Town Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Moved to Town Annex, 2801 Ward Ave., La Crosse, WI 54601 due to recommendations on distancing over COVID19.

Town Officials Present: Chairman, Tim Candahl, Supervisors Renee Knutson, Marlene Heal, and Supervisors Tim Padesky and Tim Ehler via speaker phone. Road Crew Foreman Terry Wright, Administrator Christina Peterson, Treasurer Sara Jarr, Clerk Fortune Weaver

Town Officials Excused: N/A

Attendance List: See Attached

1. Meeting called to order by Candahl at 5:08 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Minutes: Heal motion to approve minutes from 3/3/2020, second by Padesky. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Citizen Concerns: None.
6. Knobloch Road Drainage: Property owner of parcel 11-1061-0 submitted a report of erosion damage that has occurred on his property and requests the Town participate in the repair. Terry Wright explained the area of concern is a natural drainageway and the road low point drains to it. Wright also explained another drainageway that is up the street had been blocked off several years back. Administrator Peterson advised that the Town refer to the original grading plan which was designed by an engineer. Peterson will find the grading plan and review options to ensure the drainageways are working as designed. The Board recommended she work with Town attorney on the matter.
7. Pammel Creek Canal: Terry Wright gave an overview of the tree removal work the crew was planning for the town property along Pammel Creek Canal. He also pointed out the inspection report by the Corps of Engineers which notes the requirement for the property to remain clear for access. Staff sent a letter notifying property owners to remove all their items from the town land. Several property owners voiced concern over the short timeframe for the request. The spring thaw put a hold on the maintenance work, but Terry Wright reported that he will need to access the area later in the season. Candahl suggested a 3-week notice should be given prior to maintenance work unless it is an emergency.
8. Fire Department Length of Service Award (LOSA) - Josh Kipp had requested his service years 2001-2007 be reinstated. Penflex, the LOSA administrator, reviewed the request and reinstated the years, but not the funds. Kipp requests funds also be restored, but Penflex said the funds would need to come from the Town. Candahl asked Administrator Peterson to review the amount in question and revisit at a later meeting.
9. Fire Department Contract with Town of Greenfield: The Fire Chief had proposed to change the contract to a flat rate versus a standby fee plus per call. Administrator Peterson worked with Greenfield to draft an agreement. Motion by Ehler to approve the Fire Contract as presented with the change to allow quarterly billing, second by Padesky. Motion carried unanimously.

10. COVID19: Fire Chief Waller gave an update on precautions and planning for the Fire Department and First Responders. Motion by Padesky to close Town Hall to the public for 30 days, second by Ehler, motion carried unanimously. Padesky suggested a weekly meeting to discuss changing concerns over COVID19. A committee of Candahl, Chief Waller, and Administrator Peterson was assigned. Annual Town Meeting Date: If needed due to concerns over COVID19, the Town Board supported postponing the meeting. Motion by Padesky, second by Heal to have the Annual Town Meeting on April 21, 2020.

11. Easement for Sanitary District No. 2 Arbor Hills Wells: Attorney Kevin Roop drafted an easement as presented for the Town to grant the Sanitary District #2 rights to the land for new Arbor Hills Well #2 and the existing Well #1. Motion by Ehler to grant easements to Sanitary District #2, second by Heal, motion carried unanimously.

12. Parks and Vacant Land Committee: Motion by Padesky to appoint Monica Redmond to the Parks and Vacant Land Committee, second by Knutson, motion carried unanimously.

13. Parks: It was previously approved to order one bubbler for SYB fields. Terry Wright suggested adding a second to the order to be placed at Hwy 33 park. Total price for two bubblers is $5280. It was suggested to ask Aquinas to chip in for one of the bubblers, possibly splitting it 3-ways with SYB and Town. Motion by Padesky to approve purchase of additional bubbler, second by Knutson, motion carried unanimously.

14. SYB Budget: Motion by Heal to approve SYB Budget as presented (dated 3/13/2020), second by Candahl, motion carried unanimously.

15. Old Business - Request for reimbursement of refuse charges for Parcels 11-1839-0/1: Motion by Padesky to pay half of the request, second by Heal, motion carried unanimously.

16. Administrator Report (see attached)

17. Board Chairperson/ Board Supervisors: Candahl said he has plans to meet with Railroad regarding Hwy 35 area drainage. Knutson noted the Blufflands Coalition meeting has been postponed.


19. Padesky motion to adjourn, second by Knutson. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes by Christina Peterson, Administrator