

Town Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM March 16, 2022

APPROVED BY BOARD

Stockbridge Community Hall

Chairman Ken Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Present were Supervisors Mark Ecker, Joe Kuhn, Clerk Steve Phipps, Treasurer Andrea Ortleib, County Supervisor Judy Hartl, Amy and Chris Poppy, Lisa Jodar, Mike Funk. * Indicates the person signed up for public comment. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Steve indicated the meeting has been properly posted. Joe moved and Mark E. 2nd the motion to approve the agenda. M/C.

Public comment. No public comment.

Mark E. moved to approve the meeting minutes of Feb. 9, 2022. Joe K. 2nd. M/C.

Roads, Building and Equipment: Mark T. indicated that there have been a lot of washouts with no good ideas how to prevent them in the future, some were 10-12" deep, a culvert on Long Road has water running under the culvert near Nennig's pond. Ken asked if any supervisors wanted to look at it, seeing no volunteers, then said, he would look at it himself with Mark T. sometime along with the intersections of: Moore and Moehn's Rd intersection, Moehn Rd from Hill Rd to Carney Rd is the worst part, Quinney and Long Road intersection has problems per Mark T. Ken suggested Absolute Asphalt as a possible contractor to do the work since the projects are small. All board members agreed all the above areas are bad. All board members agreed to keep Quinney Road as the number one project followed by 55 to Tower Rd, Tower to CR-C and then CR-C to Minahan Rd.

Long Road Bridge:

Mark T. reported Michigan Funds (donor) is still considering the project after an initial rejection. The open bottom culvert (preferred by Michigan F.) would cost about \$39,400 with the town's share being approximately \$15,500. Another option would be a 72" arch bottom culvert with bridge aids leaving approx. \$15,437 for

the town. The county is exempt from permitting whereas others would not be due to the wetlands. Cty. Bridge aid cannot be combined with Michigan Funds. Due to the pending grant, no action was taken. In response to Ken's question, Mark T. said the bridge will extend past the roadway enough to not need guard rails.

End of Fairy Springs by Cty Park: Per Mark T., the county bought and wants to clear cut woods to build a turn around and asked if the town would "help haul gravel" as the town could use the turn around for snow plowing – currently the plows have to back up. Joe thought there would be minimal benefit but thought it was a good idea. Judy Hartl thought it was for the gentleman who lives at the end but could not speculate beyond that for the county's reason to do the project. No one knew the county's reason among the board. Ken told Mark T. to get a clear definition of what the county was asking of the town to contribute.

Truck Purchase: Mark T. does not have a completion date.

Weight Limits and Speed Limits: Ken shared concerns about the deterioration of Mud Creek Road and Mark T. shared information about speed limit reductions such as 15 mph could be done and weight limits. General discussion about saving the road occurred. Ken suggested a 20 ton weight limit. It was discussed to record road conditions as a record but no decision made on record retention or creation. Mark T. said the current road rating in WISLER is a 4. Mark E. asked about the affect of weight limits and speed reductions. Mark T. indicated the general weight limits would probably be removed April 15 but can vary due to weather. Ken moved to create an ordinance to limit the weight limit on Mud Creek Road to 20 tons. Joe K. 2nd the motion. M/C.

F. Grass Cutting: The estimate from Dave Levknecht was handed out. Joe moved and Mark E. 2nd to give Dave Levknecht a try for a year to cut grass. M/C. Mark Ecker indicated Dave has insurance he would get a certificate of insurance from Dave after the town accepts his proposal and notify Dave of the decision. Members agreed to auction the old equipment off at WI Surplus Auction's site.

DOT Hwy 55 Construction: Mark T. indicated there is one culvert south of Quinney Road which will double in size. The project is scheduled in 2025. This may have

adverse effects downstream with washouts and 6 other culverts downstream. General Discussion occurred. Ken shared at one point if a retention pond was built, according to conversations several years ago the pond would need to be 33 acres.

205 S. Military Rd. Stockbridge: Joe reported the locks are in and he is waiting for Rich Thiel to do the mudding. Ken asked about renting and management options. No one had an interest and Ken accepted Steve's suggestion to bring some proposals to the April meeting. Regarding snow removal, Joe K moved to give Gene Funk \$75.00 in Gobbler's Knob gift certificates as a thank you for plowing the sidewalk in the winter. Mark E. 2nd the motion. M/C.

Trash/Recycling Service: Ken said for 50 cents of savings he would not change. Joe K. said he asked 20 people about changing the trash pickup frequency and all but one preferred a more frequent pickup of recycling. Mark E. said the town should just ask to get out of the contract. Joe K. said GFL would cover for WM if they failed to pickup during the transition and seasonal homes may not be a factor in the decision. Ken said residents with smaller carts would end up paying more and Steve P. said that approx. 400 have smaller carts and those would be adversely affected compared to approx. 200 people that already have the large carts. Mark E. said the recyclables is where we are going to gain on the switch. Steve encouraged the town board to use an attorney if the board was going to try to transition to a new hauler due to the potential for many unpleasant possibilities if the transition is not handled correctly. Ken moved Mark E. should contact Atty. Derek McDermott to draft a letter asking if WM would allow the town out of the contract effective June 1 and request Atty. Derek McDermott to assist in an orderly and smooth transition to GFL where the town receives seamless coverage. Mark E. 2nd the motion and M/C. Joe K. abstained.

Snow Emergency: Ken asked Steve to explain the issue. Steve said per the WTA magazine in January 2022 page 14, if the board gives the chair the ability to declare a snow emergency the town can use non-CDL drivers to plow snow in the event of a snow emergency. For example, the election workers could plow snow or any of the board members regardless of having a CDL or not. This ability combined with Mark T. prior communications about sometimes not having drivers the board may

want to consider giving the chairperson such authority. Joe K. moved to give the Chairperson the authority to declare a snow emergency. Mark E. 2nd. M/C.

Communications: Steve shared the table and chairs have been sold at auction. He also shared he has NOT been able to get a map as the board asked in the passage of the sex offender ordinance last fall because county staff said the ordinance was not effective. Steve shared he requested the opinion from the county staff person in writing and they have refused to provide a map nor written statement on the ordinance's enforceability repeatedly. The ordinance's status as far as it's enforceability is questionable due to the town's noncompletion of the ordinance requirement for maps, Steve stated. Ken shared he received a communication from McMahon about working for the town.

Next meetings: Steve asked about a conflict of dates for April 19th with both the annual meeting and the joint board meeting scheduled. After general discussion, a rescheduling of the joint meeting was proposed for April 20 or April 5.

District Days April 2, in Manitowoc: Joe K., Steve P said they will go and Mark E. will let Steve know tomorrow.

Treasurer's Report: Joe K. moved to accept and approve. Mark. E. 2nd the motion. M/C.

Approval and payment of bills: Joe K. moved to approve and pay all bills presented. Mark E 2nd the motion. M/C.

Mark E. moved to adjourn at 8:55PM. Joe K. 2nd. M/C.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Phipps, Clerk