

Town Board Meeting Minutes November 14, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order on Tuesday, November 17, 2006 at the Watab Town Hall by Chair Craig Gondeck at 7pm. Board members present were the Chair, Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, Treasurer Eileen Saldana and Clerk Pat Spence. Citizens in the audience were Walter Jansen, Earl Harden, Del & Donna Rothstein, Ron Hommerding, Howard Cariveau, Julie Johnson, and Ed Kacures. Chair Gondeck extended sympathy to the family of Marie Wollak who died recently and congratulations to Eileen Saldana for her recognition as a Foster Grandparent.

Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, October 10, and November 6 meetings. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed. The Treasurer's Report was approved on motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann. The Treasurer distributed her report.

Howard Carriveau, a resident on Ferry Point, presented a petition on behalf of all residents and property owners on that road asking that it not be lengthened in the future to serve Marty Reker's development; he stated that he does not believe that the road is designed for a lot of traffic; and there would be safety issues. He said that a copy of the petition was given to Marty Reker. Mr. Carriveau gave the board chair a copy of the petition, which he accepted and placed on file with the Clerk. It is filed with the minutes.

Julie Johnson told the board that she and her husband would like to start a Watab Township 4-H Club; they would primarily focus on kids in the township; and they would like permission to meet in the new town hall. Julie stated that they would be willing to pay a maintenance fee. Supervisor Erdmann moved that the 4-H club be allowed to use the building provided that they take responsibility for the building & cleanup; the motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck with the stipulation that the Clerk check with our insurance provider. The Clerk told the board that state law does not provide for the township to make a donation to the 4-H Club. There were no other citizen issues.

Monthly bills were presented to the board for their approval. Supervisor Gondeck will contact Xcel Energy about the power pole fire to see if we can get reimbursed for the \$520 bill. Supervisor Erdmann moved to pay all the bills as presented and to take the money from the appropriate funds. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed.

Supervisor Erdmann moved we table vacation of Peace Rock Road until the entire board is present.

The Clerk gave a report on the General Election. There were 1,275 votes cast. She praised the election judges who worked very hard and extended their hours to accommodate the large turnout. The Deputy Auditor, Rod Bunting, was very helpful in bringing a new tabulator. There was a lot of congestion in the hall throughout the day, but residents were very patient. The Board expressed their thanks for the process of the election. We decided to increase the number of booths planned for the new hall.

The Chair removed the guard rail request for West Lake Road from the agenda because of lack of board support.

As recommended by the electors at the annual meeting, Supervisor Gondeck made a motion to transfer \$50,000 from the Revenue Fund to the Building Fund. The motions was seconded by Supervisor Erdmann and passed unanimously.

There are still serious problems with part of the new road in the Lake Andrew Plat: moisture seems to be coming up. The township is on record that we are not sure about the condition of the road and will discuss it further with Bob Erickson when he arrives.

The Chair reported that Don Zieglmeier has requested a 30-day extension on the deadline to return \$1,500 owed the township. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck to extend the deadline to November 30, 2006. Motion carried.

Josh Nelson, Falcon Bank, did not appear before the board.

Supervisor Erdmann moved that the Clerk notify Benton County that the road certification report is correct; motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed.

The board completed an evaluation of Ehlers and gave an excellent rating for their work as financial advisors on the new town hall project.

Bob Erickson, Township Road Engineering Consultant, suggested that there be a special meeting to go over more information on road specs; we may need to be more specific in certain areas. He thinks it could take a two hour meeting. He would like to have GPS readings for each township road intersection; we need measurements of the roads and to set priorities for road improvements on a five-year road plan. He also would like clear limits set on his role. Supervisor Erdmann affirmed that the township won't accept roads that don't have appropriate condition. He recommends going heavier on the base course. Supervisor Gondeck said that the developer's agreement is ready to sign on the Lake Andrew Plat. Bob passed out a report on Lake Andrew roads. Delroy Rothstein asked if there is a septic system design in place. Supervisor Gondeck answered that Chelle Benson says there is a plan similar to Hanson's design, where tanks will be put in for the first phase. A special meeting was set for 7pm next Tuesday, November 21st.

Bob Erickson talked to Noble Homes about Norway Pine Estates roads. It is in their hands to improve the road according to the plan Bob presented previously. Road must be fixed before building permits can be issued. A ditch needs to be dug and culverts put in place. If a culvert is placed under Indian Road, it would appease one of the homeowners. Noble will need to acquire the easement; Bob thinks it will be easy to get.

Supervisor Gondeck reported that Rice Family Fun Beer Garden dollars went into the Firefighters Fund rather than the City Funds. He is trying to verify if the tax dollars for placing 911 signs went into the fire department slush fund rather than the city; he said we're still not getting any cooperation from the Fire Chief or the Fire Board. The Clerk reported that there has been no response from the City of Rice Attorney to our attorney regarding the billing information that we

have requested. The letter was sent on September 30th. We decided not to pay the last half of the Rice fire contract bill for this year until we have communication from them and an accounting for all funds. The only person that has been cooperative in trying to resolve the problem has been the City Mayor, Nancy Anderson. There were three calls this month by the Rice Fire Department. Supervisor Gondeck will check on the 45 Sharon Place call. He will call Benton Co. Sheriff's office to determine if we can be reimbursed for the call.

We are in compliance on our storm water permit. Thank you to Supervisor McIntosh for his work on this.

The Clerk noted that we need to inform our insurance provider of the building project; she will call MATIT and get builder's risk insurance and change the list of property.

Supervisor Gondeck said he wants to apply for two SCORE grants; he wants to apply for a \$10,000 grant, because we turned down a lot of televisions and electronic equipment this year, and he later found some of these items in the ditch. With a larger grant, we could accept them at next year's cleanup. Craig also learned that Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District got a SCORE grant for office furniture. Permission was given him to apply.

Ed Kacures asked if we could have a monthly progress report from Boser Construction at our meetings. Supervisor Erdmann said that footings are all firmed up; the cement truck will be here tomorrow! By afternoon they can be laying block. Supervisor Gondeck commended Supervisor Erdmann for his supervision of the construction project that past two days and thanked him for trouble shooting. The board will ask Boser's to have a representative at the meetings.

Supervisor Gondeck moved adjournment at 8:45pm; seconded by Supervisor Erdmann and passed.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Spence, Clerk