

February 16, 2022

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 February 11, 2022.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alan Panek representing Al Wondzell discussed his request to re-zone several properties in the Town. The Town's attorney, Larry Konopacki was present via zoom. Larry explained that the Town Board has the authority to re-zone if they choose. The Comprehensive Plan could have slight modifications; and this is a typical thing that towns do. On the current Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map, parcel 1800316 the property NW of Evergreen and Highway 13 intersection, is noted as commercial. The SE parcel 1800354, would need clarification on the map/boundary to see how this would fit into the Comprehensive Plan. It was requested for the proposed Certified Survey Map for 1800316 reflect a 33 foot easement on the south line of lot 4. That would allow Evergreen Avenue to be continued west of Highway 13 for potential future use. Carrell questioned if pole buildings were constructed if they were constructed to commercial code. Larry stated that when building permits are issued, they are following the building code of the project. Carrell would like to see other businesses on the commercial front instead of pole buildings.

McDonald made a motion to approve Al Wondzell's request to rezone parcel 1800316, at the NW corner of Hwy 13 and Evergreen Avenue from Rural Preservation District for proposed frontage lots 1-4 of approximately 4 acres each to Commercial District and proposed lots 5&6 approximately 10 acres each to residential and to table Al Wondzell's request to rezone parcel 1800354 at the SE corner of Hwy 13 and Evergreen Avenue from Rural Preservation District for frontage lots 17,18,19 approximately 3 acres each to Commercial District and remaining lots 12,14,15,16 totaling approximately 16 acres to residential. Due to lack of a second, the motion was denied.

Carrell made a motion to table the re-zoning of parcel 1800316 in order to discuss and clarify what will be done with Mr. Wondzell. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passes unanimously.

McDonald made a motion to table Al Wondzell's request to rezone parcel 1800354 at the SE corner of Hwy 13 and Evergreen Ave. from Rural Preservation District for frontage lots 17,18,19 approximately 3 acres each to Commercial District and remaining lots 12,14,15,16 totaling approximately 16 acres to residential. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell made a motion to table CSM for Al Wondzell's Certified Survey Map for parcel 1800316 at the NW corner of Hwy 13 and Evergreen Avenue. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Carrell will contact Mr. Wondzell to clarify questions the board has.

Brandon Burroughs gave the constable update. The suit that was filed against Amber Hulke for dogs at large has been corrected. The suit was dismissed.

Mike Braley from WPL and Andy Remely from Burns and McDonnell provided an update on the solar project. They are installing solar panels on the east side of the project; about 15,000 panels are in place. The generator was delivered for the substation. The transmission lines will be coming in the next few weeks. The substation is about $\frac{3}{4}$ complete. They will continue with racking, which will follow the sun. Trash is being picked up around the site, recycling items that can be recycled. Gravel is going to be removed and the area will be restored. The gravel

will be re-used to repair roads. By August/September residents should be able to see through the fence to observe. The solar project has employed around 150 local residents. The goal is for the solar project to be operational by October. They do have some broken pallets that they are willing to give away. The pallets contain nails, and would be given out at your own risk. They are still seeing local residents speeding in the area surrounding the project. Law enforcement will be monitoring. Town residents have also had concern regarding semi-trucks parking along the road. Andy Remely stated that they have multiple signs up and are doing everything they can to avoid this from happening. He even contacted google maps to see if they were able to designate the truck route.

Kasten Kester was present for the Road Crew. No new updates at this time.

Kretschmer was in contact with Wood County Planning and Zoning. Members of the SPARKS Committee will be giving a presentation covering information for the NEPCO Public access project at the October CEED committee meeting. The next SPARKS Committee meeting will be Monday February 21, 2022.

McDonald gave the Plan Commission update. They reviewed Chapter 1 and 2 of the proposed updates to the Comprehensive Plan. They have 8 more chapters to complete, but progress is being made and will be shared with the Town Board.

Carrell reached out to Steve Bornbach to help with the town history portion of the Comprehensive Plan. Once completed, this will be submitted to Dennis Lawrence with North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the Treasurer's report. Tax collection is complete. All late tax payments and remaining partial payments would go to Wood County. The town does have an ordinance stating that a business permit can be pulled if they owe the town money.

Carrell made a motion to approve the February 2, 2022 minutes (5:00 meeting) with corrections. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell made a motion to approve the February 2, 2022 minutes (6:00 meeting). Kretschmer seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carell made a motion to approve the February 7, 2022 minutes. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kretschmer made a motion to approve a business license for Pauline LaBarge, Pauline's Grooming LLC, at 7630 State Hwy 13 S. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kretschmer made a motion to approve Dr. Nikki VanDenheuvel's business permit to create a home based Animal Chiropractor business on parcel 1800045B. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The building of a home would need to go through the building permit process.

A Town Per Diem Policy was discussed. The board would like to have the section titled Monthly Wood County Unit Meeting changed to Wood County Towns Association meeting. This will be updated. Board members can attend additional meetings outside of the per diem policy, but they wouldn't be allowed to take that fee on their time card. Leichtnam asked the best way to reach the Town Chairman for approval. If the Town Chairman is unavailable, they are able to verify with the Town Clerk. Leichtnam suggested looking at the number of meetings per year, like they do at the County. McDonald made a motion to approve the Town Per Diem

Policy with the change from Monthly Wood County Unit Meeting to Wood County Towns Association. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Leichtnam made a motion to update the road work plan for 2022, 2023, and 2024. Oak Street from Hwy 73 to County Trunk U will be moved from 2023 to 2022. Hollywood Road from Hwy 73 to County Road Z will be moved from 2022 to 2023. 52nd Street from Spruce Avenue to Hwy 73 will be moved from 2024 to 2023. Kretschmer seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kretschmer made a motion to allow the Town to apply for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding Grant for Hollywood Road from Hwy 73 to County Road Z instead of Ranger Road; and continue with the application for 52nd Street from Spruce Avenue to State Highway 73. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Books were audited.

Carrell made a motion to adjourn. Leichtnam seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Paulette Weinfurter
Deputy Clerk