

TOWN OF SARATOGA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES-unapproved minutes

DATE: Tuesday, April 18, 2023

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Saratoga Town Hall

PRESENT: Josh McDonald, Roger Wilcox, Lorelei Fuehrer, Chase Brockman, Bryan Peterson

ABSENT: Rhonda Carrell, Bill Leichtnam, Gail Kretschmer

This meeting was officially noticed on April 13th, 2023.

Supervisor McDonald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Lorelei Fuehrer read the minutes from the April 19th, 2022, annual meeting minutes. **Motion (Doug Passineau/Kathy Palm) to approve the minutes.**

The 2022 Annual Financial Report was prepared and read by Billie-Jo Kester and Paulette Weinfurter. **Motion (Greg Ferkey/Ember Rodenbeck) to approve the 2022 Annual Financial report.**

The next Annual Town Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 16th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Genny Gildenzoph expressed concerns to the town board, as well as the Plan Commission at a previous meeting, regarding the land at the end of 64th Street South and Tower Road that is being subdivided by a development company. She would like to keep the rural atmosphere.

Ember Rodenbeck would like to see continued development on the Nepco Lake public access located on South Shore drive. Ember has heard push back from various residents and hopes the development continues and does not stall. Paulette Sullivan has concerns about the public access going back to the Town of Port Edwards because of the boundary agreement. It was explained that the public access is not in the boundary area. She is also concerned with the cost of maintaining the public access. Supervisor Wilcox stated that the area was laid out for canoe/kayak access with steps and a restroom which has not been completed yet. Jeff Manor lives close to the public access, and he is concerned with the number of people driving the area and doing donuts. He has been in contact with Wood County Sheriffs Department and they can only enforce this if they are caught in the act. Dan Forbes asked if the patrol was different for a private road compared to a public road. Supervisor Peterson stated that the residents could call the Sheriff's Department and request additional patrol. Kathy Palm is on the EMS for the Town of Saratoga and she is worried about drug use. Several residents would like to see the boat landing opened back up. This would be helpful for water rescue. Jeff Manor stated that the drop off to the lake is so steep you would not want to carry your canoe or kayak up multiple times, and curious who would maintain the steps to salt/sand them to eliminate the risk of falling. Lots of cattails are present in the lake by the public access. Charlie Feaster feels this is a waste of money. Paulette Sullivan is also worried that this would be an insurance risk for the town. Billie-Jo Kester states that Wood County has mastered the parks in the area, and they do such a great job. She is very concerned with the bike path that was created and designed for people to cross Hwy 13 at Townline Road. This would be very difficult for a family to cross safely. Supervisor Wilcox has met with Jessica Planer who does grant writing. He named a few grants that could be investigated further and be studied out.

Gordy Wipperfurth asked about the SPARKS Committee, and what will happen. Chairman Fuehrer would like to see the SPARKS Committee in place but composed of residents instead of the Town Board.

Todd Ferkey would like to see the old boat landing open on County Z or to be able to gain access. The restrooms would be hard because it is so low. Supervisor Wilcox shared that the vaulted toilets would need to be filled in and a handicapped accessible porta potty would need to be placed instead.

No additional new business.

Motion (Dan Forbes/Doug Passineau) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Paulette Weinfurter-Clerk