

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 13, 2016
7:00pm

Present: Lowell Hagen, Robert Strand, Norman Prusener, Carrie Hintz

The minutes of the December 9, 2015 town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – There will be a primary election on February 16 for State-wide Supreme Court Justice and County-wide Circuit Court Judge, Branch II.

Treasurer report – Carrie read the account balances. Norm made a motion to accept the Treasurer's and Clerk's reports as presented, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

1st Side Supervisor – None

2nd Side Supervisor – Norm reported that there will be new pay stations at the three DNR boat launches in Whitewater Township. This is required in order to get shared revenues from the DNR for weed harvesting equipment. There will be signs with the pricing at each launch. Tomorrow at the Lake Management meeting they will be discussing how to collect and handle the money.

Chairman – None

Sheriff's Department Incident Report – Tim Otterbacher read report (see attached).

Update on the State of the Whitewater Unified School District – District Administrator Eric Runez and Business Manager Nate Jaeger presented the 2014-2015 WUSD Annual Report and what is going on in the district. 2014-2015 was a banner year for WUSD athletically, academically, and in the arts. Tax levy was down 1.52% and the mill rate decreased 3.3%. Completed energy efficiency improvements in buildings to keep costs down. It's been 15 years since WUSD has done any significant facility improvements. Operating referendum expires in 2019 and then the community will have the opportunity to decide if that should be continued. Statewide declining enrollment, but the last 2 years WUSD has had increases in enrollment, which helps with state aid. Presentation information is available on the school district website.

Hiring of town attorneys Wanasek, Scholze, Ludwig, Ekes & Iselin, SC – Carrie explained that Attorney Dick Kelley closed his business. Attorneys Wanasek, Scholze, Ludwig, Ekes & Iselin, SC have experience with all facets of municipal work. Attorney Brian Wanasek said his is a 5-lawyer firm in Burlington and 4 of them do municipal work, particularly townships. Hourly municipal rate is \$150 and they don't charge for travel time. Norm made a motion to hire these attorneys for the E. Lakeshore Drive project, seconded by Bob Strand. Motion passed unanimously.

William Spring donation of rip rap retaining wall to town at N7535 Ridge Road – Mr. Spring provided a document his attorney drafted to donate the retaining wall. Mr. Spring said there isn't a lot or tax key description listed because Walworth County doesn't have one. Mr. Spring doesn't have a copy of the permit from when it was installed. Norm said that we have ordinances of what can and can't be done on town property. Norm said that any construction has to have state and county approval. Norm said that we don't know if there's a lien on it, how it was constructed, etc. We'd have to find out if it's a legal structure and if there's a permit. He said the reason we have these lake accesses are to leave them natural and give non-lake people lake access. Norm said there's currently a shore station resting on our property, which is against town ordinance. Norm's recommendation would be to have the stone taken out. Also worried about liability on township as well. Bob is concerned that removing it would be an issue with the DNR, but it might depend

whether or not there was an installation permit through the DNR. Lowell agrees with Bob about possible removal issues. Mr. Spring said that the condition of the lake access prior to the retaining wall was worse and the rip rap wall is an improvement. Table until we find out if there was a legal permit taken out to install the wall.

JC-Kow Farms, LLC expansion up to 910 animal units at W7522 Bluff Road – Jerry Kollwalter is looking to expand up to 910 animal units. Currently at 490 animal units. An animal unit isn't a count of each animal. A cow is 1.25 units, a calf is .3 units, etc. Rules are set by the state. Their current manure area will suffice for the expansion. They have everything the county wanted done and just need the town's permission to proceed. The next hearing through the county is open. Norm made a motion to grant the request, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Temporary Liquor License for the Lion's Club and Schutt Bartender application –Norm made a motion to approve the one-day temporary liquor license for the Lion's Club, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously. Norm said that on Schutt's bartender license, he indicated that he had not been charged with any crime, but his background check shows he has an old history. Norm suggested they find another bartender. Bob said that Mr. Schutt is currently an outstanding citizen. Bob said he believes Mr. Schutt is the only person in the Lion's Club who has a bartender's certificate. Lowell made a motion to issue the license, seconded by Bob. Motion passed 2-1. Attorney Wanasak doesn't believe that Bob voting is a conflict of interest even though he is a member of the Lions Club.

Jeff Delmore road condition discussion – Delmore Consulting completed the required 2015 Paser road rating report for the Town of Whitewater. Jeff spent 18 years working for a company who worked on town roads and has been on his own for 3 years. He's reviewed all of our roads, took notes, and completed the Paser rating based upon the surface condition, but also considers the condition of the entire road (base too). Found some inaccurate information in the Paser system, which he can fix with the town's approval and as part of a more extensive service he offers. Can create interactive maps with our road conditions and work history. Can also tell us how to best spend the town road budget. Norm asked if there's any way to determine traffic count. The DOT spreadsheet has the average daily traffic count, but most are estimated (random guess) and may not be accurate. The cost of the more extensive complete report would cost about an additional \$5,500, which includes updating erroneous information in WISLR and putting everything on the map. He also offers a yearly maintenance program, which helps the board decide which roads should be worked on each year, as well as a culvert inventory and traffic sign inventory.

Open snowplow position – John Alvarado has resigned as the snowplow driver of the Chevy Silverado. Bob Strand plowed this week to fill in. Norm made a motion to put an ad in the newspaper to see who is interested, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Other town business – None

Public Input – Daniel Johnson presented himself currently as a Family Court Commissioner for Walworth County and he will be running for the Circuit Court Judge position at the upcoming election. Position is being vacated by a retiring judge.

Board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 8:38pm, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer