

December 1, 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 noted on November 29, 2021.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Public comment.

Rob Borski wanted to know if the Town had received any further paperwork from Ruesch Development regarding the proposed planned unit development at the corner of Silver Creek Trail and Highway 13. The Town has received appeal paperwork.

The renter of 824 Church Avenue has been notified that the dwelling is due to be razed. She would like until December 5th to remove all her items from the property.

Brandon Burroughs gave the Constable's report. Brandon stated that Nick Cegina, along Bainbridge Trail has taken care of most issues for a junk complaint. Nick's lawyer is supposed to contact the Town regarding two storage containers on the property. Brandon and Chairman Rickaby are to meet with the Towns' attorney to discuss the Strangfeld property on Hollywood Road. The property is still not clean. Since winter is starting, it will be hard to clean the property. Terry would like to give them until June 1st to get the property cleaned up. He would like the court to appoint someone to mark and remove items immediately. Items that have previously been marked are either being moved or turned over. According to the court order, anything for agricultural can't be removed. Bill Clenndening is on the Wood County Safety Committee and will check to see if they can aid the Town since this has been an ongoing issue for many years.

Josh Volz gave the Building Inspector's report. He has three new houses. He has received a few inquiries on the Camelot Motel, which he has referred to Lorelei Fuehrer.

Lorelei Fuehrer gave the Zoning Administrator's report. The dwelling at 824 Church Avenue has been found to be so out of repair as to be dangerous, unsafe, unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human habitation, occupancy or use. Lorelei has completed the paperwork and notices for the razing of the building. The town will need to have an evaluation for asbestos done and find a contractor to tear it down. Al Wondzell has submitted rezoning applications for two properties; which will be placed on January's Plan Commission meeting before coming to the Town Board. The Town will need to appoint alternate members for the Board of Appeals. She has checked with Wood County Emergency Government and found that there are no grants available for addressing the Town at this point. If one would become available, she would be willing to write the grant. Terry Rickaby stated that he has spoken to the Towns' attorney and he believed addressing the entire Town should qualify as a valid expense under the ARPA money the Town has received.

Andy Remely discussed Wood County Solar project. They should have all the pile driving done by the end of 2021. They are continuing to install above ground trackers. Above ground electrical is starting. They are beginning work on the substation building that is within the project area. They have completed installation of the fencing around the perimeter of the project.

Heidi Kawleski gave the Clerk's report. The Road Project Oversight Manager has applied for a 50/50 Bridge aid through Wood County Highway Department for the Hollywood Road culvert. It would be a project for 2022. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, NCWRPC, would like to have a kick-off meeting to discuss the work that will be done on the Comprehensive Plan and Economic Development Plan. The next Plan Commission meeting on December 8th at 6:30 was the date that was given for this discussion. The notice on the bottom of the agenda allows Town Board members to attend to gather information.

Leichtnam made a motion to approve the minutes of November 17th, 2021. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

William Kapla, 5045 Church Avenue, had a camper extension until December 1st, 2021. He has requested another 90 day extension. William was not present, but told Chairman Rickaby that he works construction and would like to stay in the camper occasionally during that time. He currently has a garage on the property and has spoken to Lorelei Fuehrer about converting it into a house. Lorelei has found the building plans which show it was built as a garage. If he would like to convert the garage to a house he will have to go through the State. McDonald made a motion to allow the 90 day extension. Carrell seconded it. There was discussion about allowing the use of a camper during the winter due to emergency situations. There was concern of use of the camper during the winter, which the camper was not built for, along with concern of freezing water and sewer. According to Town ordinance, use of a camper from 1-5 days occasionally is allowed; which is what is sounded like he wanted. Carrell rescinded her second. Due to lack of second, the motion failed to pass. The camper extension was denied. Chairman Rickaby will notify Mr. Klapla.

The Certified Survey map for Dan Inc. was reviewed. The Town has received information from the Towns' attorney which states that according to the Mobile Home Ordinance the board can deny the Certified Survey map since it would be taking land away from a mobile home park. Carrell made a motion to deny the Certified Survey Map for Dan Inc. Kretschmer seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Rickaby appointed Sarajane Snyder to Plan Commission Chairman. Chairman Rickaby spoke to several members of the Plan Commission regarding the appointment before the meeting. All Town Board members approved of the appointment.

The Zoning Administrator position was discussed. Lorelei Fuehrer is retiring at the end of the year. At the direction of the Board from the last Town Board meeting, the Clerk sent emails out to four surrounding municipalities to see if their Administrator would be interested in a part-time zoning administrator for the Town, in addition to their current job. The Village of Port Edwards Administrator requested more information. Lorelei Fuehrer spoke to Wisconsin Rapids Director of Community Development and he would be willing to speak to the Town to get more information. Several Board members requested that the position be posted and interviews be done. There was concern that zoning is very complicated and to fill the position could be costly. An ad will be placed in the paper and on the Towns' website.

McDonald made a motion to approve provisional operator's licenses for Michele Christy and Ashley Peden. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell made a motion to pay bills. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Board members gave informational announcements.

Leichtnam stated that Bug Tussel is putting up towers in Wood County. He will make contact with them regarding possible interest in the Town. Leichtnam has an ATV/UTV survey that was put out by NCWRPC.

Carrell has received a call about Kester Road. There has been land that was split past the end of the road. It would be the land owner's responsibility to build a road up to State specifications before the Town would consider taking it.

McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski, Clerk