

Town Board Meeting Minutes
Monday October 16, 2017 7:00 pm
Regular Board Meeting

Roll Call: Dennis Ferstenou, Lawrence Frazer, Randy Woodruff, Ruth Knapp, Laurie Hebert

Dennis yes
Lawrence yes
Randy yes

Motion by Randy to approve September 18, 2017-closed minutes, seconded by Dennis.

Dennis yes
Lawrence yes
Randy yes

Motion by Dennis to approve September 18, 2017-regular minutes, seconded by Lawrence.

Dennis yes
Lawrence yes
Randy yes

Motion by Dennis to approve October 2, 2017-special elector minutes with corrections, seconded by Lawrence.

Clerk's Report: Like to thank Terri Hutson and Joyce Krumenauer who are our election inspectors for helping with the Special Elector meeting October 2, 2017. We did not know the volume of people we would have and believe we did well. The voting was completing in 10 minutes. General Transportation aids that we will receive in 2018 are up \$19K this is good news. The rate per mile paid was increased.

Treasurer's Report:

MM: \$125,356.04
Tax: \$1017.11
MM Town Equip: \$2,503.83
MM Fire Equip.: \$61,227.18
MM Fire Dept.: \$104,273.58

Review/Approve Check Register: Motion by Lawrence to approved check register for \$28,082.79, seconded by Randy.

Dennis yes
Lawrence yes
Randy yes

Communications/Meetings Attended: Dennis, Lawrence, and Randy attended Local Road Improvement Program update at Chippewa County Highway Department on October 3, 2017, will report on later in meeting. Lawrence and Dennis attended the Cornell Fire Department meeting on October 4, 2017-discussion again on 2% dues portion from Eagle Point and on their 2018 budget. WTA unit meeting coming up in Tilden October 24, 2017 Lawrence and Dennis will attend-Laurie will post notice. Lawrence attended the re-certification of Mathy's gravel pit.

Public Comment: Bob Wierman here to speak about Lake Wissota Stewardship program-Dennis said have on agenda, can speak then.

Chairman's Report: Hwy S and Hwy 124 round-about now scheduled to close October 23 through October 27, 2017. Crack-filling has been completed.

Fire Chief's Report: Rocky Berg not present tonight.

Planning Commission Chairman's Report: Rick Bowe out of town, Dale Shipman here no meeting held in October.

Old Business:

A. Update on re-paving preparation work and acquisition of additional right-of-way in Lake County Estates. Dennis said ditching should begin next week then follow with A-1 Excavating doing pulverizing. Culvert work will also be done this year. Paving will be done in 2018. Laura Warrick who has 2,801 square feet of town road on her property has agreed to deed over to the town at no cost. Town will pay for deed work. This way the road will not have to be moved to the west which the town board had decided on in September to re-locate the road.

B. Discuss results of Special Elector meeting October 2, 2017 and possible next steps, discuss/take action on renewal or termination of option on Klinger property. Dennis said vote was 137-no and 116-yes, also option of locations was: 75-on Klinger land and 61-on ballfield. Would like to take time now to obtain more feedback and re-visit. The large number of people who attended was a concern, Dennis contacted the Town's Association, they said you can hold at another facility. Laurie said she also had obtained information from another town that mailed out postcards with a sticker they brought in show they were a registered voter to eliminate the sign in. Laurie also said we could just pass the ballots out and they collect so people did not have to get up. Dennis said residents can petition to bring the item back for another Special Elector meeting. We also can extend our option for the Klinger land Dennis would like to see it extended for 1 year. Motion by Dennis to extend for 1 year, seconded by Lawrence.

Dennis	yes
Lawrence	yes
Randy	yes

C. Open bids and take action for replacement of cold storage building roof. Randy we do not need a vapor barrier on a non-heated building it actually creates more problems with moisture. Dennis agrees with this. Randy can we budget for this for 2018, we have our budget workshop this Saturday and the budget hearing in November. Bids received were: T.F. Exteriors: replace roof/new vapor barrier-\$27,600; no vapor barrier-\$25,300; new steel roof over existing-\$22,500. JG Hause Construction, Inc.-replace roof/new vapor barrier-\$41,250; no vapor barrier-\$34,500. Board would like check with T.F. to see if they will hold prices until after the budget hearing in November.

D. Discuss/take action on Proposal for Voluntary Road Closure for 95th Ave. received from Progressive Rail (PR). Dennis said on September 17, 2017 received petition from PR for closing of 95th Ave. Dennis contacted Heather Graves from PR, it was noted that the town was unwilling to work with PR in 2015. Dennis explained that the last items PR was working on was a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA), it was also being looked into an overpass on County Hwy S. PR dropped the TIA and not more was done. Dennis, Brian Kelly, Chippewa County Highway Commissioner, Rick Bowe, and Fred Anderson met October 2, 2017 Brian sent a letter in support that safety and traffic impacts are a greater issue with the potential of the this closure. Dennis by email on October 4, 2017 received a Proposal of Voluntary Road Closure offering \$7500 plus another \$7500 from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT) to help with the cost of closing the road.

October 12, 2017 board met in closed session with Bruce Stelzner, Stelzner Management Consultants, LLC. and Ben Lane Eagle Point Town Attorney. It was agreed that the impact on other roads; County Hwy S, 105th Ave., 125th Ave. into town is very important. The TIA started in 2015 should be finished and others impacted should be brought on board; City, Chippewa County, WIDOT. Board agreed to hire Bruce to help with pulling these groups together his rate will be \$95.00 an hour. Ben will represent the town and work with Bruce as needed.

Randy said all the financial burden should not just be on Eagle Point. Doug Darrow who lives on 95th Ave. is very concerned on what happens. With increased traffic and trains blocking more and more he has people turning around by his grain bins, in the field and at his home. He cautions the board in working with PR they have not been open on everything they intend to do. County Hwy S and 105th Ave. will not be able to handle the increased traffic if 95th is closed. Also will the trains not block Hwy S and 105th if 95th is closed? This summer more and more trains are blocking these 3 roads and for longer periods of time.

Jeff Bowe asked can PR just bypass all of this and make a decision. Dennis said there is a hearing process, however it is in Madison, which the notice to do this is only 30 days. Doug Darrow said last time they wanted 10 rails, they say now they will only keep 1 rail crossing at the road, but if they closed what stops them from putting more rails in?

Doug said Chippewa County Dispatch was never notified of the proposal for closure, they have found out about all the calls they are getting, also they use 95th Ave. for vehicles. Dennis said a recent fire call in Eagle Point, our trucks could not cross 105th Ave. or 95th Ave. both blocked by trains.

E. Discuss/take action on possible weight limit restrictions on 145th St. in 2018 during bridge decking re-constructions on State Hwy 124. When they do the bridge decking people have a detour on Hwy 53, a very long way around. They are going to use 145th St. it is not going to handle heavy traffic. Dennis said we leave spring road bans on or issue permits. Randy said we need warning signs well before. Motion by Randy when bridge decking constructions is started in 2018 have warning signs on Hwy 124 and set weight limit to 30K on 145th St. from County Hwy Y to 160th Ave., until bridge decking is complete, seconded by Dennis.

Dennis	yes
Lawrence	yes
Randy	yes

New Business:

A. Discuss/take action on request from the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Assoc. (LWIP) for contribution for the Lake Wissota Stewardship Project. Dennis attended their meeting on water quality. Bob Wierman here from LWIP Leinenkugel initiated project for Little Lake Wissota and was set as a five year pilot to evaluate the program. In order to continue and move these efforts to the big Lake LWIP needs to secure \$250K, \$50K per year over a five year period. The deadline for the program to end is December 31, 2017. Town of Lafayette has committed to \$10k a year for five years. Town of Anson has committed to \$2500 a year for five years, and The Rod and Gun has committed \$5000 for the first year. Dennis asked what the money will be used for and how will the accountability be shown. Bob said it will be used to secure resources from the County and to specific jobs. Meetings are held with the county to lay out detail.

Dennis said we are meeting this Saturday to discuss the 2018 Budget and will address this. Our budget hearing is November 20, 2017. Board will also meet November 2017 to approved 2018 budget. Les Harrison said many use and benefit from the lake, whether they live on it or are visiting. Randy asked if they look at number of docks, and piers. Bob said we do not do regulation, we look at shore planting and water entry. Dennis board is meeting this Saturday to work on 2018 budget proposal will look at. The board will approve the 2018 budget on November 20, 2017.

B. Discuss/take action on Local roads Improvement Project (LRIP) funding and proposed LRIP Discretionary Funds application. Board attending meeting with Chippewa County Highway Department on October 3, 2017 to go over LRIP funds available. Dennis said this come up every four years. The town was looking at 95th Ave. but since the activity with PR has re-surfaced we need to look at another road. 125th Ave. being hilly, narrow and not rail crossing is highly traveled and if 95th closes, traffic may increase on this road. Application needs to be completed by November 1, 2017. We be looking at approximately \$300k with \$31k in discretionary funds. Board met on 125th Ave. today to discuss along with John Beckfield from CBS Squared. Approximately \$3000 to submit application. Rand would we do in 2018 or 2019, Dennis said it is recommended to plan for 2019. If not approved we can submit one road substitution to use the \$31k. Also the information we obtain doing the application we use at a later date for 125th. Jeff Bowe said we had discretionary funds used for State St. Motion by Lawrence to hire CBS Squared to do application for funds for 125th Ave., seconded by Dennis.

Dennis	yes
Lawrence	yes
Randy	yes

C. Discuss/take action and review first year of Animal Control handling vs. prior year of contracting with the Chippewa County Humane Association. Laurie read off the costs this year and last year vs. contracting with the CCHA and also how dogs have been taken back to their owners. We also have re-homed two dogs. Several cats that residents called in, have found new homes. Lawrence said he has looked into the statutes and our animal control officer Lee O'Donnell needs to be trained and certified. Adele Wetzel asked how you can state we are saving cost when you don't know if you will have more vet bills. Also she says that is great on the cats but she does not believe these cats were re-homed but destroyed by Lee. Deb and Holly from the CCHA are present tonight. Deb said you need to have a dog selling license, certified vet inspection before re-homing, checked for proper sanitation in the housing area, and also certification and training.

Deb said a resident called the CCHA on a cat who he said tried to contact Lee several times. Laurie said she knows of the person and took several calls from him. He could not catch the cat, and Lee went up there to try and the cat was not around. Just recently Lee captured the cat and re-homed it. Laurie also noted that the CCHA has been told of Lee's number several times yet they continue to tell people that bring in an animal or call that they do not contract with us and have no idea what we are doing, and then they have given Lee's number out to the City of Cornell and City of Bloomer residents to call him. The CCHA was given Lee's number at the end of 2016 and Laurie has also called to give again.

Laurie also noted that the guy with cat had dogs which were not licensed and Lee put them in touch with Ruth and they are now licensed. This is a good thing, Dennis said there are several unlicensed dogs in the town and how to you control this to get them to follow the licensing rule.

Dawn Lueck said she is appalled that we chose this animal control officer and stated he goes to bars and brags how he shot a dog in the head. She is in favor of the town going with the CCHA.

At this time Dennis feels we should look into this more and bring back at the November regular board meeting to decide how we want to procedure for 2018. Laurie will do checking into the state statutes on requirements. Randy also noted that many of the other towns do not pick up cats, it is not required.

D. Discuss/take action on Bartender Licenses. Laurie has two applications for DJ's Mart: Diane M. Majors and Mykol D. Pree. Both back ground checks OK, and monies have been paid. Motion by Dennis to approve bartender licenses for these two, seconded by Lawrence.

Dennis	yes
Lawrence	yes
Randy	yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm on Monday October 16, 2017.