

TOWN OF FARMINGTON MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, June 6, 2023
7:00pm
FARMINGTON TOWN HALL
N8309 County Road C, Mindoro WI, 54644

Attendees: Mike Hesse, Crystal Sbraggia, Greg Kastenschmidt, Jodi Anderson
Absent: Paul Lash

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman, Mike Hesse, called the regular Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve the minutes from May 2, 2023.

2/0/0 PASSED

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Betty Sacia was in attendance on behalf of LaCrosse County Historical Sites Preservation Commission to present plaques for two properties within the Town of Farmington that were recently designated as historic landmarks. The two sites were the Wet Coulee Cemetery and the First National Bank. Betty thanked both Penny Lash and Mike Hesse for their assistance while gathering information about the sites.

Larry & Cindy Craig | Tree Trimming Erosion Concern

Larry and Cindy were in attendance to discuss the town trimming trees near their property. The couple is concerned that this type of landscaping, even though not on their property, could result in erosion of their land. Hesse assured Larry and Cindy that the highway crew will do their best to avoid any unnecessary water redirection that could cause erosion and will take care of any erosion that is deemed a result of stump removals.

Terry Craig | Fence Viewing Concern

Terry was in attendance to request the board inspect a fence separating Gayle Monicken's land from his land near Anderson Road. According to Terry, the inadequate fencing has allowed bulls. The board will formally notify the land owners of the fence viewing date.

Brent Miller | Hwy 108

Request to amend CUP for the expansion of his non-metallic sand mine acreage. PC unanimously agreed with the plan that Brent shared at their last meeting.

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve the CUP amendment. 2/0/0

Derrick and Kerry Kneifl I 5-636-5 I Request for Variance

The Kneifls were in attendance to share their plans to construct a 36x40 storage shed that does not comply with the requirements noted in the LaCrosse County Chapter 17 Zoning Code document. The couple's planned building exceeds the number of allowable accessory buildings and also exceeds the allowable square footage requirements for their property.

The plan commission recommended approving the request for variance contingent on the couple carrying through with the proposed removal of an existing building.

Mmsp: Hesse / Kastenschmidt: Motion to approve the request for variance with the contingency that the proposed removal of one existing building is completed. **2/0/0 Passed**

Liquor / Operator / Cigarette License – review and make decision. Class B Combination Beer and Liquor Licenses

Black Oak Grill and Saloon, N9404 Hwy V, Holmen, Vincent Meyer;

Cindy's LLC, N8268 County Road C, Mindoro, Cynthia Thompson;

Cindy's LLC, N8269 County Road C, Mindoro, Cynthia Thompson;

Muddy Creek LLC, N9274 County Road C, Mindoro, Kelly Johnson;

Top Dawgs Pub & Grill, N8292 County Road C, Mindoro, Paul Kast;

Rumors Bar & Grill, Grant Enterprises LLC, N9261 County Road C, Mindoro, Michael Grant;

Haldeman Investment LLC, Haldeman's Hilltop Tavern W5297 CTH T, Holmen, Jack K Haldeman;

Class A Beer License

Allied Cooperative dba Mindoro Country Store, N8319 County Road A, Mindoro,
Timothy Clemens, Agent

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve all Class B and Class A Alcohol Retail Licenses. **2/0/0 Passed**

Approved Operators: Cynthia Thompson, April Judd, Travis Thompson, Kelly Johnson, Kelly Fenske, Jesse Jacobson, Janell Quall, Tracey Riley, Robin Hanson, Jack Haldeman, Jack K. Haldeman, Karla Sime, Jacqueline Dobbs, Grace King, Kerrysa Haldeman, Vicky Rainey, Josie Rommel, Braidyn Ruetten

Denied: Dan Osthoff

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve above listed operators applications with the exception of Dan Osthoff. Osthoff shall be notified of this denial and afforded the opportunity to appeal in person at a later date. **2/0/0 Passed**

Tabled Applications:

Jenna Grant, Johanna Wanie, Mitch Fenske, Alycia Johnson, Tanna Peterson, Terri Pavlic

are tabled until completed applications are received.

Cigarette License Applicants:

Allied, Haldeman, Vincent Meyer and Grant Enterprises

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve all four Cigarette and Tobacco License Applicants. **2/0/0 Passed**

MINDORO PARK

Mike Hesse reported that the First Responder planted 3 additional trees in the Mindoro Park.

Dan Heidel is planning an informal public hearing to discuss potential uses and ideas on how to coordinate the different plans moving forward. Hesse learned from the County Unit meeting some leads on programs that fund park projects.

The Mindoro Lions Park ball field lights are in need of many repairs. There is a potential opportunity to purchase LED lights at a reduced price through an area vendor. The board will consider this and other options as details become available.

Mike plans to pick up a packet of information from the county that will enable us to identify electricity points at the Mindoro Park.

Crystal Sbraggia has added an online reservation system to the website. All paper reservations posted at park at time of going live were transferred to the online system. No further paper reservations will be honored. Crystal will work with the public works team to obtain a permanent sign to post at the park.

