

July 17, 2019

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 p.m. in the town office. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. Forbes was absent. The meeting was officially noticed on July 15, 2019.

Steve Kreuser from Wood County Emergency Management spoke to the Board and residents regarding the water issues on the northeast side of the township especially along Ranger Road. The last time the County had worked on problem with the Town was in 1993 when the federal government gave \$375,000 to help homeowners in the area. Currently Wood County is working with the Army Corp of Engineers on a different project and they recommended putting in for a grant. When budgets are done in October there could be funds available to do a study on the area so they can give their best advice on what can be done to help remedy the issue. He estimates the study would take about 4 months to complete. Steve stated there are two test wells on either side of the Five Mile Creek they are monitoring. Last week the water was one inch below the highest level in 1993. Steve stated that Wood County Emergency Government is not an expert on water issues, but can help with obtaining fund for the mitigation, if there is any available, when a solution is found. The Town's culverts are open and flowing water, so blockage is not an issue. If a driveway culvert is plugged, it is the property owner's responsibility to clean it. Some of the residents recommended changing the flow of the water in the ditches so the water would go down 64th Street and empty into the Five Mile Creek. The Board is concerned about changing the flow of the water, even in the ditches, because it may create water issues for other Town residents. By diverting the water without the proper authority and permits, the Town could be liable. Bill Leichtnam suggested creating a committee that would continue working on a resolution for the water problems. Several residents are interested in being part of the committee. The creation of the committee will be put on the next agenda for approval.

Heeg made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 3, 2019 meeting. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Passineau made a motion to approve the Certified Survey Map for Michael Knutson. Heeg seconded it. Motin passed unanimously.

Heeg made a motion to approve the Certified Survey Map for Jason Kellner. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Frank made a motion to grant the operator's licenses for David Kester, Christopher Sparks, Cody Arnold, and Tyler Keith. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Protect Wood County and its Neighbors will be conducting a community water test. The dates to pick up bottles will be Saturday, August 3, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Saratoga Town Hall. You will need to go online to reserve your testing kit. They can't guarantee bottles unless you reserve your kit ahead of time. Once you pick up your kit, you will need to return your sample on August 4, 2019 between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Saratoga Town Hall. They will take the sample to the UW-Stevens Point lab. The results will be mailed within 3-4 weeks. If there are enough people interested, the lab will present the information at a community meeting in September. Kits are \$36 and \$52 depending on what you would like tested.

The residents and Board discussed the future development in the Town. According to the 2018 Strategic Planning the top 2 items the respondents wanted in the Town was residential and recreational developments.

At the Wood County CEED Committiee meeting yesterday where several residents were in attendance, Rick Bakovka, REGI President, discussed a solar array that he is currently working with a developer and the County on to get to come into the Town of Saratoga. Although the Town has given money to REGI, they have not given him any direction to pursue for the Town. Some of the Saratoga Town Board members have only heard rumors, but the Town has not received any proposals or any details of the possibly development. The Board does not like the secrecy and does not want a development just dropped in their laps like the proposed CAFO. The Town, Protect Wood County, Saratoga concerned and many concerned citizens have been fighting for 7 years to not have the CAFO in Town. Wysocki has stated that the CAFO is no longer an option in the Town of Saratoga.

The residents want to let people know that the solar array is not an either or option, since the CAFO is no longer on the table. Not only would the solar array deforest hundreds if not thousands of acres in the Town, it would displace the wildlife. They are also concerned that it is a development the Towns people don't want and won't bring

tourism, a higher tax base, or draw people to the area for jobs. They would like a proposal sent to Wysocki based on what the residents of the Town want, like an ATV/UTV trail system or recreational site, that the Citizens Economic Committee has been working towards.

The Board would like Rick Bakovka to come to a meeting and let the Town know what plans he has been working on without the Towns' approval.

Agustus Cornwell, 5412 Esox Trail, requested a business permit for Reasonable Lawncare LLC. Agustus did receive a letter from the Constable to clean the property and to register their business with the Town. He has cleaned the property up. A neighbor discussed some of the problems that he and other neighbors have had with Agustus. He wants them to succeed in business, but to be more considerate of the neighbors. Frank made a motion to grant the business permit. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Lorelei Fuehrer gave the Building Inspector's report. Although builders are finding the state site for new house permits very difficult, she does have a few new houses in the area.

Dave Ryun gave the Constable's report. Dan McCrossen, 3630 Ranger Road, property has not changed at all since receiving a nuisance letter. A citation will be sent.

A mobile home was brought to 640 Church Avenue. The mobile home did not have the proper permits to be brought into the Town, did not have a HUD number, and was in bad condition. The Chairman was able to talk to the mover and had him remove the trailer from the Town.

Dave has received several calls from a person on Squirrel Trail regarding wood piles along the road. Dave has checked and it is a civil matter.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the Treasurer's report. The Board will be auditing the Town books at the next meeting.

Wood County is scheduled to start working on paving the 15 dips that were dug out earlier this spring. They will start work the week of July 29th.

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

Heeg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski, Town Clerk