President Jeff Knutson, Trustee Paul Evert, citizen member Tom Houck, and Administrator Scott Gosse. Representing the City of Pewaukee were Mayor Scott Klein, Alderperson Roger Hathaway, citizen member Dave Swan, and Administrator Tammy LaBorde. SEWRPC Advisor Phil Evenson chaired the meeting. Mr. Evenson reported that citizen members Mark Muehl and Dan Sanford had asked to be excused owing to business commitments. Also in attendance at the meeting were William J. Mielke and Christine Cramer from Ruckert & Mielke, Inc., and Lawrie Kobza of the Boardman Law Firm representing the consultant team assisting the Committee.

Summary Notes of Prior Meeting

Mr. Evenson referred to the summary notes of the Advisory Committee's meeting of October 29, 2009. On a motion by Mr. Houck, seconded by Mr. Evert, and carried unanimously with Mr. Knutson abstaining, the summary notes of the meeting of October 29, 2009, were approved.

Consideration Of Draft Consolidation Ordinance

Mr. Evenson asked that Ms.Kobza lead the Committee members through a draft consolidation ordinance that she had prepared following the workshop meeting held on October 29, 2009. A lengthy discussion then ensued relative to the draft ordinance. During that discussion the following key items were determined:

1. On a motion by Mr. Swan, seconded by Mr. Houck, and carried by a vote of four ayes and two nays, with Messrs. Hathaway and Knutson voting nay, the consolidation team was directed to include an accelerated time schedule within the draft ordinance that would call for holding the consolidation referenda on April 6, 2010, and a special election for a new Mayor, Common Council, and Municipal Judge on June 22, 2010.

2. It was unanimously agreed to no longer give any consideration to a name of the new municipality other than Pewaukee, with the new municipality to be a city.
3. It was unanimously agreed that Exhibit A of the draft ordinance, consisting of a proposed delineation of aldermanic districts prepared by the SEWRPC staff, should be included in the revised ordinance draft, with the understanding that Mr. Evenson would have the SEWRPC staff prepare a possible alternate aldermanic district map that would seek, insofar as possible, to achieve within each of the four districts population proportionality based on the 2000 populations of the Village and the City.

Following this discussion Ms. Kobza said that she would make the necessary revisions to the draft consolidation ordinance, including taking into account comments made by the Village of Pewaukee attorney. Ms. LaBorde similarly will seek comments on the draft from the City of Pewaukee attorney. The revised draft would be up for further consideration at the next Committee meeting.

Discussion Relative to a Conceptual Framework for Consolidation Payments

Mr. Evenson asked that Ms. Cramer lead the Committee members through a discussion relative to a possible conceptual framework for the determination of any consolidation payments. He noted that this discussion would eventually lead to material that would be included in Section 8 of the consolidation ordinance.

With the aid of handouts and diagrams on a white board, Ms. Cramer then presented ideas relative to how a consolidation payment or payments might be determined and ultimately quantified. The conceptual framework presented includes, with respect to the general funds, a determination of the net assets that both the City and Village would bring to the consolidation, such assets expressed on the basis of the number of dollars per \$1,000 of equalized valuation. In a similar manner, the net assets that the City and Village would bring insofar as the utility funds are concerned would be determined and expressed on the basis of the number of dollars per utility customer. Without getting into detail with respect to such calculations, Ms. Cramer observed that the Village has fewer net assets when it comes to the general fund than the City, but greater assets in the utility fund. This provides a rationale for transferring funds from the Village's utility reserves to the general fund, which funds would then be placed in an account that would be restricted for use over a period of time to reduce debt held by the consolidated community, and thereby effect overall lower tax rates in the consolidated municipality.

A lengthy discussion ensued following Ms. Cramer's presentation of the conceptual framework proposed to be followed relative to consolidation payments. Mayor Klein made a point that the proposed framework will be very difficult to communicate to the average voter, and that it will take an extraordinary effort by the consultant team to undertake the education necessary to ensure that the voters are properly informed. With that caveat in mind, it was the consensus of the Committee that the consultant team should proceed to use the conceptual framework presented by Ms. Cramer, developing materials for further consideration at the next Committee meeting.

Other Documents Related to Consolidation Planning

Given the lateness of the hour, it was agreed that any discussion attendant to the needed documentation that would constitute what Mr. Sanford had referred to on October 29 as the "playbook" for the new Council members was put off until a future meeting.

Public Education Subcommittee

The consultant team suggested that a subcommittee be appointed to work directly with Evan Zeppos of that team as this matter moves ahead. The subcommittee will provide guidance to Mr. Zeppos and review his public information and education program and materials. Mr. Evenson noted that Mr. Muehl, while unable to be at tonight's meeting, volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. In the discussion that followed, it was also agreed that the subcommittee should include Mayor Klein, Village President Knutson, Mr. Sanford, and the two municipal administrators. Mr. Gosse will take the lead in organizing this subcommittee and working with Mr. Zeppos to arrange necessary meetings.

Public Comment

Public comments were allowed throughout the entire meeting. Several citizens made comments or asked for clarification of materials.

Next Meeting Date

It was agreed that the Advisory Committee would meet next at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2009, at the Pewaukee City Hall Council Chambers. Committee members were also advised to plan on follow-up meetings on Wednesday, December 16, 2009; Wednesday, January 6, 2010; and Wednesday, January 20, 2010. These additional meetings would also be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Pewaukee City Hall Council Chambers.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Evert, and seconded by Mr. Swan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by Philip C. Evenson

PCE/lgh

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