

Town Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

August 14, 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, Fire Chief Mike Funk Residents: Paul Kaestner*, Paul and Sue Ludwig, Ann Kaestner, Amy Poppy, Chris Poppy, and Ralph Schmid. *Signed up for public comment.

Steve confirmed the meeting notices were posted.

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

Public comments: Paul Kaestner spoke in support of a yard waste drop-off site and seeking a cooperative agreement with the village.

Approval of July 10, 2024 minutes: Mark E. moved to approve as presented. Jon 2nd M/C.

Roads, Buildings and Equipment: Joe reported: The paving projects are underway, parking lot at the town shed is finished and ongoing efforts to deter signage theft. There have been approximately 17 signs stolen recently.

Mayflower Road will need to be looked at after the current paving project is finished.

ARIP Grant: Joe moved to submit the same application as last time. Jon 2nd the motion. M/C.

Mailbox damage by Town of Stockbridge road crews: After general discussion, Jon moved to adopt a policy consistent to Calumet County's policy which is in accordance with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials which is as follows;

- When a mailbox is damaged during snow removal activities, the Town of Stockbridge will repair or replace the mailbox if and only if it was hit by Town of Stockbridge equipment.
- If the snow coming off the plow or wing does the damage, there will be no repair or replacement by the Town of Stockbridge.
- The road supervisor that views the damaged mailbox will make the sole determination as to whether the damage was caused by Town of Stockbridge Highway Department equipment or by the snow.
- The road supervisor will also decide if the mailbox will be repaired or replaced.
- The road supervisor's decision is final.

- Any replacement done by the Town of Stockbridge will be with a standard metal mailbox. No allowance will be made for more decorative, costly mailboxes.
- No other reimbursement will be made.

Motion 2nd by Mark E. M/C.

CSM maps: No maps to review.

Forfeiture Ordinance: After general discussion, Jon moved to support Joe gathering information from the town's attorney and other sources to learn more about it. Mark E. 2nd M/C.

Wind Turbine Ordinance: Joe reported conversations about the issue with the town's attorney and the town's attorney continuation of review as it relates to state statutes, PSC rules, the sample "Farmland First" ordinance, and read excerpts from the Town of Eau Pleine's board meeting minutes which were an early adopter of the "Farmland First" ordinance and now is repealing such ordinance in consultation with their insurance company in preparation and/or response to potential litigation.

Road Litter Ordinance: After general discussion, no action was taken.

Right of Way Ordinance: Tabled to next month.

Fire Engine 110: Joe informed everyone the truck is aging and may need replacing, while not immediately needed, he wanted to make everyone aware due to potentially the high costs.

Electrical upgrade to Fire Station in conjunction with Hwy 55 reconstruction: Joe reported the costs are about \$3000.00 higher than the original proposal. After general discussion and no obvious alternatives, Jon moved to approve the revised costs so long as the village also approves and pays 50% of actual costs. Mark E. 2nd. M/C.

Electrical back-up generator upgrade to Fire Station: Fire Chief Mike Funk reported Mike's Electric cannot get an appropriately sized generator and asked the board for their recommendations and suggestions. After general discussion, board members suggested he contact other contractors as he saw appropriate.

WPS Electrical upgrade easement request of the Town of Stockbridge to Fire Station in conjunction with Hwy 55 reconstruction: Steve reported the town had been asked to grant an easement by WPS. Fire Chief Mike Funk indicated he believed WPS would be coming through the park and not needing anymore access via an easement on town property. If accurate and due to the town board not having authority to transfer easements anyway, there was no action taken.

Sealing Fire Station Lot: Tabled by Joe to a future meeting.

Liquor Operator License application from Debra Calaway has been received and presented to the board. Joe moved to issue the license. Mark E. 2nd M/C.

High Cliff Stables' application for a temporary liquor license for an event on September 7 was received and presented to the board: Mark E. moved to grant the license. Jon 2nd. M/C.

Rockland Beach Road town property: Joe reported an adjacent neighbor asked to concrete on the Town of Stockbridge property for use as a driveway and tabled the issue until next month.

Communications: Steve reported the rental property's past due water bill is now current. Someone called seeking for more frequent/higher volume refuse pick-up but didn't want it after hearing the costs. Joe reported ATV/UTV use on Hwy EE is on the agenda of the Calumet County Highway Committee. Remodeling without a building permit may be happening at MAK's Shanty.

Future meeting dates discussed. With regard to the WTA Town's Law Conference, all board members requested registration and meeting notices should be posted for this event.

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

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

Jon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM. Mark E. 2nd the motion. M/C.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Phipps, Clerk