

May 19, 2021

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 pm in the town hall. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. All members were present. The meeting was officially noticed on May 13th, 2021.

Bill Leichtnam made a motion to pay bills. McDonald seconded it. All in favor. Motion carries. Supervisor Leichtman had a question in regards to the fee charged from Advanced Disposal. It is a monthly fee for recycling and garbage for the town.

Jim LeVasseur, Project Manager from Burns McDonnell, is working on the Wood County Solar Project. The project will have a lot of wood chips. He has offered some of the chips to the Town, but a location would have to be designated for them to dump and have residents be able to pick them up. Roadman Coon stated if wood chips were brought to the old landfill site, it would need to be cleaned up. Jim thought they might be able to provide assistance with the cleanup of the stumps. It is anticipated that the wood chips will be available for a few months. Burns McDonnell would consider delivering bulk loads to other municipalities and residents, but they would not be able to deliver small loads. Burns McDonnell cannot allow people on the job site for safety concerns. The Town will work to get a link placed on the Facebook page and the Towns' website to see what the interest in the wood chips would be.

There is approximately 5 acres of 3-8 foot saplings in the Solar Project area they are keeping as long as possible to try to find equipment to remove them and a location to take them. They cannot have people coming to the Wood County Solar property because of the liability. The trees have to be transplanted within a short time of being taken out of the ground. They have been in contact with the DNR, and will continue to work on a plan to get them transplanted.

The contract for the new building inspector was reviewed. Kretschmer made a motion to approve the agreement between the Town of Saratoga and Josh Volz to begin July 1, 2021. Carrell seconded it. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

No operator's licenses for approval.

Gail Kretschmer provided update for the SPARKS committee. They are continuing to meet monthly and brainstorming ideas.

Sarajane Snyder provided update for the Plan Commission. They would like to see updated business cards and logo for the town. Josh McDonald stated that they are still working on this and have not come up with a solution to share with the board.

Heidi Kawleski gave the clerk's report. Information for the American Rescue Plan Act has been released. The document that outlines how this money can be spent is complex, and around 150 pages in length. Bill Leichtnam received an email from the Towns Association in regards to the funding and how complex the document is. He is thinking that the Towns Association or a Town Administrator would be helpful to have to help look into this information as well as different grants that the town could look at potentially applying for.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the treasurer's report. We still have 65 dogs in the town that are not licensed. Citations will be issued to those who have not registered the dogs in the month of June.

Lorelei Fuehrer gave the building inspectors report. She stated that a lot of building is going on within the town.

Jim LeVasseur, Project Manager for Burns McDonnell, stated all of the trees for the solar project should be cut within the perimeter of the project within the next week. Kent Syverson is the independent consultant hired by the town to review the Solar Project. Jim also stated that it should be roughly 3 months before herbicides will be applied, then the seeding will take place. He stated that they want the soil to grow vegetation as soon as possible so killing everything down to the spores would be the opposite of what he needs. They are working with the State on a plan to plant native plants. Jim will be submitting the soil testing yet this week so they will know exactly what is needed to have vegetation grow. He stated that there would be no aerial spraying of herbicides. He is going to send a list to the board for contacts from Burn McDonnell that would be able to help with fundraising and community needs.

Rick and Cindy Lau, 5340 Manhattan Drive, submitted concrete driveway waiver. Leichtnam made motion to approve. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Jason Vechinski, 9940 Carousel Court, submitted a concrete driveway waiver. McDonald made a motion to approve. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark Mauersburg reached out via phone to some of the board members that a second solar project could be coming to the Town of Saratoga. This announcement is expected to be made in a few weeks. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting. It would be adjacent to the current project. Because this is a new project, it would be a different developer's agreement.

Leichtnam would like economic development ideas and community asks of the Wood County Solar project to be discussed. It was requested to have a special board meeting so the public can discuss their ideas with the Board. A tentative scheduled date is Wednesday May 26, at 6:00 pm at the Saratoga Town Hall.

Kathy Palm gave the EMS update. They have 10 members and they range from first responders to nurses. She stated that they currently have 15 defibs. They are getting pretty old and worn out. Batteries are dying and some units are needing to be repaired. She is going to get a cost of new units to see if this can be included in the next budget. They are also in need of a garage or heated storage facility to store the fire rehab unit. This unit is vital when they are on a call. It stores supplies and necessities for the crew working.

Kretschmer asked that the planning commission look into the zoning ordinances for the PUD's for the larger properties in the town. Emails for all Town Board members will be set up shortly.

Leichtnam gave update on the county. He stated that Wood County is critically short on housing. He thinks Nancy Turyk would be a great resource for the REDI Grant information as well as branding ideas for the town. He would like to invite her to a Town meeting to discuss this. He will check on dates she is available.

Rhonda spoke with Pam Pitrowski in regards to bike trails/routes. She feels this would pair well with the SPARKS committee.

McDonald made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kretschmer would like to see the following on an upcoming meeting agenda: The best uses of money from the Solar project for town needs, Part time town administrator/grant writer, public input for potential 2<sup>nd</sup> solar project, revisit the road service manager position

Lorelei Fuehrer stated the Town Administrator is not normally a grant writer. She is concerned with the condition of the town roads and feels they are a higher priority than a park for the Town. She would like the Board members to attend a Plan Commission meeting to let them know what specific zoning changes they are interest in.

Chairman Rickaby would like to see the meeting unapproved minutes from the Plan Commission and SPARKS committee shared with the town board as soon as the drafts are prepared.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 2 at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Leichtnam made a motion to adjourn. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Paulette Weinfurter  
Deputy Clerk