

******DRAFT Minutes******

**Town of Vermont Board Meeting
January 14, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. – 4017 County Road JJ**

Call to Order and Certification of Notice Posting

Called to order by Karen Carlock at 7:00 p.m. Agenda was posted on the town website, the door of Town Hall, emailed to the online subscribers and a meeting notice was published in the Mt. Horeb Mail and the Star News.

Present: Karen Carlock (chair), Doug Meier, Scott Moe, Chris Christian (Clerk) and Jenna Schmidt (Treasurer)

Absent: Todd Culliton and John Hallick

Approval of Agenda

Doug moved to approve the agenda, Scott seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Approval of December Minutes

Karen moved to approve the minutes, Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Chairman's Report and Acknowledgments

Karen mentioned that there are icy, hazardous conditions on Zwettler Road due to water runoff and Fink's can come out and do emergency digging of a ditch on Wednesday at a cost of \$500.

Citizens' Input

Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report

Jenna indicated that the largest activity for December was property tax receipt in the amount of \$880,998.67, which constitutes almost 50% of taxes owed. There are large amounts of money moving in and out but it is a mandated and temporary situation that occurs annually. Karen moved to approve the treasurer's report, Scott seconded and motion approved 3-0.

Clerk's Report

Chris mentioned the influx of property tax money and the subsequent debits for tax settlement checks, the largest of which was \$422,000+ to Wisconsin Heights School District. There is no election in February but two board seats and chair are up for election in April. One person is running for each seat, the candidate for chair is an incumbent and one of the supervisors is an incumbent. Karen moved to approve the Clerk's report, Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Payment of the Bills

Doug moved and Karen seconded to approve payment of the bills. Motion passed 3-0.

Vermont Citizens' ATC Committee

Michael McDermott is in Mexico, so Karen reported on attending the Administrative Law Judge Hearing for Vermont. There are about 50 intervenors; the administrative law judge was attempting to keep proceedings organized. He allowed all the intervenors to continue; there had been hope to combine some into categories. The strongest presence was the ELPC, which asked us to join with them on some comments, which is to our benefit as we can make our voices heard without the expense of hiring a lawyer.

North and Bohn Road Safety

Karen attempted to get a traffic study done but they will not put the strips down in the winter. They also have put the speed boards away for winter. In her research she found that radar speed signs are the most effective at reducing speed, but they are approximately \$4,000 each. She talked about the option of widening the road so lines could be painted but it is thought that widening may increase speed on the road. Marc Brody suggested striping the edges of Bohn Road, because it can be difficult to find the edge. Jack indicated that edge stripes would not be useful, but a center line would. Doug mentioned that 45 mph is designated speed limit for town roads, but he suggested enacting a seasonal speed limit of 35 mph. Technically, we are not supposed to do this, but there is no penalty. Marc Brody suggested that we request more of a sheriff's presence on these roads during the busy ski season. Doug moved that we enact a seasonal speed limit on Bohn Road, putting up two cautionary signs in either direction (four total), Karen seconded, and motion passed 3-0. Jack indicated that we could post signs as long as they are black and yellow and not white. We discussed what action we may be able to take on North Road. Jon Norris had spoken with chief of police in Blue Mounds and they talked about having a constable come and sit on the road. Karen agreed that it is worth discussing.

Old Indian Trail Overlay

We are eligible for LRIP money (\$14,000) to assist in fixing Old Indian Trail. Jack indicated that cold mix may have more longevity than the hot mix we had originally intended. We would have to transfer our project to cold mix with the state, but this shouldn't be a problem. Doug is going to do a little more research on it and we will take it up next month.

Tyrol Covenant of Deeds and Restrictions Committee

Karen proposed the following regarding formation of this committee:

Objective: Intermediate for the Town of Vermont Board on the Covenant of Deeds and Restrictions agreement between the Town of Vermont and Tyrol Basin

Committee Composition and Term Length: The committee would be formally created with approval from the Town Board and formally disbanded with approval by the Town Board. The committee structure is beneficial to have in place given that the Covenant of Deeds and Restrictions is an ongoing agreement.

