

Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes for October 18, 2016

A special meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Craig Gondeck. The purpose of the meeting was to accept the resignation of Supervisor Ed Kacures Jr. and to appoint a replacement to fulfill his unexpired term, which ends in March 2017. Other board members present were Treasurer Eileen Saldana, Supervisor Lloyd Erdman, and Clerk Pat Spence. Audience members were: Jason and Ashley Krueger, Sandra Saldana, Anna Saldana, Todd Waytashek, Bob Raveling, Kevin Reiter, Jerry Lage, Jim Hovda, Ed Kacures Jr., Ray Thompson, Dale Rogholt, and Chris Scheel.

Following the Pledge to the Flag, Vice-Chair Chairman Gondeck named several accomplishments of Ed Kacures Jr. while he was on the town board: production of an excellent, professional newsletter, a new ditch mowing schedule, leadership for the board getting the Grassroots Government Award in 2015, running an effective meeting, and getting the board to work together. A motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to accept Supervisor Kacures' resignation.

Clerk Spence reviewed State Statute 367.03, Subd. 6. Vacancies, which calls for a vacancy to be filled by appointment of the remaining supervisors and the town clerk. The appointee serves through the end of the term of the resigning official.

Vice-Chair Gondeck then called for a motion to appoint a person to the open supervisor position. Supervisor Erdmann appointed Todd Waytashek, and it was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck. Both supervisors spoke of Todd's attendance at many board meetings, his thoughtful questions, and expertise he would bring to the board. Clerk Spence noted that Sandra Saldana had also offered to serve the remainder of Supervisor Kacures' term, but she would not run in the March 2017 election. She said that she would support Supervisor Erdmann and Gondeck's motion; motion passed.

Todd Waytashek came forward to take the Oath of Office, which was administered by Clerk Spence. Then, a motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck to nominate Supervisor Gondeck as Board Chair; motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann to nominate Supervisor Erdmann as Vice-Chair; motion passed.

Chair Gondeck then invited those present to give input. Ray Thompson asked about progress on plans for Saldana Road; Supervisor Erdmann stated that two gas lines have been marked, and the engineer is recommending that the road be moved slightly to the south through one section. He will talk to Jon Bogart about the impact on residents. Ray then asked why farmers can drag dirt onto the roads and contractors cannot. There also has been recent damage to the tar coming off a field where the heavy equipment drove. The board explained that farmers are exempt from many rules due to state and federal laws. Sandra Saldana reminded the board that farmers are not to be planting crops in the road right of way. Kevin Reiter asked Chair Gondeck to repeat the information he shared about Ed Kacures Jr. at the beginning of the meeting, since Ed wasn't present at the time. Chair Gondeck did so.

Ed Kacures Jr. came forward, was thanked by the board and audience for his service, and he transferred files, mail, and his key. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m.; second was made by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence