

WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular monthly meeting
December 3rd, 2019

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

A regular monthly Watab Township supervisors' meeting was called to order by Chairman Julie Johnson at 7:00 p.m. in the Watab Township Hall.

Those present offered allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Board supervisors present were Julie Johnson, Todd Waytashek, and Steve Wollak. Others present included Clerk Christopher Davis, Treasurer Deborah O'Keefe, Dale Dirks, Linda Dirks, Jerry Kostreba, Steve Peka, Julie Fandal, Jeff Fandal, Lloyd Erdmann, Jeff Wollak, Roger Burton, Phillip Nelson, Paul Jacobs, Paul Wippler, Jane DeAustin, Sandra Saldana, Natasha Barber, Bob Raveling.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Additions: March 2020 regular monthly meeting, Paul Wippler presentation, building permit files update, set budget meeting

A motion was made by Supervisor Waytashek to approve agenda with changes, second by Supervisor Wollak. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda – One motion for all items.

November 12th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting minute changes - Sucker Creek bridge verbiage will change, Plaziak road spelling, page 4, doesn't clearly state that Supervisor Waytashek voted nay instead of all extra verbiage. Sentence deleted under MS4.

November 21, 2019 Lakewood Shores Site Meeting

Supervisor Waytashek motion to approve consent agenda with changes, Supervisor Wollak second, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer O'Keefe explained Agricultural Homestead Market Value Credit is-they are received to reduce taxes paid on parcels. This results in a lower amount received than was levied, so the state reimburses the local governments. Treasurer's Report as of November 30th- Falcon checking \$4,132.83 Bremer Money Market \$37,930.54 total of \$42,063.37. Falcon Money Market-Road and Bridge \$254,689.23. Total all accounts \$296,752.60. The last property tax

receipt of \$336,238.93 was received. Treasurer O'Keefe recommended a transfer to the Road and Bridge fund for \$48,000 for the money that was borrowed during the year.

Check numbers voided for 2019 are as follows: 7199 7170 7171 7169 7168 7167 7166 7165 7164 7163 7162 7161 7160 7206 7229 7230. Treasurer O'Keefe will no longer be making resolutions to write off fire bills, she will track them going forward.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Supervisor Waytashek 2nd, motion carried.

Approve list of Bills & Claims & Payroll

One bill pulled for discussion. Rice Contracting bill for minimum maintenance road bill was pulled.

Supervisor Waytashek made a motion to approve bills and payroll, Supervisor Wollak 2nd, motion carried.

105th Street NW – 2020 Road Construction

Nick Anderson, Township Engineer did presentation for 2020 project before the meeting, entertained questions from crowd. The preliminary cost estimate is \$335,000 but this does not include the Quiet Crossing fees.

Minimum Maintenance Road Invoice – Rice Contracting

Received invoice, should be graded in spring and fall, fall grading was not approved, done without permission, discussion on timing of fall grading: After farm season and then done for winter, Supervisor Waytashek discussed with Rice Contracting, Brian Erdmann, that the second grading may have been necessary, road was not passable per Supervisor Waytashek but Supervisor Waytashek did relay that to Rice. Supervisor Johnson said to table, Supervisor Waytashek will let Brian know he needs to come in and discuss in January.

Subdivision Ordinance/Developers Agreement – Adoption

Needed to get percentages to equal 125%, bank needed to be within a certain distance away, Supervisor Waytashek made a motion to change the Developers Agreement bank distance from 200 miles to 100 miles, Supervisor Wollak seconded, motion carried. Supervisor Johnson will work with Clerk Davis to get signed and necessary postings and filings completed.

Elected vs Appointed Clerk Position

Most larger townships are going to an appointed position. Watab township is larger so may be time to put to a vote. Make a motion to get voted on as a ballot question. Supervisor Waytashek stated the voters want a say in voting for clerk. Supervisor Waytashek thought Clerk Pat Spence was voted out. It was clarified that Clerk Spence resigned. Clerk April Burton was elected to fill position, she chose not to take oath, then scrambled and got Clerk Joan Hull to be appointed. Clerk Nicole Burski won the election in March 2019. Supervisor Waytashek is fine with putting the item to a vote at the Annual Meeting. Whomever is elected, if the ballot question is approved, the position will move from elected to appointed. Supervisor Wollak

made a motion to put Option B, change in township government from elected clerk to appointed clerk on ballot. Supervisor Waytashek seconded. Motion carried.

Boundary Commission

Benton County Request – Roxanne Achman, Dept of Development, Benton County has requested a cost share of \$2000.00 for the Boundary Commission. Supervisor Waytashek has question on bill, was it just Sucker Creek or the whole plat? Julie Johnson stated that she believes it covers north of Sharon Place Road (including Hedge Road, Huron Road and north end of Sucker Creek Road). Supervisor Waytashek wanted to know which month it was decided to break out Sharon Place. Supervisor Johnson will check on this and send Clerk Davis an email and he will forward more information to Supervisor Waytashek and Supervisor Wollak. Supervisor Johnson stated that the Sharon Place survey that Watab Township paid for only covers the road, engineer found many original pins. December 17th 530pm Benton County Boundary Commission will meet at the Watab Town Hall. Supervisor Waytashek stated they would be over by \$800, Supervisor Wollak made a motion to pay the \$2000.00, Supervisor Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

Lakewood Shores Tree/Shrub Trimming/Clearing – Consideration of Quotes

4 quotes were received for Lakewood Shores Road. Low quote was Midwest Tree Experts – \$7,160.00.

