Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 12, 2014  
7:00pm

Present: Lowell Hagen, Rodney Wilson, Norman Prusener, Carrie Hintz

The minutes of the Oct. 14, 2014 special town board meeting were reviewed. Rod made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Norm. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – None

Treasurer report – Carrie read the account balances. Norm made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report as written, seconded by Rod. Motion passed unanimously.

2nd Side Supervisor – Norm received a second complaint that the road is deteriorating on the end of Hill Drive. Bob to put riprap on it. Also received a complaint about the dirt on Reliance Road. Bobcat used to clean it. Complaint about encroachment on E. Lakeshore where retaining wall was built.

1st Side Supervisor – Rod reported that he also received a call regarding Reliance Road dirt. Katzman’s said they’d clean it after hauling manure.

Chairman – None

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

Crystal Guy / Whitewater Country Club beverage operator license application – Very clean record. Norm made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Rod. Motion passed unanimously.

2015 ambulance contract with City of Whitewater – The contract went down for 2015 by about $98 due to the Town of Whitewater’s usage being a smaller percentage of the total. Norm made a motion to accept the contract as written, seconded by Rod. Motion passed unanimously.

John’s Disposal rate increase request and agreement extension request – John’s is requesting a $.20/unit monthly increase for 2015, which is a 1.3% cost of living increase. However, 2015 is the last year of our current agreement. They are willing to take no increase for 2015 if the town signs a 4 year extension. Question on cost for each of the extension years. Lowell made a motion to table for next month while Carrie asks John’s for the exact cost per year for the next 5 years, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Dog license costs 2015 - Walworth County sent us a notification that dog license costs will increase in 2015. The new amount was to be decided at today’s meeting. Whitewater Township in 2014 added a $3 per license upcharge to the County’s fee schedule. Lowell made a motion to pass along whatever increase the county provides so that the town adds $3 to each license, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Striping of Willis Ray Road – Lowell has received several requests for striping on Willis Ray Road because it’s a very heavily travelled road. There are several major roads in the township that need striping. The Board would like to check into the cost and timing for a white line on each side and yellow line in the middle. Norm will call Walworth County for pricing and timing. Rod will call other private companies.

Town insurance renewal – Horton Insurance submitted a quote for 2015 coverage. David Tiffany from Rural Mutual Insurance Company also prepared a quote. Question regarding the substantially lower amount for the building blanket limit through Rural Mutual. Mr. Tiffany said it’s based upon a replacement cost value determined by a computer system. Typically a 3-6% automatic annual inflation amount in most policies and it can outpace the value of the building. Mr. Tiffany believes our Horton policy doesn’t include the salt shed.
Norm is concerned with the value being too low and we could have an underinsured issue. There is a rule that we need to keep within an 80% value in order to be paid out ACV. The quote he provided is at a current 100% value based upon his computer valuation. There will be a 3% automatic increase each year on the property value. Mr. Tiffany said that the rate includes the safety patrol boat. Lowell would like Mr. Tiffany to provide an apples-to-apples quote, include the boat, and remove the 1995 International Dump. Table to December meeting.

Taylor Road pavement issues – Rod spoke with Tim Mattingly and he agreed to patch the two spots that are damaged next spring. Agreement letter sent to Tim Mattingly.

Discussion on E. Lakeshore Drive Road Encroachments – The two property owners haven’t proposed a plan or encroachment request yet. Norm moved that we send a letter that time is of the essence and that the water going back on the street could lead to icy conditions this winter. Ask for an immediate response.

Jim Harmon said that the E. Lakeshore ditching hasn’t been done. The man that Rod would like to hire is busy. Rod thinks it should wait until spring because otherwise mud will be flowing down the ditch because grass seed won’t grow. Norm thinks we should shoot the elevation grades from the culvert we’ll need to abandon to the neighbor’s culvert to determine how much needs to be done. Rod will ask Bob to expose the 8” culvert on both ends so that Norm can shoot the elevation grades. Town only allotted $3,000 for this and it could be an issue if there is a gas line. One quote came in at $6500 so the board needs to determine what work really needs to be done. Resident shot the grades and they are 135 feet to the south and 150 feet going north. Resident said he doesn’t think it is urgent as long as the board says it will be done in spring.

Jim Harmon asked about the retaining wall that was put up on E. Lakeshore Drive in the Town’s right-of-way. Town will send a letter siting the law stating that no one can put anything in the town’s right-of-way. Town does have a driveway permit process in place.

Lowell asked if it would help if the entire south side of E. Lakeshore Drive would be ditched next spring. The culverts would also need to be opened. Board feels this might take care of many of the issues on E. Lakeshore Drive.

Other town business – Norm received a call about the storage trailer parked at N7681 E. Lakeshore Drive. Ordinance says you can park on the side of the road, but you can’t store items there. Town will send a letter.

Public Input – Jim Harmon said there is a boat lift that has been on Cruse Lane for about a week and no one can use the boat launch. Lowell to call JNT to see if they know who it belongs to. Resident thinks it’s Mark W. from Lauderdale Lakes who also takes out launches. Rod will call Mark to see if he knows about it.

Julie Abramson asked about charging for boat launches. It’s a complicated process. Norm is looking into it and will be working with Lake Management. Norm should be able to bring a plan to the Town in January.

The Kurlinski Family asked if the speed limit could be reduced on Reliance Road. The Kurlinski’s would like to know the next step in the process. The Sheriff’s Department will check the data from the speed trailer before the next meeting. The board would be very surprised if there are a lot of cars going over 55 mph. Lowell said that it’s a big deal for the town to change the speed to 45 mph and the speed reduction is dictated by the number of driveways.

Board paid bills.

Rod made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm, seconded by Norm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer