

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 17, 2018

8:00am

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

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

The minutes of the May 9, 2018 town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

2018 road bids – Four sealed bids were received from Frank Bros, Wolf Paving, Rock Road Companies, and Payne & Dolan. Board opened and read each bid. Bob made a motion to table award decision, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Jaeckel Bros. to do Reliance Road culvert at a price not to exceed \$2,500.00 – Norm made a motion to accept the bid, Bob seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Jaeckel Bros. to do Esterly Road culvert at a price not to exceed \$4,000.00 – Lowell said this culvert should help eliminate the lake he saw there the other day. Bob asked if we should check with the DNR since the water will drain there, but Norm said where the water goes isn't our responsibility because we're just replacing a drain tile. Bob said there's an AT&T line there that should be abandoned. Bob made a motion to accept the bid, Norm seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Jaeckel Bros. to do Howard Road ditching north of Bluff at a price not to exceed \$500.00 – Bob said this is the ditch that's on the corner on the west side. Norm said it's washing out real bad. Bob said there's a gas main on the inside corner so Bob suggested not doing this project. Bob said it had to be a minimum of 3'. Norm made a motion to table, Bob seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Crack filling work – Lowell made a motion to table crack filling work until we know what we're spending on other projects, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Encroachment agreement for retaining wall request at N7843 E. Lakeshore Drive (DGS00015) – Norm said they cleaned up the agreement but it says approximately nothing. Should have a survey attached and an amount of distance written in the agreement. Luke Peyton said about 19.8' – 20' will be in the town right-of-way. Norm made a motion to accept with the stipulation that the actual amount of the encroachment is on the agreement, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Road use for Triebold pit off of Engel Road – Lowell spoke with Mr. Kowalski and told him he would be entirely responsible for the road from the pit entrance to Townline and Townline to Hwy 89 and that would be the only route they'd use. Mr. Kowalski said it could be a deal breaker. Norm spoke with Faye at the County. Triebold gives Faye an update each year. For the past 4-5 years, Triebold is out of compliance because they don't have money for the restoration, which includes rebuilding the east side where the road has been settling in. County wants to see it used as a pit. Norm said all of our resources are going down south and most of the pits are going to be used up there and our resources are moving to southern Wisconsin. Road concerns are our agreement to work out with the pit owner. Different municipalities have different agreements, some with tipping fees, some with repairs. Carrie received sample agreements from Walworth County municipalities who have pits. Mr. Kowalski told Lowell the total acreage is 53 and 19 acres have been used. The rest isn't all usable because they have to reclaim it when it's done at a certain grade or slope so there are only 12-14 acres to use yet. Norm said there was a pond illegally put in without permits. Lowell spoke to Mr. Kowalski about resident concerns about an asphalt plant and he said there will never be an asphalt plant. He said in 8-9 years it'll be used up and reclaimed. Faye told Norm there's a sunset clause where they don't have to put up a bond for the reclamation and use net worth instead. Net worth doesn't

mean anything if they go bankrupt so they increase the annual permit fee instead. Bob said the approach from Engel Road to the gate should get 4-6". Lowell said we'll need a signed contract with Mr. Kowalski before he'd start up the pit. Bob Harris said that road has a nice base and should hold up quite well. Norm made a motion to table, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Town hall telephone and fax line options – The Town currently has a regular phone line and a fax line and our monthly bill averages just under \$110. Our AT&T contract is ending in early June and there will be an increase to \$145 plus mandatory fees/taxes. Carrie looked into Ooma and Vonage, which are both VoIP (voice over internet protocol which uses the internet) and less expensive. The estimated monthly cost for 2 lines through Vonage is \$95 while Ooma is only \$40. The initial Ooma equipment purchase had a \$99 promo (normally \$250) and the sales rep said she'd try to hold that promo into May for me in case the board chose Ooma. We would be able to port over our current phone numbers from AT&T to the new service. Carrie also checked with Brian Madl of Edge Broadband, the town's internet provider, and he said they're working on offering their own VoIP service that will be about \$25 per month per line (about \$50 per month total) without any equipment fees or rental fees. Lowell said he has had Ooma at home for 2 years and he was only down one day. Lowell made a motion to save some money and switch from AT&T to Ooma, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

Branch chipping policy questions – Bob Harris asked if everyone can get on the same page with the rules. Some people do it perfect every month and other people abuse it. Some are clear cutting and have piles 60' of brush 5' high. The service is for yard pick up and storm clean up. Lowell said to leave a notice when people have too much telling them why we didn't take it all. Bob Harris said LaGrange quit their chipping service. Norm said LaGrange has an award winning composting area. Lowell said if the pile size is within reason, just take it. And if they see a pile that's not called in, just take it. Lowell said as long they leave a note with a reason, then it's ok not to take all of it. Bob Strand asked about whether we should chip for non-taxable entities like the church, Camp Joy, and the Lions Club. Norm said the chipping benefits the township in general by getting rid of debris. Bob Harris said he's been asked by a couple residents why we're chipping those tax exempt properties. Lowell said there's no collection area in the town where people can take it like the city does so he thinks we should take it from everyone. Norm said we should chip what's out there and keep the area clean. Norm said to do it for everybody and the board agrees. Lowell made a formal motion to chip for everybody, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously. Bob has to find people to take the chips and Bob Strand said Chuck Nass with the city said they won't take it from us. Bob has a few places he can dump chips. Bob Strand will ask Steve Malone if we can dump it there.

Other Town Business – Reviewed and signed the 2018 Whitewater & Rice Lake Safety Patrol Law Enforcement Agreement.

Public Input – None

Adjourn to Closed Session - Norm made a motion to move into closed session, seconded by Bob Strand. Motion passed unanimously.

Roadman contract discussed.

Adjourn back to open session.

Pay Bills.

Lowell made a motion to adjourn at 9:28am, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer