

TOWN OF SARATOGA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday October 5th, 2022

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Town of Saratoga Board Room

PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Josh McDonald, Gail Kretschmer, Rhonda Carrell, Roger Wilcox

This meeting was officially noticed on September 30, 2022.

Chairman Carrell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

Rob Borski had questions about the procedure for variances and zoning changes.

No Constable report given.

Josh Volz provided the Building Inspector Report.

Ray Bossert provided the Zoning Administrator report. He recommends the Town clarify the ordinances to be clear. He also expressed concerns regarding Kester Road and the land locked properties. Residents need to have legal access to their property instead of using an easement to avoid problems in the future.

Rick Nowicki provided the Wood County Solar project update. They have all 41 inverters exporting power to the grid. Trailers are being moved and the area will be re-seeded. He also provided information on the battery storage. This is a proposed amendment to the original developer's agreement by Alliant Energy on the Wood County Solar Project.

Kasten Kester provided the Road Crew update. The mowing on the East Side of the town will be completed within a week. The Bike Path signs have been moved back further from the road and higher on the post due to safety concerns.

Josh McDonald stated that the Plan Commission continues to work on the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning updates.

Gail Kretschmer gave the SPARKS Committee update. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday October 17 at 6:00 p.m. They will be meeting with North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission on recommendations for the Outdoor Recreational Plan.

Paulette Weinfurter gave the Clerk's report. The process is started to have the Town accept Voit Lane from the Hidden Chapel Subdivision as a town road. All items for the board meeting agenda must be received 1 week prior to the meeting by 10:00 a.m. She is also going to be submitting requests to TRIP.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the Treasurer's report. She has paperwork to submit to the County for specials that will be reflected on the tax bill. She would like to know how the garbage and recycling rates will change due to fuel surcharges that are now being included on the bill. A town resident reached out regarding an abatement charge on his tax bill from 2018. This will be referred to the town's attorney to take care of.

The residents that are wanting to pay taxes with a credit card, are able to do so. A 3% fee is charged through a 3rd party. But, if the residents do an electronic check is a flat fee of \$1.50.

Short and Long Term disability information was provided to the board to review.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the repairs and condition of the Town Hall and the Maintenance Shop. Doug Passineau will reach out to obtain estimates. Supervisor Wilcox has also been involved in reviewing the condition of the buildings with local contractors.

Jerry Minor, the Fire Chief from the Pittsville Fire Department shared information on the safety reflectors his department has placed on the address tiles at the end of the driveway in his service area. These reflectors signify the length of the driveway as well as the ability for emergency responders to know if they can turn the rescue equipment around at the end of the driveway. This would involve pre-planning from the fire departments that service the town.

Motion (Kretschmer/Leichtnam) to approve the September 21 5:00 p.m. closed session minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Leichtnam/Wilcox) to approve the September 21 6:00 p.m. minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (McDonald/Leichtnam) to approve the Monday October 3 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Amy Penn from the Wisconsin DNR Division of Forestry discussed the Wildfire Reduction Program. The Town of Saratoga is #1 for wildfire risk. **Motion (Leichtnam/Kretschmer) to adopt a resolution to participate in the Wildfire Reduction Program. Motion passed unanimously.**

Lengthy discussion regarding the Ordinance to Codify Committees. **Motion (Leichtnam/Kretschmer) to table until the October 19th 5:00 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

Motion (Carrell/McDonald) to accept the updated uniform contract for the Road Crew. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Leichtnam/Wilcox) to approve the Business Permit and 4 sign permits for Lori Mott with Fantasy Costume Shop. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Kretschmer/Leichtnam) to approve the sign permit for Tim Kent with Kent Stone. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Kretschmer/Wilcox) to approve the sign and business permit for Tim Kent with Antler's Paradise. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Leichtnam/Kretschmer) to table the business permit for Chance Hoffman with Hoffman's Re-sale until the Zoning Administrator can review further. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Kretschmer/Wilcox) to approve the Federal Firearms License for Jordan Griffith contingent on him producing a copy of the Federal Licensing once he receives it. Motion passed unanimously.

A Public Comment session will be held on Wednesday October 26th at 6:00 p.m. will be held in the Town Hall regarding potential zoning changes and survey results.

Motion (Kretschmer/Wilcox) to table the quote for the security system to the next agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

The CEED Committee has awarded the \$20,000 for the Turtle Bay Public Access. The SPARKS Committee has a site plan that was designed for the park if anyone would like to view. The parking lot was completed. The next projects that they would like to see completed would be steps, gazebo, and bathroom. **Motion (McDonald/Leichtnam) to let out bids for the Turtle Bay Public Access Project ASAP and place as an agenda item on the October 19th Town Board Meeting to review, discuss, and possible action of the most advantageous bid at the time with the idea that the project be completed by the end of 2022. Motion passed unanimously.**

Motion (Kretschmer/Carrell) to approve the transfer of agent for Team Schierl Companies DBA The Store #90. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (Kretschmer/Wilcox) to deny the operator's license for J.S. based off of criminal history. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding the contract for Lori and Friends Catering. No changes to the current contract which will expire in March 2023. Before the contract expires both the Town and Lori and Friends catering have the option to re-evaluate.

Motion (Leichtnam/McDonald) to pay bills. Motion passed unanimously.

The next Town Board Meeting will be October 19th at 6:00 p.m. **Motion (McDonald/Wilcox) to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. Paulette Weinfurter-Clerk