

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
6:33pm

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

Norn made a motion to move approve the agenda, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the April 9, 2019 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 – The town received \$12,992.20 for the 2018 Safety Patrol Grant.

Treasurer report – Carrie read the account balances. Norm asked about interest on our accounts. Lowell said Edward Jones has an investment account for cash only. It's loaned out to other people and it's not guaranteed by FDIC and we could get 4-4.5% return, but we have a risk. Norm said he doesn't know if we can legally do that with the risk. Norm asked Carrie to check with the Town's Association if there's a State program that we could invest the money from our three long-term accounts. Norm made a motion to accept the Treasurer report as presented, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

2nd Side Supervisor – Norm said they dug out Cruse Lane and made it wider. Lake Management Board is happy. Need to get signs up. There may be some work on the cracked dam on Whitewater Lake where we take our lake height measurements. DNR is paying for this work.

1st Side Supervisor – None

Chairman – None

Sheriff's Department Incident Report – Ira Martin read report (see attached). There was a fatal car versus dirt bike crash on Reliance Road in March with 2 juveniles. Traffic stops doubled in March. The third shifters have been instructed to sit on the bypass and the county roads in our township. Norm asked about putting the speed trailer on the bypass. Carrie mentioned that yesterday a resident on Kettle Moraine near Rice Lake asked if the speed trailer could be put out in that area again this year. He thinks it slows down the drivers, especially this time of year when the bikers and walkers start using the road frequently. Ira said they have five substations, including Whitewater, Darien, Troy Township, Lyons, and Town of Walworth. Sheriff's Department is currently down 5 or 6 officers. Resident Claudia Holst asked about the official bike races where there are multiple bikes wide on busy roads like Highway P because it's not safe when there are hilly and windy roads. Ira said there isn't a rule about going single file during the bike race and there was a permit to run the bike race last weekend. The Sheriff's Department does traffic control at intersections only. Ira said maybe there can be an announcement prior to the race beginning and Carrie will mention that to the race coordinator to note for next year.

Determine road work to put out for bid – Bob Strand recommended four repaving items from our road tour to put out for bid: Clover Valley Road, Engel Road, Townline Road west of Hwy 89, and Walworth Avenue. Bob said he'd also like to measure and get bids for chip and seal on Anderson, Kettle Moraine Drive, Lorwood, and McCabe Roads. Norm said he'd like to put ditching out for bid on Howard, Anderson, and Millis Roads. Carrie contacted Walworth County about Millis Road guardrail posts and Century Fence about road striping but she hasn't heard back. Tim Ryan mentioned to Carrie that the guardrail at Kettle Moraine and Clover Valley intersection is wobbly. Norm said to ask the County about adding more posts to that guardrail.

Brush cutter rental – Carrie said Weyer’s Equipment has rentals available. The cost is still \$2400 per week for 40 hours plus about \$180 for blades and \$500 total for delivery and pickup. We’d also have to pay for insurance on the equipment. Bob Harris told Carrie he’d like to rent it for 2 full weeks in fall. Bob Strand would like Tim Ryan around to do the other roadman work so Bob Harris can devote 40 per week to brush cutting. Bob Strand made a motion to rent the cutter for 2 weeks straight, seconded by Lowell. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposed building permit inspection fees and commercial inspections – Troy Evenson from MZIS said this came up because there was a town commercial project and the builder was looking for a permit, but the town doesn’t permit commercial projects per our town ordinance. The town board was under the assumption that the state approves commercial plans and does full inspections, but the state doesn’t do regular inspections. Troy said people pay a few hundred dollars for the state to review the commercial plans to make sure they’re compliant to today’s IBC code. The state inspector would then be notified of a state approved building. The state doesn’t go to the job sights very often due to an overloaded schedule. The state inspector meets with MZIS about quarterly and asks them about the commercial buildings. Troy said MZIS would do 12-20 inspections on most commercial projects. Troy said MZIS does commercial permitting for about 75% of their municipalities. Troy said the town can determine by ordinance which commercial buildings need permitting. It can be all commercial buildings or just those over a certain dollar value. Norm asked about just doing all buildings in our township. Troy said there’s no code for agricultural yet so they don’t inspect ag buildings. Norm asked about wedding barns. Troy said there are two in our county and MZIS said it’s falling on local municipalities if the state doesn’t do it. Norm asked about farm stands that sell produce with refrigerators and long extension cords coming from their house. Troy said the state has been approached about these wedding barns and other things for the protection of people. Norm said it seems senseless to pass ordinances for each change. Troy said our town ordinance would add in local inspections of commercial buildings versus just relying on the state. Troy said they’d need an approved plan through the state plus the town permitting. Norm said that the state and county both approve septic permits. Bob Strand said he’d wonder about the liability if we don’t permit commercial. Troy said we currently don’t have to do it, but it could eventually be required. Norm said we should see if we can have an ordinance that covers future permit requirements of the state. Troy said that if the public is going to be involved or come to the business (meaning not just employees), the state has the authority to permit the ag businesses. Lowell said since we’re recodifying, now is the time to make the change. Lowell made a motion that our zoning and inspection services cover commercial buildings for the Township of Whitewater, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Other town business – Sean from the Safety Patrol asked Carrie if he and his crew should put the lake buoys in as in past years at a cost of \$600 plus he’ll arrange the JNT barge rental. Norm made a motion, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously. We ordered 4 “Public Access Portage Only” signs that need to be installed. Norm said they will go on Bay View, Deerwood, Shereda / E. Lakeshore public access, and one spare.

Public input - None

Board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 7:42pm, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer