

WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 2, 2021 – 7:00 pm

The regular monthly Watab Township Supervisor’s Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Johnson at 7:00 pm in the Watab Township Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Board supervisors present: Julie Johnson, Steve Wollak, and Bill Little. Others present in the Town Hall included, Treasurer, Deborah O’Keefe, Clerk, Kathy Sauer, Todd Waytashek, Jeff Wollak, Paul Wippler, Sandra Saldana, Jack Polcher, Barb Kirchner, Ellary Prentice

Attending via Zoom: Julie Fandel, Steve Johnson, Daniele Kirchner, Andrew Marin, Brian Wood, Tracy Reitman

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Title Discrepancy—Mary Anderson
- b. Resolution 2021-6
- c. Catering Charges
- d. Town Hall

3. APPROVE THE AGENDA

Supervisor Wollak moved to approve the agenda; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

4. CONSENT AGENDA – One motion for all items

- a. February 3, 2021: Annual Newsletter
- b. February 9, 2021: WSB Presentation
- c. February 9, 2021: Regular Monthly Meeting
- d. February 24, 2021: Review and Award Tree Trimming Quotes and Review and Approve Treasurer’s Report to the State Auditor

Supervisor Little moved to approve the consent agenda; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

5. TREASURER’S REPORT

Falcon Checking	\$373,947.22
Bremer Money Market	<u>\$49,617.33</u>
	\$423,564.55

Falcon Money Market	<u>\$255,962.15</u>
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TOTAL	<u>\$679,526.70</u>
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Falcon Money Market Interest (February)	\$78.52
Falcon Checking Interest	--
Bremer Interest (January)	\$.76
BCA Fines	\$99.99
State Aid for Streets	35,392.30

ESCROWS

Cornerstone Storage	\$20,600.11
Jannew (interest) (closed account)	1.02

Supervisor Little moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

VOIDED CHECKS: #7750 Nathan Landwehr Payroll: Taxation amendment
 #7775 City of Rice Hall Rental: no charge

6. APPROVE LIST OF BILLS, CLAIMS, AND PAYROLL

Supervisor Wollak moved to accept bills, claims, and payroll; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

7. DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT—Various Requests

a. Kirchner Wedding Venue Request

Seeking to open an event center on their property at 6241 5th Avenue. Asking for approval for access to road (5th Avenue) from County Road 33. Max capacity of event center: 300. Parking capacity for 144 vehicles plus overflow.

No one on the Board has issues and approves the request stating that the roads are sufficient to handle the traffic. Motion not needed; Board will contact Roxanne Achman with their approval.

b. Cove Development Company

Requesting to vacate easements between lots, combining 10 lots into 5. Board has no issues; motion not needed.

c. Ron and Patty Welle

Asking for variance reducing the amount of impervious coverage by 8% removing concrete and adding paving stone. Property is located at 6101 NE River Road. Current lot coverage is 36% impervious; County allows 25%.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the request to reduce impervious coverage; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

8. WSB ENGINEER REPORT—Kevin Kruger

105th Street NW: Specs were received from Bogart; ready to post for bids; should be ready for consideration and approval at the April Monthly meeting.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion for WSB to advertise quotes for 105th and Railroad Crossing; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

Sucker Creek Road: Kevin Kruger will submit LRIP grant tomorrow. Twelve (12) letters of support were received from residents. Work on Sharon Place is contingent upon receiving the grant for Sucker Creek Road.

WSB will start working on Sucker Creek Road design.

9. ROAD REPORT

Supervisors reported lots of trash in the area; several signs down.

Rice Contracting is currently completing tree trimming on West Lake Road.

10. BENTON TELEPHONE/INTERNET DISCUSSION

Clerk Sauer is checking into options to update/replace the out-of-date phone system for the Township. We are currently under contract with Century Link. Benton Communications pays franchise fees to us and it is agreed to work with them, if possible. Waiting to hear from them; will have a more detailed report in April.

11. CHARTER ORDINANCE FEES

Township Attorney, Mike Couri, has contacted Charter to inquire about franchise fees. Will follow-up with him tomorrow.

12. BRYAN WOOD SUBPOENA

Mr. Wood has a dispute with the Building Inspector, Nancy Scott, that will be going to Conciliation Court on March 29, 2021. Supervisors Johnson and Wollak have been summoned to appear.

13. BENTON COUNTY BOUNDARY COMMISSION

In 2019, a Boundary Commission was appointed by the Benton County Board of Commissioners to review and adjust legal descriptions of property. Affected property for Watab Township is the Right of Way for lots on Hedge Road NW and Heron Road NW.

The Township's share of the assessment costs is: \$2,909.81.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve payment of \$2,909.81; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

14. PARK DEDICATION FUNDS

Watab Township receives 25% of park dedication funds collected by Benton County each year earmarked to for park acquisition and development within the Township. Current balance of fund for Watab Township is currently \$6,168.00; however, since the Township does not have any parks, the Board will wait until further information can be attained.

15. FRONTLINE WARNING SYSTEMS CONTRACT

Service Contract for 2021 was received covering the calendar year January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the contract; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried

16. LOCAL BOARD OF REVIEW

Clerk Sauer announced that the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization will be held at Watab Township Hall on April 13, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Anyone wishing to appeal their tax statements may attend and present their appeal.

17. Quiet Title Action—Mary Wilson

Watab Township was named in a lawsuit correcting a quiet title action for a parcel owned by Mary Wilson on West Lake Road NW. The Township was named in the suit because the road bordering the property is a Township road.

Both the Township Attorney and the Minnesota Association of Township's attorney were consulted. They both informed us that this is a routine matter that has no consequence for the Township.

18. RESOLUTION 2021-6

Resolution 2021-6 is in response to a request from Craig Hanson, Oak Hill Estates, to vacate the interior easement between two lots (PID 120164300 and PID 120164200) to combine them as one lot. Supervisor Johnson read the Resolution into the record.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve vacating the easement; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

19. CATERING CHARGES FOR BUILDING RENTAL

Clerk Sauer proposed to remove the 10% catering fee from the Building Rental fee schedule. This charge was previously installed to offset the cost of garbage disposal. Since the Township Hall now has a dumpster, we feel that it is no longer necessary to pass the cost on to the renters.

Supervisor Little moved to remove catering fee; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

20. TOWN HALL

On February 24, the sewer pipes froze between the Town Hall building and the tank. Supervisor Wollak called Kyle Beniek from Deluxe Lawn Care who came immediately to locate the pipes. Special thanks to Kyle who did this for the Township at no charge.

Supervisor then called Roto Rooter who came in to fix that same day.

TOWNSHIP ELECTION: Voting is at the Town Hall; 12-8:00; Annual Meeting will be at the Old Village Hall in Rice at 8:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to adjourn; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:48.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk

Julie Johnson, Board Chairperson

Date

Kathy Sauer, Clerk

Date