



Executive Summary

Village Board Meeting of April 27, 2026

Approval of a contract for a public art project to be permanently built on Village property

BACKGROUND

The Tourism Commission has approved and entered into negotiations to commission Artist Thomas Dambo to build one of his world-famous recycled wooden Trolls in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

In October of 2025 staff visited Wauwatosa, Wisconsin the site of a new Thomas Dambo troll. Through this meeting it was determined that hotel room tax funds were used to build this tourism destination. As part of these continued discussions staff brought this project to the Tourism Commission with a recommendation to use hotel room tax funds to commission Thomas Dambo to build one of his art pieces in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The commission and staff determined that this project would have a significant impact on tourism not only in Mount Pleasant but Racine County reinforcing Mount Pleasant as a tourism destination. With the assistance of the Communications Department, an application highlighting the Village of Mount Pleasant and its amenities was submitted and ultimately selected by Thomas Dambo and his staff. Two locations in the Village have been identified as key locations to build a Troll. Those locations will be visited later this year with Thomas Dambo and his staff to determine the best location based on recommendations from staff.

Funding for this project will be budgeted through Tourism and the use of hotel tax funds.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is seeking approval for the art instillation to be placed on village property. The final location will be determined at a later date with Artist Thomas Dambo and staff. The locations that have been proposed to Thomas Dambo are the Pike River Pathway and Smolenski Park in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are currently no funds needed from the Village budget to support this project.

PREPARED BY

Jill Firkus, Village Clerk