

## Town Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

April 10, 2024

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 and Road Supervisor Mark Tasch. Approx. 17 residents and members of the public with the following signing-up for public comment: Diane Hoerth, Sue Ludwig, Barbara Bittner and Jim Fett.

Steve confirmed the meeting notices were posted.

Jon moved to approve the agenda. Mark E. 2<sup>nd</sup> and M/C.

Public Comment: Diane Hoerth spoke about the adverse health effects from wind turbines such as sleep deprivation, cortisol levels and in speaking with others heard turbines can kill you and cause anxiousness and behavior issues. Sue Ludwig passed out a handout regarding setbacks. Barbara Bittner expressed concerns about windfarms and cattle die-offs and passed out information about land contracts between turbine developers and the landowner. Jim Fett asked the board if the town has any regulation of wind turbines - Joe said no.

Mark E. moved to approve the March 13, 2024, minutes. Jon 2<sup>nd</sup> and M/C.

Wind Turbines: Joe said he has been doing a lot of work on the issue. Jon said he has been researching the "farmland first" ordinance in speaking with the county and WTA staff attorneys. He indicated the county would be enforcing the states setbacks and not the more restrictive county setbacks from what he was told. He read the communication from WTA attorney Carol Nawrocki on the subject of the said ordinance and her recommendation to draft ordinances that comply with PSC 128 if the town wants to avoid lawsuits. And reiterating the state legislature needs

to act and after reaching out to State Rep. Ty Bodden and Senator Duey Stroebel's offices being told there was basically not enough support to change the state law.

Joe moved to request the clerk to draft a sample letter to Rep. Ty Bodden and State Senator Duey Stroebel for board review at the next meeting encouraging legislation to increase the control of wind turbines siting control back to the local municipalities. Jon 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. M/C.

Roads, Buildings and Equipment: Mark T. thought the grant results should be released by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April and Joe requested bid advertisement occur as soon as practical thereafter. Regarding Twilight Beach Road, Mark T. did look at the site and determined digging a ditch on the east side of the road and removing the culvert from the road could be a viable option in lieu of having to get an easement on private property for most rain events. Mark E. moved to have Mark T. dig a ditch on the east side of the road and remove the culvert. Jon 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. M/C.

Sometime in 2024, Mark T. said a stone culvert on Moore Road will need repair or to be weight restricted. Joe asked Mark T. to get cost estimates and options for the matter and check out if any bridge aid could help.

Mark shared that hearsay costs estimates for summer paving projects are not as bad as expected: \$173000/mile for 3" and maybe \$192000/mile for 3.5 inch.

Board officer compensation: Joe handed out a salary survey and expressed a need to make the officer's compensation more in line with neighboring municipalities and will bring the issue up at the annual meeting.

Communications: Steve indicated that there was a box of obsolete envelopes for the taking in back and thanked everyone for their sympathies and beautiful plant with the recent passing of his mother.

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

Communications: None.

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

Jon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Mark E. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. M/C.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Phipps, Clerk