



Town of Washington

Vilas County, Wisconsin

Minutes

November Board Meeting: Monday, November 9, 2020

Board Members Present: Jim Egan– Chairman, Keith Numrich –Supervisor, Carole Linn– Supervisor, Katie Hayes~ Treasurer, Michele Sanborn– Clerk, Sherry Schmidt~ Deputy Clerk. There were also (11) other people in attendance.

1. **Call to order 5:15pm:** Meeting called to order at 5:15pm
2. **Verification of Postings:** Clerk verified that the agendas were posted at MJ's Wayside, the Town Hall and on the Town's website. Agenda was not posted at Wild Eagle Corner Store due to the store being closed because of COVID. Local news media were notified more than 24 hours in advance.
3. **Approval of the agenda to be discussed in any order at the discretion of the Chairman:** Motion Linn, seconded Numrich, all voting aye, approved.
4. **Approval of previous meeting minutes: October 5, 2020:** Motion Linn to approve meeting minutes from October 5th, seconded Numrich, all voting aye, approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer presented October report.
6. **Town Foreman Report:** Paul reported that the additional road work done by Pitlik is almost completed they are just finishing the shouldering. All new signs have been ordered for the overlay road projects, winter sand has been hauled and mixed with salt, trucks have been sealed for rust proofing and equipment has been prepped for winter. Paul also stated the brush dump is now closed for the season.
7. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Animal Control:** No report given
 - b. **Eagle River Airport:** Hanger door is up and working well.
 - c. **Fire Department:** Waiting for a call back from the gas company to get the heat installed. The equipment truck has been sold.
 - d. **Library:** No report given. Jim Egan mentioned that our Town representative, Joan Gelling is moving out of the Town of Washington and into the City of Eagle River. Joan is still interested in representing the Town of Washington. Egan stated she has done a great job. Board agreed to keep Joan as the Town of Washington library representative.
8. **Approval of Liquor License for Pirates Hideaway LLC for the time period of 12/1/2020 to 6/30/2021:** Clerk stated application has been completed and fees have been paid. Motion Egan to approve Class B liquor license for Pirates Hideaway, seconded Linn, all voting aye, motion approved.
9. **Building Inspection Updates: Richard Clem:** Richard Clem gave an update on new dwelling and addition permits in the Town of Washington from 2018/2019/2020. Richard talked about building code requirements and inspections problems. Due to COVID they are asking that no one is on site during inspections. Prices for inspections will remain the same for 2021.
10. **Eagle Waste ~Jim Whittinghill:** Recycling values are at historic lows. Beginning 1/1/21 there will be a \$20/ton charge on recycling hauling. There is no charge currently on hauling. #3-#7 plastics are no longer able to be recycled. They must be sorted and taken to the landfill. Jim plans to stop at the transfer station to discuss the changes with the attendant. Discussion was held on having recycling pick-ups every 2-3 weeks as a cost savings measure.

- 11. Military Road Update:** Military road project cost has increased considerably. Egan has been working with the engineers at MSA to locate additional funding for the project. Town will be responsible for 20% of total costs, which is close to \$300,000.
- 12. 2020 Additional Road Work Update:** Asphalt overlay is completed. Shouldering work is being worked on this week. Numrich stated he is satisfied with the overlay jobs. Saved the town over \$300,000 by taking advantage of low oil prices and financing the project.
- 13. November Election Update:** Clerk stated the election went very well. Poll workers did an amazing job. 1189 votes were cast and there were 74 in person voter registrations. Day ran smoothly with very few issues.
- 14. Correspondence from Sonic Net:** Sonic Net is applying for a grant in 2021 to help fund new towers to cover Catfish, Tambling, Cranberry and Lower Nine Mile lake areas and possibly a fiber run on Everett Rd. They are approaching the town for help with communication to landowners and PR assistance. They also asked for the possibility of heavy equipment/labor donation and funding from 2022 budget for \$20,000 to \$32,000. Egan stated the town would be willing to help with PR assistance and communication with residents. Any funding would have to be discussed in the 2022 budget workshop.
- 15. Forest Management Update:** Linn would like the board to consider developing a forest management plan (Stewardship Plan). A Stewardship Plan would provide an inventory of forest resources and forest management activities to meet land management objectives. The plan can help the town sustain forest resources for future generations. Jill Nemeck, WI DNR, would assist the town in plan development. Carole stated there would be no cost to develop the plan. Egan asked Linn to reach out to Jill and see if she can come to the December meeting.
- 16. Transfer Station Winter Hours:** Currently there is only one attendant working the transfer station, James Tomlanovich. Both sides will remain open as we now have automatic compacting and the attendant mostly has to direct people. If the flow becomes an issue, they will close the outside.
- 17. 2021 Budget Workshop:** Discussion was held.
- 18. Topics for Town E-News:** Recycling changes, deer carcass
- 19. It is anticipated that a motion will be made and seconded to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85 (1) (c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.** Motion Egan, seconded Numrich, all voting aye, approved.
- a. Consideration of compensation for Town Employees:**
- 20. Adjourn closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85 (1) (e) and return to open session:** Motion Egan, seconded Linn, all voting aye approved.
- 21. Board may consider ratifying any action taken in closed session:** Motion Egan to increase wages for Paul, Terry, Kevin and Davey by \$1.00 per hour each effective 1/1/21, seconded Linn, all voting aye, approved.
- 22. Approval of bills:** Motion Linn, seconded Numrich, all voting aye, approved.
- 23. Adjournment:** Motion Egan, seconded Linn, all voting aye, approved. Meeting adjourned 7:23 pm

Michele Sanborn – Clerk
 Approved: _____