Town Board Meeting January 8, 2013

The Town Board meeting was called to order following the Caucus. All Board members were present.

The minutes from the December Town Board meeting were read. Motion made by Mulder to approve the minutes, seconded by Hesse.

Public Concerns: none

Paul and Penny Lash appeared before the Board requesting a Conditional Use Permit to allow expansion of their dairy operation from 130 to 280 cows. Board members expressed concerns regarding disposal of manure to which the Lashes assured that had been well thought out. The Board offered they could consider a drag line to move the manure rather than rely on transporting it on the roadways. A motion was made by Kirchner to approve the Conditional Use Permit which will allow the Lashes to increase their herd size to 280 and add additional farm buildings. Seconded by Mulder. Motion passed.

Poor health has forced Gordon Van Dunk to discontinue doing building inspections. In an effort to keep planned construction moving forward the Board found the need to retain the services of another inspector. Shane Davis who is currently one of the building inspectors for the City of Onalaska and the Town of Campbell was approached and agreed to work on an “as needed” basis until we can again select a township inspector.

A motion was made by Kirchner to approve retaining Shane Davis to inspect the Wanke project, seconded by Mulder. We will interview Mr. Davis and any other applicants who respond to our job search at our next board meeting. Board also discussed the need to determine a fee schedule for inspections that would be fair to all home owners/builders. Mr. Davis suggested $.25 per square foot which would include garages, decks, basements, steps, etc. Board to make final determination at a future meeting.

Applications for town hall custodian were reviewed. Both applicants come to us with experience in doing cleaning. After some discussion the motion was made by Hesse to hire Gerry Fitzgerald as she has had many years experience doing cleaning, seconded by Mulder.

Roads:

The WI Dept. of Transportation has entered into discussions regarding the transfer of State Hwy 108 to the current Cty Hwy C and designating the current St. Hwy 108 as a county highway. Present at our meeting to provide background on this discussion was Jeff Gust from the DOT, Ron Chamberlain, Co. Hwy Commissioner, Tara Johnson, County Board Chair. All three expressed often that this proposal was still in the discussion stage, that before the final decision was made there would be opportunity for public input. They assured board members that if the swap is made there would be money available to the County that would be used to do repair work on the existing Hwy 108. Also present was Leon Pfaff, county board supervisor representing our township. Town board members expressed reservations to the change stating it may hurt future and current business development in the Township, that there may be weight restrictions put in place making it difficult for Swiss Valley to access the cheese plant, that the change would diminish the perception of the current Hwy 108 and the natural beauty and historical value it has to offer. Future discussions will also include Charlie Handy and the management of Swiss Valley as well as public input.
Operator License application for Ariel Kish was reviewed. Motion made by Hesse and seconded by Kirchner to approve. Motion passed.

Chairman Hesse presented the Resolution commending firefighters David Foster and Dennis Waller for their efforts at the scene of an automobile accident in September of 2012 in which they recognized that the driver was suffering a trauma induced cardiac arrest and began resuscitation efforts before the arrival of EMS. Both were also selected by their peers to be Firemen of the year at the December meeting of the fire department. Motion to approve the resolution made by Mulder, seconded by Kirchner. Motion passed.

Solid Waste: work continues on retrofitting a ramp area to allow the use of a large dumpster for the recyclables at our drop off site.

The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. A motion made by Kirchner to approve receipts #235548 through #23560, seconded by Mulder.

The township checks were reviewed. A motion was made by Kirchner to approve township checks #18755 through #18785 and EFT’s. Seconded by Mulder. The motion was made by Hesse to approve the Fire Department checks 4050 through 4057. Seconded by Mulder.

Motion to adjourn by Kirchner seconded by Mulder at 10:30pm.