Town Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2020
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: 2800 Ward Ave., La Crosse, WI 54601

Town Officials Present: In person: Chairman Tim Candahl, Supervisor Marlene Heal, and Administrator Christina Peterson. Using Zoom conferencing: Supervisors Renee Knutson, Tim Padesky and Tim Ehler, Road Crew Foreman Terry Wright, Treasurer Sara Jarr, Clerk Fortune Weaver, Officer Sharon Niedzie, and SYB Coordinator Gregg Erickson

Town Officials Excused: N/A
Attendance List: N/A

1. Meeting called to order by Candahl at 5:00 p.m.
2. Minutes: Heal motion to approve minutes from 3/17/2020, second by Padesky. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Payment of Bills: Padesky motion to approve paid invoices in the amount of $17,654.65, second by Knutson. Padesky motion to pay open invoices for $33,658.55, second by Heal. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Citizen Concerns: None.
5. Declaration of Emergency: a Resolution was presented which declares an Emergency for the Town due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Motion by Padesky to approve Resolution Declaring Emergency, second by Ehler. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Shelby Youth Ball: Gregg Erickson discussed that SYB program is in a holding pattern and has discussed options to modify the season. The Coulee Region Sports League is still scheduling. Candahl thought if the Governor’s Safer at Home Order was lifted by June, he would still like to see a modified program. Ehler asked if there would be a modified fee. The option of no fee was discussed, but it was also noted that the fee is very reasonable to begin with. Erickson said he would keep updates on the SYB website and facebook page.
7. Parks and Shelters: Candahl suggested not renting the shelter during the Safer at Home Order. The Town can refund rental fees that were paid.
8. Town Annual Meeting – Due to concerns of COVID-19, the WI Towns Association advised that Town Boards can postpone the annual meeting. Motion by Padesky to postpone the Annual Meeting and Board of Review until the Declaration of Health Emergency is relaxed by the Governor, second by Ehler. Motion carried unanimously.
9. COVID-19 Federal Legislation and Town Policy: Peterson presented a draft letter with the proposed town policy related to the Federal Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and FMLA Expansion. The WI Towns Association has given guidance on the option to exclude the emergency responders. The definition of Emergency Responder is related to those that are deemed critical to the ongoing operation of essential government functions when faced with an emergency. Candahl recommended all Town employees be excluded from the paid leave for reasons of childcare. Coverage under the other clauses would still apply. Motion by Heal to approve the letter as policy with the change to exclude all town employees from the coverage due to childcare, second by Padesky, motion carried unanimously.
10. **April 7 Election Poll Workers:** Motion by Padesky to increase pay for poll workers to $18/hr and $22 for chief inspector, second by Ehler, motion carried unanimously.

11. **2020 Paving Bids:** Motion by Padesky to award the 2020 paving contract to Fahrner, second by Heal, motion carried unanimously.

12. **La Crosse County Hazard Mitigation Plan draft:** Peterson shared a list of potential projects that were listed in the current Hazard Mitigation Plan. The County is updating the plan and would like input on the list. The list will be reviewed, and a new list will be made.

13. **Request to amend Resolution for Leske Road dedication:** Peterson noted that the language requested was included in the Deed to the Town, so she was advised by legal that the Resolution need not be changed. Motion by Padesky to leave Resolution as is, second by Heal, motion carried unanimously.

14. **Town Office Closure:** Motion by Padesky to keep the office closed to the public until May 8, 2020, second by Ehler, motion carried unanimously.

(Candahl left meeting)

15. **Administrator Report:**
   a. **March 28th, 2020:** Clerk Fortune Weaver swore in Sara Jarr and Christina Peterson as Deputy Clerks.
   b. Resident of Arbor Hills asked about the plan for the park since it is impacted by the Well Project. Knutson suggested asking the neighborhood for input.
   c. Peterson thanked Fortune and Sara for their hard work during the Spring Election. Ehler agreed and noted he received comments that the election was done well.
   d. Road crew will perform street sweeping for Stoddard and Genoa. Rate was increased.

16. **Supervisors Report:** Discussion was held on parks. Parks are open but some parking and features are limited to limit large groups.

17. **Police Department – Officer Neitzke** gave an update on their procedures during COVID-19.

18. **Fire Department – March report** to be reviewed at next meeting.

19. Padesky motion to adjourn, second by Knutson. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes by Christina Peterson, Administrator