

April 17, 2019

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 p.m. in the town office. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. All members were present. The meeting was officially noticed on April 11, 2019.

Heeg made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 3rd, 2019 meeting. Frank seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathy Palm gave the Saratoga EMS Report. They are working with the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department to get a grant to purchase albuterol when needed for a call. They are also getting a new type of airway device for CPR that will be easier and cheaper.

Their Fundraiser and Fair will be held on May 19th. There will be many surrounding departments in attendance. They will be doing health checks and have kid's games.

The Saratoga EMS go on fire calls within the Town of Saratoga and the City of Wisconsin Rapids. They check the vitals of fire fighters to ensure they stay safe during a call. When an ambulance has been used for this purpose, it takes several hours of work to clean the ambulance after the call. The Village of Biron has donated an enclosed trailer to the Saratoga EMS department to use as a rehab trailer instead of an ambulance. They plan to have the trailer ready for a call beginning June 2019.

The Saratoga EMS received a \$1,000 grant from the Encourage Foundation to purchase supplies for the rehab trailer.

They would like to have extrication training at the Town hall for all surrounding community departments to attend. They have had it here in the past. The Board would like to have them put tarps down and do the extrication on the gravel to the back and side of the Town hall to avoid glass and oil on the hall parking lot.

The Saratoga EMS Department is very happy with the monthly training they are getting with the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department.

Jim Rowe, Nekoosa Fire Department would like to do some mutual aid training at the town hall. He said that they will have full tanks of water, but would have them empty before going on the town hall parking lot. The Board is fine with the training at the Town hall.

Chief Robert Piatt, Grand Rapids Fire Department, gave the 2018 annual report. They are staffed at 39 fire fighters and would like to recruit to find more members. They are training to become a Project Lifesaver agency, a program to rescue cognitively disabled patients that escape their caregivers. They will also be a trained, functioning, rescue unit for cold water/ice rescue for the community. They are educating students about fire safety. They will have a bi-annual Adult Fire Safety Program that will focus on fire safety for residential dwelling. They are hoping to replace one of their engines in 2020.

The Board discussed support for the Nekoosa police dog. The Board believes that the dog would be a valuable asset to the Town. The approximate annual cost will be around \$12,000. The dog and the handler, who lives in the Town, will need to have constant training. The Board would like to see if the Town of Saratoga could contract with the City of Nekoosa yearly, or pay per call within the Town with a capped yearly amount. The item was tabled until Chairman Rickaby can talk with the City of Nekoosa police representative.

Chairman Rickaby appointed Lisa Klein to the Board of Adjustment for a 3-year term. He also appointed Dan Forbes and Tom Grygo to the Plan Commission for a 3-year term.

Bill Leichtnam, Wood County Supervisor and CEED Committee member, would like the Town to start working on planning for Saratoga's economic future. He would like ideas for development of land in the Town to come from the Town.

Forbes stated he would like to have the Town to join REGI in order to use their contacts and

resources.

Rick Bakovka, REGI President, discussed the possibility of solar energy farms and the benefits it could have for both the Town and the county. He also discussed zoning and developer agreements. He said he is only able to work on the Towns' behalf if he is asked to do so by the municipality.

Chairman Rickaby stated that the Town has a much better opportunity for economic development compared to a few years ago.

Heeg made a motion to approve the operator's licenses for Kayla Higgins, Mickole Schaetzka, Allen Witt, Veronica Henke, and Marshall Murphy. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Wisconsin Rapids Swim Team is checking to see if they could possibly use the Town hall for a fashion show fundraiser. Frank made a motion to allow them to use the hall for \$100 to pay for the cleaning afterwards. Forbes seconded it. Motion passed.

There was no Building Inspector's report.

There was no Constable's report.

There was no Treasurer's report.

Passineau informed the Town received a quote/bid for the 50/50 road aid to replace a culvert on 48th Street at Five Mile Creek. Their quote was for \$55,000. The Towns' portion would be \$27,500.

The Town hall doors are going to be replaced the end of this week and next.

Forbes had a request to add Pine Street and Heeg Lane to the ATV/UTV route ordinance. It will be placed on the agenda when requested by Saratoga ATV/UTV Club.

Forbes said that the Plan Commission is working on canoe and kayak boat launches for the Wisconsin River off of Sandy Springs Drive and NEPCO Lake off the public access on South Shore Drive. They are also looking into the boat landing on County Trunk Z at the Wood County and Adams County line.

The Plan Commission is also looking at updating the Zoning Ordinance.

The Town of Rome is interested to see if the Town of Saratoga would be willing to give a liquor license to them for a business that is interested in opening in Rome. Rick Bakovka stated that the Town of Grand Rapids would be willing to give them a license, but it would have to be transferred from Grand Rapids to Saratoga, then to the Town of Rome. The Board stated they would be willing to work with the transfer from Grand Rapids to Rome.

Frank made a motion to approve the bills paid. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Forbes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski, Town Clerk