Town Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 19, 2021  
Time: 4:30 p.m.  
Location: 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse, WI 54601

Town Officials Present: Chairman Tim Candahl, Supervisors Renee Knutson, Marlene Heal, Tim Padesky, Tim Ehler, Administrator Christina Peterson, Clerk Fortune Weaver, Treasurer Sara Jarr, Public Works Director Terry Wright, and Fire Chief Tony Holinka.

Town Officials Excused: N/A

Attendance List: Evan Weis and Brooke Matheus (W4978 Woodhaven Drive), Jerry Severson (N969 Lauterbach Road- Lion’s Club), Jerry Kendhammer (N788 Lauterbach Road- Lion’s Club), and Jed Olson (3401 Farnam Street - ORA).

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Candahl at 4:30 p.m.
2. Citizen’s Concerns. Evan Weis and Brooke Matheus W4978 Woodhaven Drive requesting the Town Board revise Ordinance 2.09 to allow for residents to own a 4th dog. Board inquired about the sizes of the animals, ages of the animals, and if there have been any incidents reported in the past. Weis confirmed the sizes and ages and that no incidents have taken place. Candahl noted that Ordinance 2.09 will be reviewed at the meeting on November 2nd for potential revision and adoption. Peterson instructed Weaver to send the current Town ordinance along with animal ordinances from other municipalities to the Board for review.

3. Budget Work Session. Peterson reviewed 2021 projected year end expenditures and revenues, and briefly reviewed 2022 working summary budget. Wright noted expenses for Public Works that occurred in 2021 which will carry into 2022. Discussion on flood damage and funding options to make repairs. Peterson detailed 2022 budget summary. Peterson explained options to get more funding to complete projects in 2022 if no grants or other aid are available such as loans. Peterson gave additional clarification on the levy limit and restrictions relating to raising it. Draft budget assumed 3% pay increase for all staff, no objection from the Town Board.

4. Minutes from 10/5/2021. Motion by Heal to approve minutes from 10/5/2021, second by Padesky. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Bills Payable. Wright questioned charge from Xcel Energy for gas at Arbor Hills Wellhouse #2 when nothing has been run. Padesky noted it might be a startup fee or connection fee, but the contractor is typically required to pay for that. Wright and Jarr will investigate. Motion by Padesky to approve open invoices: $84,562.14, second by Heal, with Wright and Jarr investigating Xcel charge. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Citizen’s Concerns.
   a. Lions Club: Mormon Coulee Lions Christmas in the Park. Lions Club would like to hang lights and decorations in Mormon Coulee Park. Setup will take place November 29th-December 4th. Opening Day will be December 4th and the last day will be December 30th. Teardown will be the first week of January. Lights will be on a timer and will be lit from 5pm to 10pm. Enclosed Shelter will have Santa on one Saturday from 5 pm to 10 pm. Cookies and hot chocolate will also be available in the Enclosed Shelter while the lights are lit. Heaters will be provided by the Lions to allow visitors to escape from the cold. Town of Shelby will supply two portable toilets for visitors beginning on November 29th. Lions are requesting Police Department patrol the park once per night to make sure no vandalism or stealing takes place. Also requesting that Town of Shelby advertise this in
the Newsletter and hope that donations of lights and other decorations will be given to the club. Knutson asked about the logistics of visitors entering the park and enjoying the lights, Lions Club Volunteers will staff the event daily. Lion’s Club will be collecting monetary donations and canned food donations for a local church. Ehler recommended giving the Lion’s a lease similar to what the City does for the Rotary Lights to avoid liability on the Town and any disputes about usage of the park during the winter months.

b. Jed Olson (3401 Farnam Street) - Thanked Staff and the Board for their hard work. Also noted that ORA cleaned up an area of Shelby and is grateful for the opportunity to work with Shelby to clean up the community. Olson mentioned that the Road Crew made Large Item Day easy and accessible.

7. **Sanitary District #2- Appoint Commissioner.** Motion by Ehler to appoint Robert Lynn as Sanitary District #2 Commissioner for the remainder of Lundsten’s term (ending in 2026), second by Knutson. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **WI Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) Application** Peterson noted the application for Old Town Hall Road will be redone for LRIP funding (previously submitted in 2019/2020). Peterson explained the supplemental money may give Shelby a better chance of receiving funding for submitted projects. Wright noted that bridge on Breidel Coulee will also be entered for funding as inspections every year note it needs to be replaced. Candahl gave brief history of the bridge. Peterson did explain that no estimates are available for how much funding will be received, likely will be given notice of funds in 2022.

9. **County Records-Laredo Subscription** Peterson noted that there is a contract to use the subscription that La Crosse County uses to avoid having to go to the County Building to physically locate easements and other land records, wanted to make sure the Board has no objection. No objection from the Town Board.

10. **Administrator Report.**
    a. Peterson is attending the meetings at La Crosse County for ARPA funding to determine what stormwater projects would be eligible for funding through ARPA. Plans and project priorities are being discussed and will continue to be discussed.
    b. Working on different projects for Town Hall and the Fire Station Annex. Interior painting quote, quote for the repair/replacement of the roof, etc. Still waiting to hear back on all quotes.
    c. Attended Town’s Association and learned more about ARPA funds, LRIP and the Comprehensive Plan.

11. **Public Works Report.**
    a. 60% complete with big items from August 7th storm. All that remains is patching, seeding, and mulching. Some blacktopping remains, but it’s small amounts.
    b. Carried over $25,000.00 in the budget for 2022, weather will not allow for completion of all projects in 2021.
    c. Crown Boulevard is the focus, cannot be plowed in current condition. Priority to be patched up before the weather turns.
    d. The Town has two sweepers, ideally the town will purchase another in 2024. Town is receiving requests from other municipalities to sweep. Wright is unsure if the sweepers would be able to handle that much work on top of the Town’s sweeping needs in their current condition. Wright asked the Board if they want to continue to service other communities. Wright also noted that the sweeper must be driven to municipality being swept and it takes nearly a whole week to complete including travel time back and forth which also takes its toll on the machine. It also takes a man out of commission for over 3 weeks to get sweeping done for Shelby and other municipalities. Board recommends sending letters to municipalities that we’ve swept in the past
and let them know this service will no longer be available in 2022 and going forward to allow them time to work out another option for their community.

e. Working with DNR to get permission to use the old landfill off Old Town Hall Road for storage. Cannot break ground but can put gravel down and store whatever the Town needs to store there. May cost money to get initial paperwork through, but it will be a great storage solution for the Town going forward.

12. Fire Department Report. Holinka met with Christina and Terry regarding maintenance on Fire Engines. La Crosse County explorers’ program is this coming weekend. Opportunity through Boy scouts of America for youth and families in the community to get information and some experience with the First Responder and Firefighter training. This encourages high school students to join local departments after high school. Request received to burn down a field, pitched to Holinka as a training. No permit to burn a field currently exists for the Town. Holinka will look at it and get more information. Board expressed concerns about surrounding homes in the area and making sure that it does not get out of control. Wright asked if border mowing would assist, Holinka noted digging a trench is the most effective practice to contain the burn. Holinka instructed to proceed as he sees fit.

   a. Candahl noted other uses for ARPA funds could include generators for the Town to be used in the case of a power outage or emergency.
   b. Planning Commission meeting following this meeting. Candahl encouraged other Board members to attend.
   c. Candahl noted tour on October 18th went well and was very informative.
   d. Candahl noted discussion with Bluffland Coalition to see if they would assist with the purchase of the property near the Skyline Reservoir if it came up for sale. More on that will come up in closed session.
   e. Knutson located information from 1993 regarding the wellhouse in the park off Nolop Road. Weaver will reach out for the information to add to research.

14. Motion to go into closed session at 5:58 p.m. by Heal, second by Padesky.

15. Closed Session- pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. Parcel 11-1321-1 and 11-1321-2.

16. Motion to come into open session at 6:14 p.m. by Padesky, second by Knutson. Motion carried unanimously.

17. Adjournment. Motion by Heal to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. second by Knutson. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Town Board Meeting – November 2, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Fortune M. Weaver, Clerk