Proposed Committee Members

- John Hallick (Town Board Rep) – Committee Chair
- Judy Robb (Town Plan Commission Rep)
- John Coffin
- Andy Grimmer
- Sharon Gundersen
- Jamie Hanson
- Jon Norris

Committee members will not have a designated term length and can serve for as long as they are willing and able. Members may be removed or added at any time with the approval of the Town Board. The Town Board may also dissolve the committee at any time.

Guiding Principles:

- Tyrol Basin brings economic and recreational value to the community
- Tyrol Basin has operated since the winter of 1958
- Maintaining economic viability is not a town responsibility
- The committee will conduct business in accordance with open meetings law which requires public notification of meetings, postings of agendas and the recording/posting of meeting minutes.
- The committee will conduct business using parliamentary procedure, to the best of its ability.
- Public input will be accepted via written materials provided to a committee member that will become part of Town records. No public input will be accepted during committee meetings unless the chair determines otherwise.

Committee Scope:

- Reviews and discusses current Covenant of Deeds and Restrictions agreement and any potential modifications.
- Receives and reviews any proposals to modify agreement
- Works to facilitate a negotiated agreement
- Negotiates with adherence to Town Land Use Plan and Ordinances
- Makes recommendation to Town Board
- The committee makes recommendations to the Town of Vermont Board. Recommendations are advisory only and non-binding.
- Out of Scope = Land Use Petitions (CUP, Driveway, Zoning)
- Out of Scope = Already approved land uses and Conditional Use Permits

Karen moved to that Town of Vermont Board forms a Tyrol Covenant of Deeds and Restrictions Committee, Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Next steps regarding Clerk/Treasurer appointment town referendum

Karen presented job descriptions for Clerk and Treasurer and moved that Board approve Town of Vermont Clerk and Treasurer job descriptions. Scott seconded and motion passed 3-0. We discussed where to post the job opportunities and town website as well as local newspapers were suggested. Applications for Clerk and Treasurer will be due by February 25. There will be an update on this next month.

Next steps regarding Money in Politics town referendum

Chris contacted Wisconsin United to Amend for suggestions on how to proceed. They provided advice and a template resolution, which was then customized by Warren Gaskill and Karen Carlock to the Town of Vermont and presented at the meeting. Doug made a motion to approve the resolution and add the actual voting numbers; Karen seconded and motion passed 3-0. Paperwork will be signed and filed with the correct entities.

Long Term Town Hall building needs

Karen and Doug discussed long term building needs and came up with a list, the largest potentially being improvement of the garage building, improving efficiency. Other ongoing maintenance items that should make it into the budget include redoing floors (especially stairs), window cleaning, and painting. One issue is that we have various items stored at other places around town; they are not all at the Town Hall. We have no interest in purchasing more land. The goal would be to get all of our property on our own property, which could potentially be achieved with a garage expansion. We will revisit this issue.

Patrolman Report, Mt. Horeb Fire Department, Black Earth Fire District and District 1 EMS Reports

Jack and Greg were out preparing roads for impending bad weather. With the weather we have experienced recently, our budget for salt next year should look good. We had sent a letter to a property owner on Old Indian Trail and everything was taken care of; Jack and Ross were able to clear trees from many areas there and on Moe, Bell and Greenwald.

John Coffin reported on a special meeting of Mt. Horeb Fire Department to authorize repair of Engine 3 (rebuild engine). Mt. Horeb has responded regarding purchase of property; the response will be presented next Wednesday. The Village offered \$610,000. John suspects this is where the price will end up and things will move ahead. Jenny Minter will become the new chief. She will accept a lower wage to keep the budget on track.

Doug reported that staff elections were held and Mitch Hodson is chief again at Black Earth Fire District. The new engine will be here by month end. Firehouse Subs granted a \$15,000 rescue boat for the Wisconsin River to the BEFD. There wasn't an option about what they could apply for, but BEFD does respond to quite a few river accidents and river rescue issues. Most of the flooding damage is paid for. They generated money from a gun auction and a pancake breakfast, and items were donated. There has been no news on consolidation of fire departments.

Regarding District One, Scott reported that the injectors are going to need to be rebuilt on the rig, and it is unusual that two cylinders have gone done. They are concerned they will not be able to get any money for it. The new ambulance could be delayed until Fall. The good news is they met budget and were able to put money away.

Agenda Items for February

Old Indian Trail, Road Safety, Clerk/Treasurer recruitment.

Adjournment

Scott moved to adjourn, Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.