AAA holdings dba TK Timber quote was \$9,250.00

Jason Zwilling quote was \$9,700.00

Rice Contracting quote was \$10,350.00

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve Midwest Tree Experts, Supervisor Johnson seconded. Supervisor Waytashek abstained. Motion carried.

Supervisor Waytashek suggested to put a deadline for completion in the contract.

Supervisor Johnson will contact Midwest Tree for insurance certificate and finish deadline.

Computers are 5-6 years old for Clerk and Treasurer. Supervisor Johnson offered to get quotes for two new computers. Supervisor Johnson stated that there is a hard drive backup so look for this. Treasurer O’Keefe’s computer has no sound. Quotes to be brought to January meeting.

Other agenda items

10770 Westlake Road – Supervisor Johnson sent letter with right-of-way violation notice with 21-day notice to move items. Neighbors have stated that residents have gone south for winter. Supervisor Waytashek stated 21-day notice starts from the day residents receive the letter. Too many items in right of way, very narrow section of road. Supervisor Waytashek stated if residents contact us, give them Supervisor Waytashek’s phone number and he will coordinate.

City of Rice letter concerning Rice Fire Contract. The City of Rice wants to use current tax capacity numbers, contract is through December 2020. Supervisor Waytashek would like to see the computation of how the current contract calculation vs the new method compares for cost purposes. Supervisor Johnson will request the information from the City of Rice.

March 2020 meeting will need to move due to the Presidential Primary being the same day. Meeting was set for Tuesday, March 3rd at 7pm and will change to Wednesday, March 4th at 7pm. Will need resolution to post the meeting change.

Building permit files reorganization project. Supervisor Johnson is working on organizing files. She estimates 10 hours of work to clean up, Supervisor Waytashek stated he would be able to help. Supervisor Wollak is too busy. All agreed no further motion was needed. Supervisor Waytashek stated that the right-of-way setbacks on each of the roads should be reviewed and compiled as well. The building permit files were not set up correctly initially.

Sartell Dam – Eagle Creek Renewable energy is renewing their hydro license. It expires in 2025 but they start the renewal process now. Supervisor Waytashek stated in the back of document received is all the current contacts and he stated to add the Watab Township Clerk to the contact list. Supervisor Johnson will send email to correct.

Annual Budget & Audit Meeting

Supervisors reviewed calendars to set meeting date. Meeting set for January 21st, 2020 at 5PM. Supervisor Waytashek said to review ALL files since the Clerk has been replaced. Clerk Davis will post meeting notice.

Paul Wippler, Watab Resident requested agenda time. He was given the floor. He stated we were fined because the MS4 report was not filed and got fined \$1,755. Paul requested that Supervisor Waytashek pay the fine. Paul Wippler presented detailed information on how many hours Supervisor Waytashek worked in various capacities over the summer and fall when the report needed to be completed. The MS4 Annual permit is available for review per Supervisor Waytashek. It's on the MPCA website. Julie Fandel asked a question as to whether or not Supervisor Waytashek should resign. Julie Johnson said it was talked about at November meeting but no resolution. Supervisor Waytashek stated they were not "bled out" in response to a comment, he said the work is being done. Supervisor Johnson would contact three townships and see what it costs to prepare the MS4. Supervisor Waytashek stated the requirements if over one (1) inch of rain, agricultural land is exempt, done within two weeks. Platted lots, not agriculture land, must be inspected. Supervisor Johnson said the township should have a procedure manual for the MS4 inspection. Supervisor Johnson would try to schedule a presenter in January. Supervisor Wollak stated he was disappointed in the MPCA fine, it was unacceptable. Supervisor Johnson requested that Supervisor Waytashek bring the completed 2019 MS4 form to the January 2020 meeting. Supervisor Waytashek stated to make sure they know we are an Urban Township when calling the MPCA.

Citizens Input – Time limit 3 minutes

Jerry Kostreba – Intersection of 105th Street NW and Hwy 10 needs to be sanded due to ice conditions. Supervisor Wollak will contact snow plow driver for correction.

Reports:

Road Inspector Report – Supervisor Waytashek. Supervisor Waytashek stated he saw nothing significant, snow plowing does need to be addressed, Supervisor Wollak is getting calls.

Building Maintenance Report – Supervisor Wollak. Supervisor Wollak will get a quote to clean the carpet. Building is rented through January.

Work List for December

1. Supervisor Johnson – Boundary Commission, Budget 2020. Road Plan, MPCA
2. Supervisor Wollak
3. Supervisor Waytashek

A motion was made to adjourn by Supervisor Wollak, 2nd by Supervisor Waytashek.

Adjournment at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Davis
Watab Township Clerk

Respectfully accepted,

Julie Johnson
Watab Township Chair