

WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 – 7:00 pm

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

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, Jerry Kostreba, Adam Goebel, Jeff and Julie Fandel, Lloyd Jedlicki, Robin Wollak, Ray Thompson, Seth and Bobbi Caster; Jeff Wollak, Dothan Aleshire, Sandra Saldana, Paul Wippler

Attending via Zoom: Steve Johnson

1. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- a. 5th Avenue NE snowplowing and mailboxes
- b. Garbage on 95th
- c. Add boiler to #10

2. APPROVE THE AGENDA

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

3. CONSENT AGENDA—One motion for all items

- a. January 10, 2022: Special Meeting Minutes: Review Draft of Ordinance 10
- b. January 11, 2022: Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
- b. January 25, 2022: Special Meeting Minutes: Budget and Audit

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

4. TREASURER’S REPORT (1-31-2022)

Falcon Checking	\$603,199.48
Bremer Money Market	18,315.99
Falcon Savings (Building Account)	<u>5,075.71</u>
	\$626,591.18

Falcon Money Market	<u>\$300,942.81</u>
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TOTAL	<u>\$927,533.99</u>
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Falcon Checking Interest	130.76
Falcon Money Market Interest	102.20
Bremer Interest	.31
Falcon Savings Account (Building)	1.71

BCA Fine Share	59.99
Final Property Tax Payment	13,778.53
January Bond Interest on Bond 2021A	10,015.97

Transfer of 2021 Rental Proceeds to General Fund	3,365.00
Annual Transfer from General Fund to Bldg. Savings	5,000.00

No Building Permits for January, 2022

Treasurer O’Keefe reported that the audit was ok.

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

5. APPROVE LIST OF BILLS, CLAIMS, AND PAYROLL

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

6. WSB ENGINEER REPORT--Kevin Kruger

a. Quiet Crossing Application

Kevin Kruger is waiting to hear back from BNSF for final approval.

b. MPCA MS4 Ordinance Update

Meeting set up for next week.

c. Sucker Creek Easements

- Kevin Kruger submitted one of the two easement agreements; will deliver the second one within a few days
- Due to supply chain issues, the County is struggling to get materials to begin the Sucker Creek bridge project; currently delayed to June. Will wait until the creek is low to begin the work.
- Will have to determine when to begin Sucker Creek Road. Work on Sucker Creek Road is dependent upon progress made on the bridge.

d. Road Construction Estimates

WSB has prepared an estimate for the cost for Sucker Creek Road, Indian Road, and Sharon Place in the amount of \$622,754.95. Bids will go out later this spring; prices may rise.

Kevin Kruger proposed an online bidding process which is less expensive. Board agreed.

Originally, the budget for these projects was estimated to be \$1 million. Since bids came in lower, supervisors discussed and agreed to begin the preliminary engineering work for West Lake Road and West Lake Court this year in preparation for scheduled work next year. Overlays were also discussed for 15th Avenue and Sandbur.

e. Lake Andrew

Kevin will meet with the Lake Andrew Board and neighbors prior to putting the project up for bids.

7. 2022 BUDGET AND 2023 LEVY DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

A Special Meeting was held on January 25 to audit the 2021 financials, to draft a budget for 2022, and set the 2023 levy.

- Levy set at \$805,000 for 2023: 3.2% increase (\$25,000)
- Cut Fire District 1 by \$25,000; balance was substantial
- ARPA funds are now unrestricted

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget and the 2023 Levy; Supervisor Little seconded; motion passed.

The Budget and Levy will be presented at the Annual Meeting for resident approval.

8. ROAD REPORT

a. 5th Avenue NE

Several mailboxes are getting hit by snowplows; many are too low and are getting hit by the blade. There are 29 mailboxes on 5th Avenue NE which will need to bring up to standard height. Nothing can be done until spring; will discuss again at that time on how to proceed.

b. Illegal Dumping

Supervisor Wollak picked up TV, large toolbox, and other items. Took to Henkemeyer's Landfill for disposal; cost \$40.

Another dump of cardboard was found last week on 95th Avenue. Names were found to be written on the boxes and were reported to the sheriff.

Supervisor Johnson asked residents to take pictures of license plates if they see anyone dumping.

9. ORDINANCE 10 DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

Previously discussed at last month's meeting. Several amendments were made.

Supervisor Little moved to approve Ordinance 10; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

10. WATAB TOWN HALL CARPET, PAINTING, AND BOILER—Clerk Sauer

Clerk Sauer submitted bids for maintenance projects for the Town Hall:

• Painting Town Hall

Virnig Painting Company	\$8,272.00
Right Choice Construction	\$4,500.00

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the bid for painting the Town Hall to Right Choice Construction in the amount of \$4,500.00; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

• Carpeting Town Hall

Hansen Flooring	\$5,500.00
MCI	\$6,245.00

Supervisor Johnson made a motion to approve the bid for carpeting the Town Hall to Hansen Flooring in the amount of \$5,500.00; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

• Boiler

Lyon Sheet Metal & Heating	\$9,700.00
Great River Heating & Cooling	\$5,420.00

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the bid for a new boiler to Great River Heating & Cooling in the amount of \$5,420.00; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

11. FIRE CALL ORDINANCE

Supervisor Johnson talked with Sauk Rapids Fire Chief, Jason Fleming, regarding charges for fire alarms. The Board will be attending the contract meeting on February 9 to discuss current charges. May need to update the ordinance to charge for repeat cancelled calls.

CITIZEN'S INPUT—Time limit 3 minutes

Jerry Kostreba

What is the status of the King's Inn clean up?

The County is working with the owner to get signed permission to enter the property to clean up.

Paul Wipple-- 8835 15th Avenue NE, Rice

Question regarding letter to the editor in the Sauk Rapids Herald from the petitioner in the 5th Avenue NW road vacation request. How did the writer obtain the numbers he cited in his letter and why are they different from the documented amounts provided by the Township? Who is right? Watab has been much better served in the last 4 years than in previous years. There have been no expenses for MS4 fines or for fire departments exploration.

Julie Fandel

Are logs still on the 5th Avenue NW? When will they be removed?

Resident has not moved the logs or submitted damage waivers. We have contacted the attorney; options are being considered.

From this point on, do charges set forth in Ordinance 10 apply to a re-petition?

Yes, the old petition is done; any further petition would be subject to the new ordinance guidelines.

Sandy Saldana

With the growth of the Township, it would be silly to abandon the road.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to adjourn; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk

Julie Johnson, Board Chairperson

Date

Kathy Sauer, Clerk

Date