Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 19, 2017
6:34pm

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

Approval of agenda – Norm made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the April 3, 2017 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 – None

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

2nd Side Supervisor – Norm said Lake Management would like us to vote against the sale of DNR land (formerly Krahn property) to Camp Joy. The biggest concern is lack of transparency. The Stegemann’s have a concern that it’s land that the DNR has plans to incorporate into the Southern Kettle Moraine. DNR Act 20 says no project boundary land would be sold and the Krahn property is being sold by the DNR. The land is an environmental corridor for wildlife to travel. Norm said when they hold a hearing it’s not question and answer and he’d like to know what the DNR’s thinking. Lowell was surprised because it was for sale so quickly after the DNR bought it. Lowell received calls of concern as well. Wondering if a DNR person can come to the May town meeting to answer questions. Carrie will talk to Anne Korman with the DNR to see who could attend to answer questions.

1st Side Supervisor – Bob said E. Lakeshore Drive work will be done when there are 3 dry days. We inquired as to when Hill Drive work will be done, but haven’t heard back yet.

Chairman – None

Sheriff’s Department Incident Report – Tim Otterbacher read report (see attached). This is Tim’s last meeting and he thinks Deputy Ira Martin will take over. Board congratulates Tim on his retirement. Brody Fielder is taking over the speed trailer if we would like to get on the list.

Millis Certified Survey Map (DW1500003) – Steven Millis is doing a farmland separation for his mom’s farm and he’s going to purchase the 5 acres. There is a 50’ easement for his driveway. Norm said it looks in order and he recommends giving it a stamp of approval, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Sesso variance request at N7515 E. Lakeshore Drive (DM 00030A) – Mr. Sesso said his in-laws purchased the property in 1975 and now his wife owns the property. They’d like to put a deck up on the water side. The house is about 47’ from the water. They currently have a gravel picnic area on the edge of a hill. He worked with Darrin Schwanke and said he’d remove all the gravel in the picnic area and the driveway area. Putting up the deck would bring him closer to the house. He’s at 29% impervious surface now and it would decrease to 27% with these changes. He can’t improve on the south side because of the septic and property line. The well and the property line prohibit improvement to the north. East side is trees and shrubbery and he doesn’t want to take it out. You can already see the erosion and he eventually wants to put some grasses to hold the shoreline while working with the county
and DNR. Norm said it’s currently not usable space because of the hill. There’s not even space for a lawn chair. He said the front is concave compared to neighbors and deck wouldn’t block anyone else’s view. Mr. Sesso said he’d never screen the deck in the future. Norm recommended that we give it our blessing, seconded by Bob Strand. Motion passed unanimously.

Galligan variance request at N7551 Ridge Road (DMH 00071) – Jason Bernard with Lake Geneva Architects represented the Galligan’s. The BOA approved the variance about a year ago, but they hadn’t done substantial work within 12 months. They’ve revised the plans due to finances and are resubmitting. They’re requesting the variance that breaks the envelope of the existing airspace. They’ve reduced the pitch and taken about 5’ of the height out and squared out the octagonal end. They’ve added posts to support a balcony on the street side. The balcony is not in the envelope but it is within the accessory projection that they’re allowed. Bob said it’s in basically the same space as the last plan. Bob made a motion to accept, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to initiate the process for discontinuance of Christon Court – George Christon doesn’t want to put in the road because properties aren’t selling. He’d like to make one piece out of the 4 lots, which was approved at the February Town Board meeting. Town needs to abandon the road because it’s a platted road. George said that he will bear the brunt of the costs that are incurred by the town. Norm made a motion to adopt resolution 2017-01 vacating the road, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously. Will post a public hearing for the June town board meeting. Carrie will work with the town attorney to get all paperwork in order.

Replacing faded fire number signs – Bob Harris took a count and found 33 faded signs at a quantity price of $23.27 each plus UPS charges. Norm made a motion to get them done, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Plow driver bonuses for mailbox safety – Lowell said that our plow drivers didn’t hit any mailboxes this plow season, which can cost us up to $75 each to repair / replace. Lowell made a motion to give each of the three drivers $25 as a bonus because they did a great job as a small thank you, Norm seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Determine road work to be put out for bid – The board completed the road tour on March 23 and made a list of items that need work. Bob Strand met with Matt from Payne & Dolan and went through the road tour list and wrote up a draft bid. All roads are marked in paint. Carrie said that she confirmed with the town accountant that we can use our extra funds from previous years for additional work above what we budgeted. Sine we need to keep 3 months’ worth of funds on hand, Carrie will compute what extra amount we can safely spend on roads this year. Would like to discuss selling Hi-Lo Road to the DNR or swapping with State Park Road. Can discuss in May if the DNR attends our town meeting. Bob Harris went for a ride with CrackFilling Service and they’re thinking $25,000 should cover it, but will put out for bid. Bob will work with Carrie to put out sealed bid info with deadline in May and then we will schedule a special meeting to open sealed bids and determine work to complete.

Public Input – Claudia Holst asked why the electric company put orange dots on a lot of trees but didn’t clear it all out. Bob Harris said that there could be another crew coming. Claudia asked when the sand will be swept and Bob said he’ll work on it. Claudia asked about E. Lakeshore drive and Lowell said it’s all lined up but we need a few dry days. Bob said they’ll dig down 3-ish feet, put rock and turn it into a French drain. Bob Strand asked the Stegemann’s if they know anything about the DNR moving
the campground office down near the Krahn property. They said it’s in the master plan as a welcome center.

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

Conducted interviews of two individuals (Nathaniel Hauser and Amanda Adsit) for the open part-time general laborer position.

Completed discussion and decision on open general laborer position.

Adjourn back to open Town Board Meeting.

Other town business – Carrie received an email about parcel DW600009 that the Kienbaum Family Trust owns and would like to annex into the city. The Wisconsin Town’s Association said that as long as the property owner is the only person subject to the annexation, then there isn’t much the town can do unless they want to file a lawsuit for lack of contiguity. The city will have to pay the town 5 years of property taxes on the parcel, which are currently only $8.05. The board is okay with the annexation.

Board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 8:09pm, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer