

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 14, 2015
7:00pm

Present: Lowell Hagen, Norman Prusener, Carrie Hintz

The minutes of the December 10, 2014 town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Lowell. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – There won't be a primary election in February so the next election is April 7.

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

1st Side Supervisor – None

2nd Side Supervisor – Norm reported that he received a call for Matt with Payne & Dolan regarding our 2015 road work projects. Paving prices should go down due to gas prices going down. Norm will meet with Matt regarding Island Road paving ideas soon.

Chairman – None

Sheriff's Department Incident Report – Tim Otterbacher read report (see attached). When reporting a controlled burn, residents can call either the Whitewater FD or Walworth County Sheriff's Department and they will contact each other.

Cochrane variance request (W8114 R& W Townline Road) – Bob Strand, contractor, presented the Cochrane's request for a 2' variance. Nine years ago Bob Strand repaired / rebuilt the home after flooding for the previous owners. The lot is not a buildable lot so they had to rebuild the same house footprint. The lake side deck is a concern and is 10' wide the whole length of the house. The Cochrane's would like the deck rebuilt at 12', so they're asking for a 2' variance. Zoning has already approved filling in the center deck indentation, but still need approval for the extra 2'. Distance to lake is give or take 26'. The two neighbors' are 32' and 22'. Norm made a motion to approve extending the deck 2' because it's an isolated piece of property and none of the neighbors will be affected, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously.

Zoning changes for Goessling, Kraus, and Ridge – Walworth County is asking for approval to rezone the M-3 areas of the Kraus and Goessling properties from M-3 back to A-1 and the Ridge parcel area from M-3 back to A-3. Mann Brothers was the applicant for the rezones to the M-3 and was responsible for the required rezone back to the agricultural districts, but failed to follow through. Richard Kraus said that he doesn't have an issue with the proposed change. Norm made a motion to approve changing all three parcels as requested back to their original zoning, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously.

Implements of Husbandry vehicle weight resolution / ordinance – Norm reported that we received information from the county stating that a resolution would be fine and then we learned other information from the Wisconsin Town's Association stating that we'd have to pass an ordinance rather than a resolution. Basically if they want to be overweight they have to request a no-fee permit that we can't deny unless there is a good reason. He feels that it's a bunch of bookwork for little results and the weight restrictions don't apply when we post the road in spring so he doesn't think it's worth spending the money to create an ordinance and have someone available to meet with them to go over routes and issue the permit or find a different route. The Board approved a resolution last month for plan E so

Lowell would like to keep option E passed and Norm would prefer that we leave it as a resolution that was passed last month.

Temporary Liquor License for the Lion's Club and Schutt Bartender application – The applications just came in and the results of Schutt's background check aren't available yet. Norm made a motion to approve the temporary liquor license and Schutt's bartender's license as long as his background check isn't any worse than it was 2 years ago when he was last approved, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously.

Implementing launch fees on Whitewater Lake – Norm is still working on an ordinance to charge for launch fees for 3 spots on Whitewater Lake. They would like to exempt Lake Management taxing district property owners from having to pay. Must have an agreement with Lake Management that all money collected has to go to maintain the boat launches. Lake Management will maintain the collection boxes. Lowell commented that it's not uncommon on area lakes. For DNR grant approval it's important that this be implemented. No action taken.

MS bike ride liability August 1-2, 2015 – MS has planned a bike ride going through the township again this August. The past two years we sent a letter that anybody in the state can use our town roads, but please be aware that some of our town roads are narrow and not in the best shape for cars and bicycles. Town did not sign their "permission" letter and took no further action. Lowell made a motion to respond the same as we did last year, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Other town business – None

Public Input – Richard Kraus asked about the town's liability if bike riders are forced off the road by a car and get injured. Is the town liable because of road shoulder issues? Norm doesn't think the town has any liability issues. He suggested taking down the bike path signs because it's not a really good bike path due to narrow road and small shoulder. Suggested using our new shouldering machine to shoulder the whole bike route.

Richard Kraus asked about giving the liquor license that hasn't been used by JNT to the Lion's Club. JNT's hasn't broken ground yet. The liquor license process will take place in a few months.

Board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 7:39pm, seconded by Lowell. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer