

Town Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM September 14, 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 Ortlieb, Chris and Amy Poppy, Teri Venner*, Ed Venner*, Len Morrell and Bill Van Hoorn * Indicates the person signed up for public comment. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Public comment: Teri and Ed Venner signed up and would reserve their time until the subject came up on the agenda.

Joe moved to approve the August 10, 2022 meeting minutes with Mark E, 2nd. M/C.

Internet/Broadband Service: At the request of residents at the previous meeting the item was on the agenda. Ken asked Steve to share information about a new tower proposed in the town on Moerhke Road and then call via speaker-phone Brian Poulin, Site Acquisition Mgr. at Bug Tussel Wireless to the meeting for questions and answers about the proposed tower. Ken asked Brian if the tower was definitely going to be built. Brian replied yes as certain as it could be at this point. When asked about coverage areas, Brian said the tower provides line of site coverage and significant changes in elevation such as present in the town, from the proposed site to the lakeshore area homes present problems, towers need to communicate with each other, running fiber lines to the unserved/underserved areas may be an option but no planned at this time, proposed tower in service date is the summer of 2023 and is not in partnership with TDS. In response to Teri Venner's question, Brian explained the financing, county collaboration and gave an overview of the process for tower siting. Teri Venner stated she was interested in helping in any way possible to have improved internet service in her vicinity on the Lakeshore. Brian did indicate an impediment to siting towers to close to the lake

was the large area of coverage that occurs over the lake where no subscribers reside to offset the costs. Brian was on the phone for about 20 minutes. Ken said, he would look at the Spectrum markers nearby trying to learn more about the issue. Steve shared information about this exact issue being a topic of a presentation at the upcoming town's association convention and indicated members of the public could register and attend. Ken shared he had concerns with using general town-wide tax dollars to only benefit a fractional region of the town but was open to helping residents in ways the town could however some of the areas seeking better coverage do not even have public roads serving their homes and this is another area presenting complications.

Roads, Buildings and Equipment: Mark T shared the new truck (still under warranty) had oil in the anti-freeze and is back at the dealer to repair as of today, Quinney Road is done and had received about \$8,800.00 of extra asphalt than bid which would not cost the town anything. Ken suggested in future years to consider working with neighboring towns or doing two years of work at once to achieve efficiencies or better scale. The last round ditch mowing will start soon. Ken shared Scott Rammer donated a camera system for the town shop, culverts are taking a beating due to the heavier traffic and some made of stone with steel on the ends. One culvert on Lakeshore Drive now requires more frequent inspections. Mark indicated the various organizations supporting the Long Road culvert are all happy ie. Michigan Funds, Trout unlimited and the WI DNR.

Large Item drop off: Mark T. asked if boats should be accepted. After general discussion about campers, truck caps and other items, Ken moved to no longer accept boats, campers, camper tops and to give Mark Tasch discretion to reject any item. Joe 2nd the motion and M/C.

Fawn Ridge Developer line of Credit: Ken shared he received a verbal quote from MCC to pave and shoulder the ingress and egress for about \$133,000.00 which is still below the line of credit the town has from the developer.

High visibility apparel: Ken shared the idea of getting staff apparel with town of Stockbridge logos. Mark E. and Joe said it was good idea.

ARPA Procurement Policy: Steve shared the WTA had provided and new and improved template or a procurement policy and ethics ordinance but the agenda did not cite the ordinance and suggested the issue be tabled until next meeting. Ken tabled it to next meeting.

ARPA grant fund usage: Ken shared conversations he had with the land owner adjacent to the town shed and purchasing more land may not be absolutely necessary to build/remodel on the site. A yard waste drop off site at the shed may also be incorporated into the redesign. Ken asked Mark T. if he had any suggestions and Mark T. said not at this time. And Ken shared, ARPA funds can now be applied more liberally than as initially rolled out such as to roads, bridges and culverts.

Communications: Steve shared the rental home is scheduled for a new water heater and shower valve as recommended by a plumber. The town received a timber cutting notice concerning land owned by Thomas Gebhart, 2022 Equalized Value Information, underage alcohol serving compliance checks in the town, and a notice from the village requesting changes to the sewer service area.

Town Budget Meeting scheduled for Oct. 11, 2022 at 7 PM.

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

Bills: Joe moved to pay all bills presented to the board. Mark E. 2nd M/C.

Mark E. moved at adjourn at 8:20 PM. Joe K. 2nd the motion. M/C.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Phipps, Clerk