

“UNAPPROVED”
WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 9, 2020

The regular monthly Watab Township Supervisor’s Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Johnson at 7:02 pm in the Watab Township Hall. Meeting was made available to residents via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND 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, Kevin Krueger, Sandra Saldana, Chuck Ertl, Paul Wippler

2. ADDITIONS AND/OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- Karen Pundsack, Great River Regional Library
- Pirates Cove Curb
- Dumping Compost in Ditch on West Lake Road
- Stop Sign Report

3. APPROVE THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Supervisor Little to approve agenda with additions; seconded by Supervisor Wollak; motion carried.

4. CONSENT AGENDA (one motion for all items)

- a. May 5, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
- b. May 28, 2020 Road Preconstruction Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve minutes of May 5 and May 28 with minor changes was made by Supervisor Wollak; seconded by Supervisor Little; motion carried.

5. TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer O’Keefe reported the following balances as of June 9:

Falcon Checking	\$187,431.58
Bremer Money Market	<u>\$40,201.91</u>
	\$227,633.49
Road and Bridge Falcon Money Market	<u>\$255,112.84</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$462,746.33</u>
Fine Shares for April	\$119.98
Bremer April Interest	.99
Falcon Money Market Interest	83.62

A motion was made by Supervisor Wollak; seconded by Supervisor Little to approve Treasurer's Report.

6. APPROVE LIST OF CLAIMS AND PAYROLL

A motion to approve payroll and claims was made by Supervisor Little; seconded by Supervisor Wollak; motion carried.

7. GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

Karen Pundsack, Executive Director of the Great River Regional Library attended the meeting via Zoom to propose a partnership with Watab Township to establish a Wifi Hotspot for local students to access library resources.

The Library has received a grant to establish Wifi Hotspots within its service area. The Watab Township Hall was identified to them as a possible site. The grant's initial term was 1 year; however, the legislature recently extended the grant to run indefinitely.

- The Township would be responsible for security of the system.
- A dedicated password would need to be assigned to the system to differentiate from the Township's current connection.
- Students using the hotspot inside the building would be required to be accompanied by a parent.
- Open hours for the building would need to be established.

Supervisor Johnson will meet with Ms. Pundsack to run a trial and report back to the Board

8. 105TH STREET NW CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: NICK ANDERSON

Nick Anderson reported that contractors began work today (June 9) on the 105th Street NW Construction Project. Road widening is scheduled to be completed by Monday, June 15 when road will be reclaimed. Grading will begin on Tuesday, June 16.

Total completion of the project is scheduled for July 6.

There is a need for several trees to be trimmed; Nick will inspect the job and determine how to proceed.

9. STRIPING DESIGNATED ROADS UPDATE

Supervisor Johnson emailed the Benton County contractor regarding a bid for road striping.

10. OVERLAY DISCUSSION FOR 2021

The Board has identified Sharon Place and Sandbur Trail as needing overlays. Todd Waytashek added that Plaziak Road, Indian Road, and Burton Court are also in need.

Knife River reported that costs are 10% less this year because of low oil prices. Discussion will continue.

11. DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT—VARIANCE REQUESTS

- Nate Landwehr: requesting shoreland alteration. This issue is handled by the county; the Board has no objections.

- Land Concepts: requesting to erect a 60 X 150 shed to store business equipment that is currently sitting outside. Board has no concerns.

12. WSB DISCUSSION

Kevin Kruger attended the meeting to follow-up with the Board regarding the “Pavement Management” proposal he submitted at the May meeting.

The Board recognized that this is a needed service. Supervisor Wollak suggested that the issue be brought up at the annual meeting next March for resident input. All agreed.

13. DOG CATCHER: STEVE WOLLAKE

Several dogs were caught by board members (with much difficulty) over the past month and taken to the Humane Society.

Supervisor Wollak suggested hiring an animal control professional, Dave Schlichting from Sauk Rapids, who would be available at \$50 per hour on an “as-needed” basis to catch and handle dogs who may be dangerous or vicious.

