

March 2, 2022

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 pm in the Town Board Room. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. All members were present. The meeting was officially noticed on February 24, 2022.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jason Joling and Todd Eckes from the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department presented the Saratoga First Responders with the Mission Lifeline Gold Plus Award. With the partnership of the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department all cardiac events in diagnosed in the field as active heart attacks within the response area all met the criteria of diagnosis to catheterization in 90 minutes or less. There were 9 services in the State that received the Mission Lifeline Award and only 4 that met the Gold Plus criteria.

Public Comment.

Chase Brockman stated that the Town will be able to use the ARPA Funds as a revenue loss; but for any bidding federal and state regulations will have to be followed. He also stated the Town should plan to submit plans for BIL Infrastructure funds. He stated that there is usually a 5-10% increase per year for pavement and roadwork, but currently we are at between a 25-30% increase over last year. He also stated that the Town should look at cross cracks in some roads; stating that flex patch and leveling them can help lengthen the life of a road.

Josh Volz gave the Building Inspector's report. He stated that there are three houses that are in the works. He is getting more calls about building. He had an inquiry about building a house at Lakeside Fire Campground. He had to condemn a house on Church Avenue; he believes it will be torn down by the owner's family. Lorelei Fuehrer has received calls from six different people that are interested in building sheds. She referred them to Josh.

Wayne Coon gave the Roadman report. The Town of Saratoga flag was taken down since it was starting to fray. The County is watching the frost tubes. Once the County puts up weight limits, the Town will as well.

Rhonda Carrell stated that the SPARKS Committee did not meet in February, but plans to meet in March for their regular meeting.

Sarajane Snyder gave the Plan Commission report. She will check with Wood County Planning and Zoning to get a Town map to display in Town Board room. The Plan Commission is working on updating the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan Commission and Town Board members have the proposed first two chapters to review. They are going to make changes and adjust them before they move on the rest of the chapters. The Public is welcome to come to Plan Commission meetings to help with the Comprehensive Plan update.

Heidi Kawleski gave the Clerk's report. Alliant has made contact with the Town and would like to look at battery storage for the Wood County Solar project. The information has been forwarded to Larry Konopacki, the Town's attorney. The Town has asked for Alliant to cover the Town's legal fees for working on this. Business cards for Board members were reviewed.

Board members gave informational announcements.

Kretschmer has received a call about blue bird houses along Town roads just at the right of way line. She would like it added to the next board agenda.

Leichtnam stated that there would be federal funding coming to Wisconsin for broadband. He said that Town residents may get calls for a survey in regards to speed testing possibly from Charter Spectrum. He said that the results would be vital to two grants that Wood County is

working on. He stated that Charter will start the process of installing fiber to 1058 homes without a penny from us, but that it would be better if the Town would do some sort of match. Leichtnam stated that due to many different items in the Town the Town Board has been meeting a lot lately. He looked at the Town of Grand Rapids and the Village of Port Edward's committee lists. He believes the Town should create more committees to take care of some of the workload, and bring their decisions to the Town Board. He would like the discussion of committees to be put on a future agenda. Leichtnam would also like the Town to look at a Land Subdivision Ordinance.

Carrell made a motion to approve the minutes of February 16th, 2022 - 5:00PM closed meeting with name correction. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kretschmer made a motion to approve the amended February 16th regular board meeting minutes. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell made a motion to approve the minutes of February 23rd, 2022 - 5:00 PM closed meeting. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Leichtnam made a motion to approve the minutes of February 23rd, 2022 – 6:00 PM closed meeting. Kretschmer seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell made a motion to deny the Certified Survey Map for Alan Wondzell at the northwest corner of Highway 13 and Evergreen Avenue. The Plan Commission recommended the Town Board approve the CSM contingent on the approval of the re-zoning of the property and a 33' easement being added to the most south parcel. The re-zoning of the property has not been approved. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

McDonald made a motion to approve the operator's license for Richard King II and Carter Hendrickson. Kretschmer seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell made a motion to give \$200 to the Wisconsin Rapids Safety Patrol from the Forbes donation account. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The Board would like to see if Nekoosa School District has a similar program.

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

McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7: 39 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski, Clerk