

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting of the Township of Spring Green

Proceedings of the Town of Spring Green Regular Board Meeting, held at 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 4, 2018 at the Town Hall located at E4411 Kennedy Road, Spring Green, and Wisconsin:

1. **Call to Order:** Kevin Lins, Town Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Legal Posting:** Jenny Pappas, Clerk certified compliance with the open meeting law.
3. **Roll Call:** Members present were Chairperson Kevin Lins, Supervisors Dave Radel and Carla Carmody, Clerk Jenny Pappas and Treasurer Karen Shelton. Also present: Brad Haas, Marian Copus, Irene Golembiewski and Fred lausly.
4. **Adopt Agenda:** Radel moved and Carmody seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
5. **Approve Minutes:** Carmody moved and Radel seconded to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, December 28, 2017 Town Electors Meeting and December 28, 2017 Special Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Shelton reported beginning balance of \$513,298.94 with receipts of \$3,470.45 and disbursements of \$31,708.78 leaving a balance of \$485,060.61. Radel moved and Carmody seconded to file the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.
7. **Monthly Bills/Invoices:** Carmody moved and Radel seconded to approve the monthly bills/invoices for payment as presented. Motion carried.
8. **Chairperson & Supervisors Reports:**
Chairperson's report/Kevin Lins:
 - Since our last meeting, I pulled my boom lift with Brad's help escorting with the Town truck down to the cemetery from my place. I never wrote down the date.
 - December 10th Worked on cleaning the fence line at the cemetery with Kolby and Tom Hlrth along with my wife Denise. We got a lot done and I want to thank Kolby, Tom and Denise for volunteering their time.
 - December 11th I took the Joost easement to Baraboo to get it recorded at the county office. When I got home, I cut a few more trees down on the fence line at the cemetery.
 - December 12th Carla, Dave & myself all received an email from Dennis Olson who resides in Middleton, WI and has seasonal property at E2893 Porter Road. The purpose of this email was to inform us of his neighbor's property at E2885 Porter Road having uninhabitable buildings that needed to be torn down and cleaned up. He further stated he was in contact with officials in Sauk County the last two years trying to get this accomplished and found out he was "misled on who has jurisdiction" and "the Township has the necessary codes and authority in Chapter 9 to enforce the cleanup and demolition". He included pictures as attachments in his email. After looking at his pictures, I concluded he could very well be right, but we can't use those pictures and the only person qualified to make a determination that could end up being challenged in court, would be the building inspector. I contacted both Tracy and Natalie and discussed this and decided that the first thing that needed to be done was to have our own building inspector visit the site, take his own pictures and make a determination. Then, depending on what happened, the Board would decide what to do next. So I asked Tracy to send the property owner a certified letter informing him of the complaint and to request a site inspection. Tracy replied he charges \$75.00 per hour for this type of work, so I told him to make contact and see what happens. Tracy later emailed back, that the property owner called him right away upon receipt of the letter and was very pleasant. He agreed the buildings were uninhabitable and was thinking of tearing them down. Tracy gave him the names of some local contractors who could do the work. We will see what happens.
 - December 13th Received an email from Rural Mutual clarifying a previous email as to coverage limits in lawsuits. At a previous meeting I mentioned if anyone sued us over our driveway ordinance I was told by Rural Mutual we would have \$50,000 in legal coverage defense as stated in our policy. I followed this up to ask if we were going to be charged for any of the Joost lawsuit legal defense costs since that totaled around \$81,000. So this is a quote from Kevin Scharfenberger, Rural Mutual Casualty Claims Adjuster: "OK, I get it now. We can break suits against the Town down into 2 types. The first would be where a monetary claim is made against the Town for damages. The second involves injunctive relief where the Town is sued to change or reinterpret a statute, but no monetary damages are sought.

When it is a monetary claim, Rural will pay the full defense costs. When it is an injunctive relief claim, there is a yearly limit of \$50,000 in defense coverage (for all injunctive relief claims, not just per occurrence).”

- December 14th Received correspondence in the mail from the Sauk County Highway & Parks Commission announcing the TRIP application awards and the ranking for the TRID application. (show trip awards pdf)
- December 19th Tom Porter Sr. volunteered his time and Bobcat skid loader to load chips from the chipper blown onto the ground into Brad’s truck which Brad hauled to the compost pile. Tom loaded six loads for us so I thank him for doing that.
- December 20th I trimmed trees in the boom lift at the cemetery. I cut the big broken limb off the large pine tree. The limb by itself was bigger than a lot of trees as my 20” bar on the chainsaw wasn’t long enough to cut through from only one side. There was a peculiar strong right angle up high in the limb where it broke off. This same area was full of wood pecker holes and the bottom of the limb had a huge scrape scar from a previous limb falling into it, so I cut the whole limb off. I was later telling some people about this peculiar right angle and they suggested it could be from Indians in the past as that is how they used to mark their trails.
- December 21st I trimmed more trees in the boom lift at the cemetery and helped Brad and Bill feed the chipper. I figured out a way to use the small truck to take chips directly from the chipper.
- December 22 Received an email from Jenny about a voice mail left to her from a Town resident. “I received a voice mail this morning from a town resident, inquiring if having a pet pig/house pig is allowed in the Township. We do not have any ordinances covering house pets, so I’m assuming it is allowed. I just wanted to get your thoughts before I call her back. Thanks! JP” I replied back to Jenny: “What happens if they let it run outside once in a while? Does that depend where they live and how it is zoned? KL” I forgot about this until I was going through my emails this morning for this report.
- December 26th I went to Wisconsin Metals in Reedsburg to pick up a piece of plate aluminum and some aluminum 1” x 1” angle to have a cover plate made for the Town truck for when Brad decides to shoot the chips into the truck bed instead of on the ground.
- December 27th Received the latest well tracking report from Jenny. (show spreadsheet and ask Jenny about updating missing month)
- December 28th We had a special electors meeting hear at the hall to approve a purchase of some tax delinquent property in the Wismar forest area. Immediately following we had a regular board meeting to approve writing the check so the County could get it before the end of the year.
- December 29th I took the check to Baraboo to the County Treasurer’s Office so it could be recorded before the end of the year.
- December 29th I received an email from Natalie about a phone call one of their legal assistants took. Natalie wanted to know if I wanted her to respond. I replied back that if her previous comments about this situation stills hold true, then no. Quote from legal assistant’s recall of telephone conversation: “John McKenna (phone number x’d out) called about the gas lines that are being installed in the right-of-ways. He said he asked the town chairman if a permit had been issued and was told no. He attended the October town meeting where he advised them that according to statute 86.072a that a permit was required. He said the town checked with you and advised them that because the town had no ordinance for that, that they did not need to follow the statute. He said he talked with “lawyer friends” who told him that was not right.” Clarification from myself: Natalie told me they (gas line installers) did not need to get a permit. I am not going to have Natalie charged the Town for debating people on telling her why she is wrong and they (he) are/is right.
- December 31st I drove the small Town truck over to my neighbor, Jason Schaller, and had him fabricate the aluminum cover plate for the Town truck. Jason didn’t charge for his time or aluminum welding, so I want to acknowledge that and thank him.
- January 2nd Received an email from Joshua Morrill who lives on Horseshoe Road about broadband concerning a previous Home News article. He wanted to know if he could help in any way and I replied he can help by redoing his email as a letter of support and sending it to Brett Schuppner (RU) for our broadband grant application. (read email) I just got a copy of his support letter to Brett this afternoon, so I want to thank Joshua and his wife for following through on what they said they would do. An expansion of thought related to satellite performance is included with his support letter that

wasn't in the email I just read and I want to comment on that. This has to do with the inherent problem of satellite service which is the delay caused by verifying the packets sent from the ground to the satellite and vice versa. This delay is called latency and is why you cannot play games competitively over a satellite connection. It is also why ip telephone and skype do not work very well over satellite. "I have lost business because I cannot participate effectively in conference calls for project bids, or present results and voice in online presentations without delay/ distortion. My wife experiences such extreme latency in getting into her accounting system that she now goes to a coffee shop or someplace with strong wifi to do the accounting work for her nonprofit. I have had to pay for a small space in Madison where I have good Internet access if needed." This is why satellite service is not considered in the broadband grant application or the FCC determination of high speed broadband.

- Today January 4th We had a quarterly meeting of the Prairie Sanitary District Commission here at the Town hall at 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Report/Dave Radel:

- December 11th Attended PSD Committee Meeting.
- December 13th Received an e-mail about an uninhabitable building.
- December 14th Requested hard copy pictures of the uninhabitable building.
- December 14th Called land owners of the Big Hollow Ditch to make way for Brad to mow ditch.
- December 19th Brad showed me the property where the uninhabitable building is located.
- December 19th Received a call from a resident of Rolling Ridge asking what the process was to review property tax. I informed the resident of the open book process and the board of review process. The resident said they have been trying to reach our assessor and only gets voice mail. There have been messages left but no replies received back. I told the resident to e-mail the assessor and cc Jenny on this e-mail.

Supervisor Report/Carla Carmody:

- December 13th Received an e-mail about an uninhabitable building.
- December 28th Attended Town Elector Meeting and Special Board Meeting.

9. **Comment from the Public:** Shelton: Recent inquiries to pre-pay real estate taxes. Golembiewski: Asked if there would be a Caucus in 2018.

10. **Reports:**

- a. **Patrolman:** Haas reported worked on the following during the month of December: Chipping/hauling tree removal at Cemetery, plowing/sanding, mowing Big Hollow Ditch, truck maintenance, scrap metal taken to Gauger. Dyke Road sign stolen – again.
- b. **Building Inspector:** No report.
- c. **Emergency Planning:** No meeting.
- d. **Plan Commission:** No meeting.
- e. **Extraterritorial Zoning Committee:** Meeting held on December 13 – preliminary consultation with Marty Prem regarding a major expansion and possible slaughtering facility; along with potential zoning amendment. Sanitary/Driveway permits in relation to the Village Zoning Permit Application is still a work in progress. Discussed regulating junk in the ET. Accessory Structures is an on-going discussion but has not made much progress at this time.
- f. **Fire District:** No meeting.

11. Agenda Items for discussion and/or action by the Town Board:

- a. **No agenda items**

12. **Adjourn:** Carmody moved and Radel seconded to adjourn at 8:03 pm. Motion carried.