Supervisor Little made a motion to retain the services of Dave Schlichting at \$50 per hour on an “as needed” basis. Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

14. SERVICE CONTRACTS 2020

a. Ditch Mowing

Two bids received: Chuck’s Ditch Mowing (\$3,323.52) and AAA Holdings \$4,139.50. Board approved service contract for Chuck’s Ditch Mowing who will mow two swaths wide; one prior to July 4 and one prior to the ground freezes in the fall, for the amount of \$3,323.52 for 2020-2021.

b. Road Patches

Two bids received: Midwest Paving and Contracting: \$41,157; MN Blacktopping: \$48,500

The bids did not represent costs for the same roads. The Board will request both companies to resubmit their bids based on the same identified roads. Revised bids will be considered at the July meeting.

Discussion regarding the Sucker Creek Bridge replacement was held. Concerns were voiced regarding replacing the road when the bridge will need to be replaced within 3-5 years. Midwest Paving indicated to Supervisor Johnson that the Sucker Creek Bridge does not qualify for state bridge funds; Nick Anderson questioned that and will check into it.

15. STREET SWEEPING REPORT

Several complaints were received regarding the quality of the street sweeping that was done over the past couple weeks. The contractor replaced the broom on their equipment and the job was redone. Better results.

16. MS4 REPORT—JULIE JOHNSON

No rain—no washouts, so not much to report.

17. CLEAN-UP DAY—BILL LITTLE

Rice is tentatively planning to reschedule their Clean-up Day this fall if the Waste Contractor is completely reopened and will support the service.

Supervisor Johnson suggested that it would be good to coordinate the Watab Township Clean-up Day on the same day as Rice. Decision will be made when a date is announced.

18. DUMPSTER FOR TOWN HALL

Currently, trash and garbage are taken home by the Supervisors for disposal at their expense. Supervisor Johnson suggested exploring the cost of procuring a dumpster for the Town Hall. She will check into pricing and report back.

19. MNDOT

Supervisor Wollak called MNDOT regarding repair of approaches on 66th Street and Indian Road and to inquire into who is responsible for repairing approaches. He was told that the Township is responsible; however, MNDOT offered to patch those two areas this time. The Township will be responsible for these repairs in the future.

20. PIRATES COVE

Supervisor Wollak checked into the curb damage in Pirates Cove as reported by Todd Waytashek. The curb had been damaged for 3 years. Marson Contracting was notified and will replace the curb.

21. DUMPING ON WEST LAKE ROAD

Supervisor Wollak reported that a resident, Todd Johnson, thinks his neighbor is dumping on his land. Mr. Johnson did not actually witness the dumping but is requesting the Township buy a “No Dumping” sign.

Supervisor Johnson made a motion to approve the purchase of a sign. Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

22. STOP SIGN REPORT

A resident called Supervisor Wollak to report that he ran over a Stop Sign. He offered to pay for a new one. Supervisor Wollak ordered a new sign.

23. DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER

Sandra Saldana has agreed to serve as Deputy Clerk for the Township and Frank Hard has agreed to serve as Deputy Treasurer. Thank you to both for serving in this capacity.

24. CITIZEN’S INPUT

- Todd Waytashek stated that curb damage in Pirates Cove was, for the most part, sustained in the last year; presented pictures of signs that need straightening; expressed concerns over plans for Sucker Creek Bridge, and tree trimming.
- Sandra Saldana expressed appreciation to the Board members for the positive influence they have had on the overall perception of the Township.

- Paul Wippler thanked the Board for improving relationships with the community.
- Bob Raveling reported fireworks will be held this summer. He also expressed a concern that bus drivers would hit a sign at the BNSF crossing. BNSF is responsible to rectify this situation if it presents a problem.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Supervisor Little; motion carried; meeting adjourned at 8:09.

Respectfully submitted,

Board Chairperson

Date

Clerk

Date