

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 8, 2017  
6:36pm

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

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

The minutes of the October 11, 2017 town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – Carrie noted that there will be an increase in the garbage and recycling special assessment for 2018. It will go from \$178.20 per household this year to \$180.60 per household, which is a cost of living increase. Tax bills should be mailed the end of November or early December.

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Side Supervisor – Norm reported a complaint on Hillside Drive about an oil spill. Looks like someone drained their motor boat oil on the road plus a little hydraulic fluid from our truck. Resident was upset and talked to the fire chief and John's Disposal. It should be gone by spring, but Norm said Bob could throw out a little sand or cat litter. Bob Strand said it's pretty much dissipated and he took a bag of floor dry out there but there wasn't even a sheen and it wasn't slippery.

Norm said we had about 25 old style buoys that the tops were knocked off and we ordered new tops so we should be set for next year. Norm decided to use 6 screws instead of 3 on these old model buoys.

1<sup>st</sup> Side Supervisor – None

Chairman – None

Sheriff's Department Incident Report – Ira Martin read report (see attached). Discussed that the sexual registry offender program did their checks during Halloween trick or treating for those under supervision. There was only one not in compliance. Death investigation on Hwy P where a son commit suicide in front of the mother and the ex-husband who lives in the basement, came up and then he took his own life as well. Isolated incident at this residence. Four motor vehicle accidents in October. House checks will increase soon due to people leaving for the winter. Ira isn't sure if home owners realize that their house is checked every day every shift each day they're gone, which equals checks three times per day where the officer gets out of the car, walks around the house and checks every door. Homeowners can request less frequent checks when they call in to the county to get put on the list. Carrie suggested having dispatch ask these callers how often they want their house checked and Ira will bring that idea to the county.

Permit requirements for gas and electric services – Lowell said that Brian Madl initiated this new permitting process in spring, but never came for a permit because he isn't doing any new projects in our township. This topic came up again from WE Energies last week when they were asking about a service on Kettle Moraine Drive. Lowell said the electric and gas company should buy a utility permit yearly. Norm said that in May we discussed if power or gas is running across their property in the street, then they can hook up to it for free because the utility is already there. Norm said the hookup on Kettle Moraine Drive to the existing utility shouldn't be charged because it's to an existing hookup.

Norm said there's another WE Energies request where they're installing a transformer and doing something in the roadway on Townline Road and they'll dig in the parkway. Bob said Townline Road is Richmond's responsibility, but Norm said it's only for plowing and maintaining. Norm said when a utility is going to

extend their mains, they submit a plan and we ask for a bond, which gives us the money to repair if they walk away. If they're going to put a line and dig up the parkway parallel to the road, they have to repair the ditch for these utility extensions. Lowell said they should apply for one each year and if it's above a certain dollar value, they need a separate permit. Norm said there's a situation near Lowell's place that they never repaired the ditch and that will now cost the town money. On Breidsan they put in an extension and we fought them to restore it and they didn't. Norm said we should charge \$8 per foot, but Lowell and Jim Harmon said our cost is probably much higher, like \$25 per foot. Norm said there's a \$1,000 permit fee for each job because there are utilities in the road that aren't taken care of. We get stuck with the fire call charges so this balances it out. Norm talked to an insurance person about different bonds and she said insurance companies don't classify an act of God as a reason to pay or not to pay. Insurance company said WE Energies shouldn't be able to get out of paying by saying it's an act of God. If someone wants to do an underground line that doesn't have one there already, there's a \$1000 flat permit fee plus a bond depending upon the size of the project. Specifications are in the permit. Norm said this is to try to recoup our costs for having these utilities in the road. Bob agrees. Norm said never had an issue with the gas company. House hookups, whether underground or overhead, is usually taken care of in the ditch. The permit for the transformer where they're extending a main line would qualify near Lakeview School. Norm will meet with Bob regarding the transformer to see the plans and figure out what the bond should be before he signs the permit. Utilities need to fill out our application. Bob will have to check that the restoration is complete and sign off. Norm said fire calls are going up to \$1,000 each in 2018. Most insurance companies will cover that amount for a few dollars in premiums per year.

Resident request for no littering signs on Hi-Lo Road – A town resident walks on Hi-Lo Road and said there is a ton of litter and is requesting that no littering signs be posted along the road, or at least on each end of the road. Bob said that would set a precedent for every road and Hi-Lo Road isn't worse than the rest of the roads. Norm said it's isolated so people dump there and people would just steal the signs. Norm said people know it's illegal to litter and Lowell agrees. Lowell made a motion to not put up no littering signs on Hi-Lo Road, Norm seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2018 Town insurance renewal proposal – This is the same coverage as previous years, but the rates went up about \$500 to \$10,536, which is what we expected and budgeted for. Carrie said we also have worker's comp at \$4400 and then there's an annual audit. Norm made a motion to approve the 2018 insurance quote, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Implements of Husbandry vehicle weight annual resolution – Carrie said that the last few years the board signed an IoH resolution that coincided with the Walworth County weight limits. We have to approve a new resolution annually. Lowell said this is for any farmer that is consistently hauling 92,000 gross, 23,000 per axel, and we've had three applications. Lowell made a motion to okay the 2018 version of the IoH resolution same as last year, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Other town business – None

Public input – Jim Harmon said that Brian Heller's lawn people are still blowing leaves across the road into the ditch on E. Lakeshore or blowing them into the lake. Carrie will send a letter. Bob mentioned that this should be addressed in our town ordinance review. Claudia Holst said there may be a state or county ordinance that covers it.

Board paid bills.

Bob made a motion to adjourn at 7:47pm, seconded by Norm. The motion passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer*