Town Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse, WI 54601

Town Officials Present: Chairperson Tim Candahl, Supervisors Tim Ehler and Marlene Heal, Assistant Fire Chief Travis Proksch, Clerk Fortune Berg, Administrator Christina Peterson, and Treasurer Sara Jarr.

Town Officials Excused: Supervisors Tim Padesky and Renee Knutson.

Attendance List: Jon and Ashley Krueger (N442 Ten Mile Circle), James Krueger Sr. (W5186 CTH MM)

1. Town Board Meeting called to order by Chairperson Candahl at 4:58 p.m.
2. Approve Minutes from 10/4/2022. Motion by Heal to approve minutes from 10/4/2022, second by Ehler. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Bills Payable. Motion by Heal to pay open invoices in the amount of $65,744.12, second by Ehler. Motion by Heal, second by Ehler to approve paid invoices in the amount of $41,491.53. Motions carried unanimously.
4. Citizen’s Concerns. None.
5. ORA Request for Project Support. Peterson explained the need for support of the project concept to receive funding from La Crosse County. At this point, the board is not approving specific plans or ideas. Heal noted she abstained from voting during Bluffland Coalition meeting. Motion by Ehler, second by Heal to support the project concept so that ORA can move forward with requesting funds from La Crosse County. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Jonathan & Ashley Krueger (W5186 County Rd MM). Berg gave overview of the request and discussions at the Planning Commission Meeting. Ashely Krueger followed up with updated impact statement and additional information. Discussion on the number of animals, type of facility and location. Motion to recommend approval to La Crosse County by Ehler, second by Heal. Motion carried unanimously. Berg will send Jim Webb’s information so the Krueger’s can consult him on building and zoning permits.
7. Variance Request Jed Olson (3401 Farnam St). Berg gave overview of request. Motion by Ehler, second by Heal to recommend approval to La Crosse County. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Multiple Dog Applications. Berg reviewed the applications for W5229 Boma Rd, W5873 Rochelt Rd, and W5570 State Road 33. No problems reported. Motion by Heal, second by Ehler to approve the Multiple Dog Applications.
9. 2022 Budget Amendment. Peterson explained the amendment and new budget numbers on upcoming notice. Motion by Ehler, second by Heal to approve amended budget and sign resolution 2022-03. Peterson also noted changes and adjustments.
10. Fire Department Report. Proksch stated that a pump operator class last week qualified (but did not certify) members in attendance to act as pump operators. Proksch noted the new hires will begin fire classes next Saturday. An EMR class will be hosted after January 1st. Proksch noted the call volume is still up from what is normally seen this time of year, and there are still a lot of visits to the same address. Discussion on placing boat at Goose Island. Board and Proksch agree the Fire Department is good on winter storage.

APPROVED
11. **Stormwater Fee.** Peterson noted a stormwater fee ties into the budget and would allow for more revenue without raising the levy limit. Peterson provided information on the options and what the town needs to move forward. Candahl reminded the board that some road projects can be special assessed. Peterson noted there would be a lot to investigate before moving forward with that.

12. **Garage Storage Options – East Avenue Storage Garage Lease ends December 31, 2022.** Peterson is looking at options for storage as the East Avenue was a temporary solution. One option is to use county building stalls up on St. Joe’s ridge, but that option is not yet set in stone. If it works, it will take care of the town’s needs for this winter. Another shed can be built to the south of town hall. Candahl mentioned construction in phases, adding until it’s a heated, stable, well-built building next to town hall.

13. **Memorial at Hillview ball field.** Peterson noted request received from Matt Thornton. Peterson stated if this is allowed, there should be an option for more people to purchase memorials. Candahl noted that the plaque shouldn’t be any larger than the proposed size and should be metal so it can’t be defaced. Plaques could be at the icehouse, Ehler mentioned the hall of fame for the Loggers. Peterson can respond stating the board is in favor of memorials but wants to start a program, and the plaques need to be uniform in size and design. Peterson noted the proposed size is slightly smaller than the home plate size. The fee should cover the cost and installation of the memorial, and should include a small donation to the parks. Candahl stated the program could include a gold, silver and bronze donation that would fall within the cost of the plate and donation. Peterson confirmed the office will work on it.

14. **2023 Budget for November 15th Budget Hearing.** Peterson noted the budget was sent to the board for discussion, no vote is necessary. The board can approve what is put on the budget hearing notice, the budget hearing on November 15th will allow for more discussion and then the board will vote on the budget after the public hearing. Peterson stated that Jarr did all the projection to year end of 2022, and proposed 2023 budget. Peterson overviewed the 2023 proposed budget. Jarr confirmed special assessments remaining. Peterson noted no FEMA funds are expected in 2023. Fire grants budgeted for 2023. Peterson reviewed other revenues. Peterson started reviewing expenses for wages and benefits. Separate agenda item for wages for 2023 will be on December’s agenda. Continued review of expenses in the proposed 2023 budget. Police Officer Sean Horton indicated he plans to retire next year, would be off the clock in May but would be paid through October because of the vacation and sick time that he has accrued, nothing in writing yet. Fire Department changes noted. Discussion on the increase in project costs for Public Works. Peterson reminded the board to prioritize projects because of funding constraints. Other options are to get loan for larger projects. $65,000.00 of the projects budget is for Cliffside Dr, which must be paid because the City of La Crosse already commenced the project. Candahl noted energy savings program that should replace all streetlights to LEDs. Mormon Coulee Lions want another streetlight in Mormon Coulee Park, approximate cost would be $3,700.00. Lion’s stated they would pay for it before the quote, Peterson will confirm the amount. Peterson noted stormwater expenses, when the crew works on ditching and culverts, they list their time as stormwater. Peterson is unsure if that will be separate or moved back into public works budgeting. Parks budget discussed, new budget reflects the amount that was not spent in 2022 and it added to the budget for 2023. Reviewed capital improvement plan. Discussion on assessments and when it is allowed. Example: Boma Road, the Town could assess Boma Rd residents but not Willow Way East and West residents. More discussion on options and projects. Boma Rd needs to start, Cedar Rd and Mesa Rd need chipseal, Wedgewood Drive will need.
to begin and should not need much engineering. Millstream addition will need engineering. Millstream moved to 2024, Skyline Blvd off of CTY MM will need rebuilding in some bad areas. $150,000.00 for Skyline Blvd and $600,000.00 for Boma Rd, totaling $1,200,000.00. Backhoe purchase can wait to 2024, plow truck was already budgeted for and doesn’t need to be added. Candahl said order the mower for 2023. Plow truck, mower, and radios total $1,260,000.00 for Capital Improvements and Major Purchases. Discussion on loan options.

15. **2022 End Balance.** Quick overview of the end of 2022 balance of town funds.

16. **Christmas Party 2022.** Discussion on the Christmas Party. Crew prefers either Boot Hill Pub or Mt. La Crosse. Ehler suggested All Star for an option that’s in Shelby and hasn’t been done before. Preferably on a Saturday. Discussion on availability of staff and crew. Jarr and Berg will continue the planning.

    * *Supervisor Heal no longer present. No Quorum. No motions made from this point on. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.*

17. **Maldon Laitinen Property.** Peterson noted this property may require an engineering study, which may require clearing, permitting and approval and the Town won’t be able to get that done before the family wants the parcel sold. Peterson recommends instead of telling them certain amount or facts about if the land is buildable, the reality is that the Town of Shelby doesn’t need the parcel. Peterson will draft a response; this issue is tabled until further notice.

18. **Administrator Report.**
   a. Peterson reiterated the electric at Mormon Coulee Park was already mentioned.
   b. November 10th is the next Sanitary District #2 meeting. Tom Madden will be coming in person. Town Board is invited and encouraged to attend.
   c. Peterson is working with Adoni Networks to update computers and other equipment that is no longer supported.

19. **Public Works Report.**
   a. Peterson reported that the crew is cleaning out a sewer line on an easement by Arbor Hills.
   b. Peterson reported that the crew is working on the landfill area, concrete bins for storage, etc.
   c. Peterson reported that paving and driveway work on Forest Ridge Drive is complete.

20. **Clerk Report.**
   a. Berg noted that in-person absentee voting started today and will continue until Friday November 4th.

21. **Treasurer Report.**
   a. Jarr sent out late notices for utility bills. Unpaid balances may be added to the tax bill.

22. **Chairperson/Supervisor Reports.** None.

23. **Adjournment.** Meeting already adjourned at 6:45. Discussion and reports ended at 7:17 p.m.

Next regular meeting will take place Tuesday, November 15th, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Fortune M. Berg, Clerk

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NOT APPROVED