SANITARY DISTRICT

Mitch Fenske was in attendance to report current sanitary district related projects, plans and concerns.

It was noted that ammonia levels are still trending high. Fenske will continue to work with Prairie Farms and Davy Engineering to identify the actual source and prepare a solution.

Fenske will be reaching out to local farmers in hopes of working with them to gain water credits. Such credits are awarded through environmental remediation efforts and help to lessen the consequences of unavoidable overages.

Fenske gave an update on the sludge reducer product that he is testing.

Davey Engineering now picks up water samples, eliminating the need for employees to deliver them.

The North Street Lift Station request for funding was once again explained. No further updates were shared. The town is still waiting for federal clean water fund budget to be approved. Baldwin has accepted our request and has passed it along for approval. If not approved by federal funds, there is a chance that the request could still be approved by the state.

Fenske requested the board consider preparing for the potential new lift station by completing the necessary changes to piping within the trailer park. Fenske shared ideas that he felt would be effective.

The slip lining project is scheduled to take place the first week in September. This 1300-foot project will take place in the area of the old elementary school down to Prairie Farms and parts of North Street. No excavation will be needed, as the liner simply slides into place. All work will take place within the SD right away. ARPA funds will be used to pay for this project.

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve checks Farmington Sanitary District Checks 5664 to 5677 and previously approved EFT. **2/0/0 Passed**

Units that received notices will be shut off Monday, June 12, 2023. A total of 9 units could potentially be without service as of that date. Reconnection fees applies.

CEMETERY

Thank you to the Legion for installing the flag pole at the Farmington Cemetery.

ROADS

Crack Fill and Sealing Bids were reviewed.

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt: Motion to approve bid received by Scott Construction in the amount of \$179,292. **Approved 2/0/0**

Tentative completion mid-August.

Staff Road – Double seal – County C to Dobbs \$21,589

Double Seal – Dobb’s property to start of dirt portion - \$6,030

Wild Road: \$21,510

Waste Water Treatment (to be covered by SD): \$7,126

Severson Coulee: \$23,672

Michelson Road: \$16,350

H. Mickelson: \$5,982.00

A. Nelson: \$5,222

Lockington Road: \$26,630.00

Remaining Herman Coulee Road: \$44,911

Total: \$179,292

According to Fenske, current public work projects include clearing brush, mowing ditches and patching.

EQUIPMENT

Mitch is collecting pricing on trucks. He stated that the highway crew prefers to purchase a 1 ton and a ½ ton truck. The 1 ton could be used to plow, while the ½ ton could be used for everyday patrolling. Bids will be shared for consideration as they become available.

Greg shared bids for plow and dump body for new Western Star plow truck that has been ordered through i-State.

Mmsp: Hesse / Kastenschmidt: Motion to approve the quote from Universal Truck Equipment Inc. with the inclusion of Amber Green Strobes and HID cab mounted light add-on options for a total of \$100,897. **2/0/0 Passed**

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Hesse shared that 1166 passed its pump test, but does have a leak that will need to be repaired next year. The cost to repair is less than \$1,000.

1161 also needs repairs due to various leaks. This truck failed the 200-psi pressure limit at 10 minutes and also at the next level up. It is currently suitable for a single-story building but not a two-story building. It will cost an estimated \$4,000 to bring the vehicle up to code.

Larry Craig expressed appreciation for the help he received from the Farmington First Responders recently. He inquired about the need for a better route to help responders get to scenes more quickly and also be able to have supplies that are carried by Rescue 1. Hesse explained that most of the volunteers are equipped with necessary supplies. There are currently 16 volunteers and three more in training.

Grant funds were received to that will be used to cover training costs and volunteer mileage reimbursement.

In the future, the town could consider implementing the state matching retirement savings for volunteers that meet certain criteria.

RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE

The storm damage brush collection went well at the old dump site.
No other updates.

TREASURER REPORT AND CHECKS

Mmsp: Hesse / Kastenschmidt: Approve May Treasurer Report including receipts 633889 to 633902. **2/0/0**

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve town checks 23219 to 23262 and previously approved EFT. **2/0/0 Passed**

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve Fire Department checks 4707 - 4710. **2/0/0 Passed**

Other Business – The board reviewed the clerk's receipts for postage, website fees, background check fees and office supplied.

Hesse shared details pertaining to the supplemental shared revenue plans that the state is considering. According to Mike, the state is proposing to send 1 penny of every collected from

sales tax back to local municipal governments. Expenses will be restricted to Emergency Management Services and Public Works.

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to approve reimbursement to the clerk in the amount of \$1,272.65. **2/0/0 Passed**

Mmsp: Hesse / Kastenschmidt: Motion to recess into closed session under WI Statute 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of discussing compensation for a public employee in which the town has jurisdiction. **2/0/0 Passed**

Motion to Closed Session

Kastenschmidt / Hesse by Roll Call Vote

Motion to return to open session

Kastenschmidt / Hesse by Roll Call Vote

Employee reviews and evaluations will be scheduled for 4pm – 5pm on June 14, 2023.

Mmsp: Kastenschmidt / Hesse: Motion to adjourn at 9:25pm.