

Town Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

December 13, 2023

APPROVED BY BOARD

Stockbridge Community Hall

Chairman Joe Kuhn called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Supervisors Mark Ecker, Jon Groeschl, Clerk Steve Phipps, Treasurer Andrea Ortlieb, residents: Ralph Schmid, Barbara Bittner*, Bob Cullen*, Chris and Amy Poppy. Others in attendance (residency unidentified) Dave Moscinski* of the Stockbridge School District, Andrew Arenz, Keith Krepline, Sheila Fredrick, Cullen Real Estate, Mike Funk - Fire Chief, AJ Reif and Art Reif. *Indicates the person signed up for public comment.

Steve confirmed the meeting notices were posted.

Mark E. moved to approve the agenda with moving item 8 (light pollution) to item 6.5 and item 10 (CSM review) to item 6.6. Jon 2nd and M/C.

Public Comment: Superintendent of the Stockbridge School District, Dave Moscinski shared information about the planning of the 150 year anniversary of the school and invited the town to join in the celebration planning and/or efforts.

Other public comment was deferred to the item(s) on the agenda.

Mark E. moved to approve the November 15, 2023 minutes. Jon 2nd and M/C.

Light Pollution: Barbara Bittner offered to help find solutions and provided sample regulations of lighting from other communities and other people initiating for dark skies. She said she wants to see the night sky again and doesn't want Stockbridge to become a community with a glow of light over it all night. Joe shared he wants to research the issue. Jon expressed concern/questions about enforcement in the town with the absence of zoning. Bob Cullen, representing Cullen Real Estate, stated that prior to building the storage facility state approvals were met, and the lighting is less than the nearby gas station. Bob Cullen said, I will do what you guys want to do. After general discussion, no action was taken.

CSM review: The Arenz certified survey map review part of lot 297 on Hwy 151 was reviewed. Jon moved to offer no objection/comment to the county. Mark 2nd the motion. M/C.

Roads, Buildings and Equipment: Mark T. informed the board the town still does not have a boom mower. He is studying the culvert situation on Twilight Beach Road but thinks there is a possibility the culvert may no longer be needed but is checking with other regulatory agencies, Mark needs to look a grades and more work is needed before a decision is made. Regarding Lakeshore Drive's bridge, Joe reported engineering work is progressing and the 2027 start date remains tentative.

Road Maintenance Positions compensation: At 7:23 PM, Joe moved to go into closed session to discuss employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of staff. Mark E. 2nd. M/C via a roll call vote: Joe – aye, Mark – aye, Jon – aye.

General Discussion about wages for highway staff.

Road Maintenance Positions compensation: At 7:33 PM, Joe moved to go into open session. Mark E. 2nd. M/C via a roll call vote: Joe – aye, Mark – aye, Jon – aye.

Joe moved to increase the base rate of the road supervisor from \$29.75/hr to \$31.25/hr and the part-time highway staff from \$23.00/hr to \$25.00/hr. beginning the first payroll check printed in 2024. Jon 2nd. M/C.

Fire Department Contract: Joe shared he met with the Village President, Tim Lemke and Tim pointed out some minor words in the contract that could use updating. Joe said he was open to talking about updating the contract and paying for ½ of the attorney's services for doing so but no action was taken, decisions made or agreements made.

Record Location Fee: The fee set in 1996 is outdated as presented by Steve and after general discussion Joe Kuhn moved to amend "\$10.00" to "\$25.00" in item 3 of the Resolution to Impose Fees For Copies of Public Records passed on the 15th day of October, 1996. Motion was seconded by Mark Ecker. Motion Carried.

Christmas/Holiday dinner: Joe shared he liked the idea of the board and employees meeting for dinner to get to know each other outside of business. It was stated elected officials would be purchasing their own meal and employees meals plus one guest could be purchased by the town. General discussion about election workers inclusion was discussed which resulted in this item being tabled until after item 13 (Election Workers) could be discussed.

Election Workers: Steve explained he received 4 partisan election inspectors nominees and per state law those nominees are to be chosen first over others regardless of others election inspectors long-standing service. Steve explained the Town of Stockbridge deferral of appointments to the clerk in 1996 and subsequent non-board appointment since that time. Steve invited everyone to a meeting called to schedule inspectors for the elections in 2024 on January 4, 2024 at the community hall at 4 PM. After general discussion, no action was taken.

Christmas/Holiday dinner: Jon moved to invite all road/highway workers and one guest to dinner at the Granary in Sherwood at 6:30 PM on January 12, 2024 with other locations could be considered as arranged by Joe. Mark E. 2nd the motion. M/C.

Next meeting agenda items: Andrea asked for a drop box location to be on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report: Mark E moved to approve the report. Jon 2nd. M/C.

Communications: Steve reported that QuickBooks will be changing the format for reports, Cal. Co. LWCD will use the hall in 2024 for a town focused water test collection site and the tenant in the rental shared a willingness to sell appliances at vacation that is yet to be determined in 2024.

Payment of bills: Jon moved to approve payment of all bills presented to the board. Mark E. 2nd. M/C.

Joe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Jon 2nd the motion. M/C.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Phipps, Clerk