

Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes: October 6, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7pm on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 by Vice-Chair Craig Gondeck. Other board members present at the beginning of the meeting were Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, Treasurer Eileen Saldana, and Clerk Pat Spence. Audience members were Nicole Solarz, Jason Krueger, Joe Poganski, Maureen Graber, JoAnn Baumgart, and Bob Raveling. Two additions were made to the agenda: Preliminary Plat Approvals for Solarz and Poganski and Letter of Request from Nancy Scott, Building Inspector. The minutes of the September regular meeting were approved through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann. The Treasurer reported a cash balance of \$357,295.05; her report was accepted through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann. Approval to Pay the Bills and Transfer Funds from appropriate accounts for claims #5862 through 5887 and electronic transfers for PERA and IRS totaling \$102,388.87 was made through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann.

Citizen's Input included an announcement by Maureen Graber that the Little Rock Lake Association meeting will be at the town hall on Saturday morning at 10am with the Benton County Sheriff as a presenter. She also asked about whether or not the township has considered hiring anyone to spray noxious weeds in the ditches. The board will consider it when the budgeting is done; Maureen said that she is willing to assist with it. At this time, Chair Kacures arrived.

Nicole Solarz presented the Preliminary Plat for Pine View Acres; it will split 40 acres into two ten-acre lots and one twenty-acre lot. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck to approve the Preliminary Plat; second by Supervisor Erdmann; passed. Joseph Poganski presented the Preliminary Plat for the Poganski Addition (5685 River Rd NE). Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed to approve the Preliminary Plat as presented.

Chuck Ertl stopped by to let the board know that he is late with the ditch cutting because of an equipment breakdown.

Old Business:

- A. Roseanna Beach Ditch Project: The owner of a home on Roseanna Beach Road recommends that the town board have a time frame for offering complaints after the completion of a road project. Board members said that residents can come to any meeting to give feedback following completion of a road project; five years after a project is too late.
- B. STS Report: Crew was here for a day putting up signs and trimming trees on road right of way.
- C. Rental Properties: Supervisor Gondeck met with Karri Thorsten and Brian Koester about the issue and they give full support to changing the law to have owners of rental property responsible for unpaid emergency calls; the State of Wisconsin has a law on the books that allows this; Minnesota Law was changed in the 1970's. The board will continue to research this.
- D. Frontage Road Planning: Supervisor Gondeck said that Lake Refinishing would give a strip of land for an easement. He hasn't talked with Mrs. Gallion. Clerk Spence was

asked to check if the road was vacated south of Sugar Daddy's and recorded at Benton County. Also, she is to check on the width that is recorded in front of Mrs. Gallion's property. Supervisor Gondeck will speak with a representative of Gold'n Plump.

- E. Benton County of Associations Meeting: Supervisor Gondeck said that Representative Newberger was joking about Watab Township; it wasn't appreciated.
- F. Demolition Derby Car issue will be addressed.
- G. Additional Fire Wardens: Supervisor Gondeck has contact Jerry Lage at 10734 W. Lake Road and Jerry and Judy Bueckers from Lot 116, Rockwood Estates to be fire wardens. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to submit their names to the DNR.
- H. 66th Street Trees: Supervisor Gondeck said that there is one interested party in taking the dead trees out of the right of way at no cost to the township. The will potentially fall down on the road.
- I. Watab Cleanup Day: 317 cars came through; and Supervisor Gondeck went to fourteen residences in the township to pick up recyclables where the people didn't have a way to transport items. He reported that there was lots of appreciation offered. A realtor told him that Watab residents get more money for their homes because of the township's appearance. There was also the donation of two hundred seventeen cans of food for the food shelf. He asked if we could approach Langola Township for a financial donation, since many of their residents brought in items. The board gave approval to do so.
- J. Transportation Expo Report: Supervisor Gondeck will be going there tomorrow. There may be a crack filling product from recycled material which would make it SCORE Grant eligible. He will report at the next meeting.
- K. Sign Installation: one stop sign in Timberlane Loop has been vandalized, and it has been temporarily replaced with a yield sign. Another stop sign will be ordered.
- L. Railroad Crossings: Clerk Spence reported that BNSF has not yet responded with a date to review the railroad crossing damage on Lakewood Shores. The railroad is planning to close that crossing later this month to replace the planks.
- M. MS4 Meeting Report: Supervisor Gondeck said it was a good training session. Clerk Spence asked the board for direction on replacing the ground cover along the Lakewood Shore Crossing. She was asked to check with BCSWCD and move ahead with the repairs.
- N. Warning Siren Installation and Grant Report: The second warning siren is installed and the grant report completed. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed to approve the Final Grant Report to the Benton Telecommunications Foundation.

New Business:

- A. Nancy Scott, Building Inspector, sent in a request for Reserve Project administration; following discussion of questions, the board asked the Clerk to request further information prior to making a decision.
- B. Unpaid fire bills: Clerk Spence asked for a motion from the board to move forward with Writs of Execution for the unpaid medical calls that were brought to conciliation court; motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to

do so. She will proceed only if information can be obtained on where the parties work or bank.

- C. MS4 Notice of Termination for Bend in the River Park: a copy was included in the board's packet. There were no outstanding issues, and the permit has been closed following Wayne Cymbaluk's final inspection.
- D. Safety at Railroad Crossings: This item was placed on the agenda in response to Dustin Karraker, BNSF Roadmaster. He stated that railroad employees have seen many cars going around the barricades near the railroad tracks in Watab Township. In the future, the employees will be writing down the license numbers and giving them to the Benton County Sheriff's Department.
- E. Town Hall Lawn Hall Treatment: Clerk Spence was asked to notify Valley Green that the township wants their company to do the town hall lawn treatment next season.
- F. Benton County Dept. of Development agenda items in Watab: The board approves of all the Watab projects pending before the Department of Development: Poganski, Allgood, and Nelson.
- G. Correspondence: Clerk Spence went through the monthly correspondence.
- H. Supervisor Gondeck reported on the St. Cloud Economic Development Board. Also, two residents on West Lake Road have asked for curve signs; this will be on next month's agenda. Dave Traut talked to Supervisor Gondeck about the possibility of using irrigation wells for fire department access to local water. Supervisor Gondeck spoke to Scott Jarnot, and he will transfer MS4 permits in Lake Andrew to new property owners; he is also willing to give up property by the pump house for a playground; Allen Saldana has been hired by Lake Andrew to patch the roads there. Supervisor Gondeck is seeking more quotes for replacement of the outdoor lighting for the flag.
- I. October work plan: Supervisor Gondeck, Clerk Spence, and Maureen Graber will take down silt fencing near the railroad crossing projects. Supervisor Erdmann will talk to Lanners about a frontage road easement; and he will take care of the widening of the KJohnson road access to Highway 10.

Citizen's Issues: JoAnn Baumgart asked who's in charge of the County Road 55 ditch. She raised the issue of coming north from Sartell and turning onto County Road 55 where it is difficult to see the edge of the road at night. It is unsafe because of the steep ditch and wetlands. She suggested fluorescent posts or markings for the road edges. Clerk Spence was asked to call the highway department. Jason Krueger thanked the local media for Watab news in their papers.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence