

Town Board meeting August 2, 2016

The town board meeting was called order at 7:30pm. All board members were present.

The minutes from the July 5th meeting were read. A motion was made by Kirchner to approve the minutes with one correction, seconded by Mulder.

Public Concerns

- Les Bryhn brought in a donation to be used for the beautification of the cemetery, which was received in memory of Dewey Wegner. Gift was from Allen and Kelly Peterson. It will be used to purchase plants or trees for the cemetery.
- Fire truck update: Truck committee met with a second bidder who offered a different style of truck with the controls mounted in the rear. Truck committee members are going to Viroqua to see a demonstration of this style of truck.
- The rebate of \$1944.75 from Xcel for the LED lights for the town hall and garage has been received.

Variance Request

Matt, Gretchen and Frank Matthew Sye appeared before the board requesting approval of a variance to replace their current garage and construct an attached breezeway and garage to their house located at W5807 Cty Rd V. The new construction will infringe on the county setback requirement by 5 feet on a 25 foot requirement. Plan Commission has already approved the variance. A motion was made by Hesse to approve the variance as previously stated, seconded by Kirchner. Motion passed.

Resolution

The Board reviewed the Resolution to urge our Governor and Legislature to find a solution to adequately and sustainably fund Wisconsin's transportation system. Motion made by Mulder to approve the Resolution, seconded by Kirchner. Roll Call vote: 3-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain. Motion passed. Copies of the Resolution will be sent to the Governor, Sen. Shilling, Rep. Steve Doyle and Wisconsin Towns Association.

Swiss Valley Property Reassessment

Swiss Valley Farms filed a real estate assessment objection with the State Board of Assessors for their property located in the Town of Farmington. In March 2016, the State Board of Assessors agreed that it was over assessed and reduced the value from \$1,540,000 to \$1,164,500 thus reducing their total tax bill by several thousand dollars. To resolve the overage the following steps were taken:

- Swiss Valley paid to the County \$7,609.94 in July 2016
- Town of Farmington paid to the County the remainder, \$7,279.67. This was necessary as the amount of taxes owed by Swiss Valley (\$14,889.61) could not be changed in the County or State records.
- Town of Farmington submitted a Request for Charge Back of Rescinded or Refunded Taxes (PC-201). Township will receive reimbursement for the amount paid to the County from the various taxation districts affected: State, County, Sanitary District, WTC and Melrose/Mindoro school district.

State Council Meeting

No report, was not attended.

Propane Bids

Three bids were received:

Allied - \$1.049 (reduced to \$94.9 in a follow-up call)

Melrose Oil - \$.89

Premier Coop - \$.99

A motion was made by Mulder to contract with Allied for the 2016 – 2017 heating season and to prepay for 7000 gallons at the rate of ten cents a gallon. Seconded by Kirchner, motion passed.

Roads

- Reviewed Davis Creek Road and Cty Hwy C road construction schedules.
 - A cement ramp will be constructed to permit handicapped access into the bank.
 - Snow removal along Cty Hwy C may need to be done differently due to the additional sidewalks, etc.
- Discussion of using a skid steer instead of the front end loader will need to consider this option and the costs involved.
- Scott Construction provided a bid of \$8,960.00 to chip seal Young Road. Motion to accept this bid made by Kirchner, seconded by Mulder. Motion passed.
 - State Building inspection of the salt shed was completed. All looked fine to him.
 - To protect Jostad Road during a log cutting operation we added some rock, in return the logging company will remove some trees that have been problems along the road.
 - Initial discussion of considering replacement of one of our mowers next year
 - Compliments have been received on the mowing of cemeteries and road sides.

Solid Waste/Recycle

- Dennis Konze informed that he will gone Oct. 25 and 29, Les Bryhn will be available to fill in on the 25th, will need to find a replacement the 29th.

Emergency Services

- The pancake breakfast fundraiser was a success again this year.
- Cindy Delphey and Sandy Asleson have retired from the 1st Responders.

Website

Township website is now completed and will be available for the public in the next few days. The current link on the County website will be updated to reflect our new web address so the search is seamless for those who accessed it through the County website in the past. The new website address is:

www.townoffarmingtonlax.org.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Motion made by Mulder to approve receipts 880786 through 880800 and (new receipt book) 135201 through 135205, seconded by Hesse.

The township/fire department checks were reviewed. A motion was made by Kirchner to approve township checks #20042- 20066 and the EFTS as well as the Fire Department checks #4271-4276. Seconded by Mulder.

Motion made by Kirchner to approve payment of the invoices presented by the Clerk for the costs incurred to create the website and the purchase of a supply of stamped envelopes (\$830.45) and to Hesse for the purchase of a case of paper towels for the town hall (\$26.52). Seconded by Mulder.

Motion to adjourn at 9:50pm by Mulder, seconded by Hesse.