Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 14, 2016  
7:00pm

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

The minutes of the November 17, 2016 special town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – Tax bills were mailed out the end of November. Also, we received a letter from the Whitewater Fire Department stating that they’re undergoing changes and have become a private entity. One paragraph of the letter says, “For 2017, the WFD is faced with a number of hurdles. Aging defibrillation units need to be replaced, the cost of staffing has increased and we are faced with an aging EMS fleet that requires more work to maintain. For 2017, we are looking at an increase of 24% to our operating budget in order to address the areas I have mentioned. To manage this increase we have taken last year’s contract and increased the standby fees accordingly. While the final contract will be forthcoming, I wanted to let you know what the final numbers will be before you receive the contract in the mail. 2017 Standby Fee $18,685.” Our 2016 standby fee was $15,068.

Treasurer report - Carrie read the account balances. Norm made a motion to accept the clerk and treasurer reports as stated, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

2nd Side Supervisor – None

1st Side Supervisor – Bob said Hill Drive road repair moved to spring. E. Lakeshore Drive possibly moved to spring. Meeting with excavator to see exactly how to do that project. All other 2016 road work approved has been completed.

Chairman - Lowell had two complaints. Both minor and he handled them.

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

Ehlen farm separation request at N7537 McCabe (DW3600002) – Jeff Ehlen said that there was some miscommunication with the county and he re-filed paperwork. He said originally he didn’t realize the A-1 had to be continuous so he couldn’t sell his son the woods behind. By leaving the 50 feet, the A-1 is now continuous and the farm separation can be approved at the county level. Norm moved to okay the second survey, seconded by Bob. Motioned passed unanimously.

Enbridge MP 324.7169 Project - Town Line Rd Closure in June 2017 – Tony Derrick of Enbridge provided a draft detour plan for the Townline Road closure along with a site sketch. On the sketch, it showed the required assessment area in light blue. The outer red square is presumed asphalt cut area. The excavation will be backfilled using a slurry mix (flowable fill), a high sand concrete, with 8”-12” of gravel below the asphalt. Asphalt layer will match existing, presumed 3”, but will field verify. They will be looking to proceed with the project in June after school has been let out for the summer so as not to disrupt the bus routes. The project and detour could take 10-14 days to complete. Tony said they send smart tools through their pipeline to look for features in the pipeline that need to be investigated. They are looking to investigate a feature that is under the west bound lane of Townline Road. It might be small, but they still need to close the road down and excavate for about 10-14 days. They will put out newspaper ads in local papers to notify residents about a week or two in advance. The board asked if they could go door-to-door and hand out flyers to the few houses that are in the area and Tony agreed to that. Enbridge contacts all necessary parties, like Richmond Township (detour route), Nelson Bus (if needed), Fire Department, 911/EMS, John’s Disposal, etc. The town doesn’t have to take care of any of that. They will contact the DOT for detour requirements. Bob asked if it’s feasible to have an emergency mat in the ditch, but Tony said it depends on the land. For
liability, they prefer not to do that and the detour doesn’t seem that far out of the way. Loaded vehicles will come in on Hwy 89 and might have to build a turn-around. Tony will go look at it ahead of time and will discuss with their construction team. Norm said the detour goes through Richmond Township. Tony will submit a final approved haul route plan. Bob asked that once it’s all finalized, that they communicate with the town. Tony said he’ll also video tape the entire route to monitor road damage caused by their trucks, especially breaking up the ends of the roads. They can’t technically restore asphalt. They will backfill with a flowable slurry mix fill to asphalt grade. They ask that the town hire a contractor and Enbridge will reimburse the town. Norm said the final paperwork should include that the town can repair the asphalt and Enbridge will reimburse for the entire cost. This will be in the contract. Board agreed to a bond amount of $200,000 and Carrie will send Enbridge a letter accordingly. An outside contractor will be doing the work, and not Enbridge staff. They use Intercom or another contractor.

Christmas bonuses – Lowell made a motion to pay Christmas bonuses as follows: Sean Blatten $100, Bob $150, Steve $100, Tim $100, Loren $100, Wayne $50, Brian $50, June Sherman $50, Carrie $150, and Donna $50. Norm seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Other town business – Brian Madl notified us today that he’s resigning as a plow driver, but will help us out until we have a replacement. Bob said that Chad will be here Saturday so Chad can ride along with Brian to learn that position. Bob Harris will be back to do his route, Wayne will then do the E. Lakeshore Drive route, and Loren will take his usual W. Lakeshore Drive route. Chad will drive the 1-ton truck. Chad isn’t always available due to his other job, so having him with the 1-ton gives us flexibility because someone else can drive the 1-ton if Chad isn’t available. We do not need to hire anyone else. Dan Holst said that Steve has been doing a great job on the E. Lakeshore Drive route.

Norm said he’s been noticing a lot of televisions in the ditch again. He said he’ll talk to John’s Disposal about a better way of handling them. John’s currently picks them up from our town hall as a favor to us, but there is a cost to John’s. Bob said that eventually a new factory will be coming to town to recycle these. Claudia Holst suggested that the televisions that are in front of homes be brought back to the homeowners to let them know that they can’t be picked up by John’s. Carrie will email clerks to see how they handle this situation.

Public input – Claudia Holst asked why the E. Lakeshore Drive ditching work hasn’t been completed yet. Lowell said that the excavator is wondering if we should rethink E. Lakeshore Drive and if we want to ditch as big as originally planned because it’s going to cause other issues. Bob said the excavator is suggesting tiling and catch basins in the low points. Norm said there could be big boulders on the side of the hill that cause issues.

Adjourn to Closed Session - Norm made a motion to adjourn into closed session, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously. Called to order. Present: Lowell Hagen, Norman Prusener, Bob Strand, Carrie Hintz, Donna Sherman

Completed discussion and decision on Bob Harris’s return to work, light duty work assignments, and hours.

Adjourn back to open Town Board Meeting.

The board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 8:05pm, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer