

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON BIMONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

October 2, 2008

A quorum being present Chrm. Hanson called to order the bimonthly Town Board meeting of the Washington Town Board at 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, October 2, 2008, at the Town Municipal Building, 5750 Old Town Hall Road.

Members Present: Thomas Hanson, George Losby, Donald Perry, Michael Stacy, and Karen Tomesh

Staff Present: Kimberley Bunderson, Janelle Henning, and Micheal Peterson

Members/Staff Absent: None

Minutes: Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2008 BIMONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING. The motion was seconded by Supv. Stacy.
Aye 5, Nay 0

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: None.

Chrm. Hanson moved TO TRANSFER FUNDS (\$9,000.00) FROM THE (2) STATE INVESTMENT FUND TO THE EQUIPMENT FUND (6220). The Motion was seconded by Supv. Stacy.
Aye 5, Nay 0

Checks: Supv. Losby moved TO APPROVE CHECKS #18429 THROUGH #18449 TOTALING \$34,085.45. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.
Aye 5, Nay 0

Licenses: Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE BARTENDER'S LICENSE FOR MICHELLE ANTON. The motion was seconded by Supv. Stacy.
Aye 5, Nay 0

Administrator's Report: Martin road has been completed. The Road Crew has been patching pot holes. Road work was completed near Chaput Produce to build up the road bed to grade on Graff Road to reduce washouts. Signs are being replaced and updated. Next week the Road Crew will be begin preparing for winter projects by getting the plow and sander equipment ready.

Two parking tickets were issued.

Admr. Peterson attended the annual St. Cloud, MN snowplow equipment seminar where he learned of new snow removal trends.

Chairman's Report: Chrm. Hanson stated that the office has been gathering information on the builders and land owners who have had problems with the City of Eau Claire's 3-mile extra-territorial limit and Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This information will be submitted to Attorney John Hibbard.

Supervisor's Report: Supv. Tomesh stated that she will be gone for the November 6th Board Meeting. Supv. Stacy announced he will be gone for the October 16th Board Meeting. He also indicated that he thought the Town should have something in its newsletter or maybe an open meeting regarding the possible change in restructuring the office positions.

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Citizen's Input: None.

Future Zoning Requests: None.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda: None.

Resizing Building Pads in Thistledown Subdivision: Supv. Perry moved TO APPROVE THE RESIZING OF THE BUILDING PADS LOCATED ON LOT #26 IN THE THISTLEDOWN SUBDIVISION. The motion was seconded by Supv. Stacy.

Aye 5, Nay 0

Recess: Supv. Perry moved TO RECESS AT 6:45 P.M. The motion was seconded by Chrm. Hanson.

Aye 5, Nay 0

Supv. Perry moved TO RECONVENE AT 7:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.

Aye 5, Nay 0

Public Hearing:
Hite Trust:

Chrm. Hanson opened the public hearing requested by Harvey Hite for rezoning from A1 (Exclusive Agricultural District), to A3 (Agriculture-Residential District). The property is located on the north side of County Road I/Otter Creek Road, immediately northeast of the intersection of County Road I/Otter Creek Road and County Road IJ, 20.06 acres.

Todd Andrews, Eau Claire Planning and Development, reviewed the County Staff's recommendation which was to deny the request. The Staff concluded that the proposed rezoning was not consistent with the purposes of the zoning ordinance. Conflicts could emerge between residents of non-farm dwellings constructed on this property with the surrounding agricultural conditions.

Harvey Hite told how the land is non-conforming and separated by other land. He explained that the soil is difficult to work with and the top soil is thin.

Two area residents spoke in favor of the rezoning. If the land is left dormant for 3 years a house can be built on it under the current zoning of A1.

Six area residents spoke in opposition. They thought the land needed to be protected and preserved as strictly agricultural use. They stated that the crops that are planted in that parcel are doing well. If one house can be built there they do not believe that any of the acres will be used for agriculture.

Supv. Losby moved TO APPROVE THE REZONING REQUEST BY HARVEY HITE FROM THE A1 DISTRICT INTO THE A3 DISTRICT. The motion was seconded by Chrm. Hanson.

Aye 5, Nay 0

Zimmerman: Chrm. Hanson opened the public hearing requested by Jerre & Susan Zimmerman for a pre-occupied 1970 single family home currently located at 5730 Hillview Road to be placed at 6749 Hillview Road, a distance of about 1 mile.

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Zimmerman Con't: Todd Andrews, Eau Claire Planning and Development, reviewed the County Staff's recommendation which was to approve the request. The Staff concluded that the proposal met all of the standards for conditional use permits and with the purposes of the zoning ordinance.

No one spoke in opposition.

Supv. Stacy moved TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT OF A PRE-OCCUPIED SINGLE FAMILY HOUSE AT 6749 HILLVIEW ROAD. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.

Aye 5, Nay 0

2009 Budget: Health Tradition Health Plan has the lowest premiums for health insurance. They have a reduction in premiums of 4.72 percent and include dental insurance. Group Health Insurance had an increase of 11 percent in premiums. Admr. Peterson and Clerk/Treasurer Henning proposed a 3 percent salary increase for 2009. October 6 – 24, 2008 is open enrollment for health insurance elections.

Supv. Stacy moved TO CONTINUE WITH THE 95 PERCENT CONTRIBUTION OF THE LOWEST COST HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AND A 3 PERCENT SALARY INCREASE FOR 2009. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.

Aye 5, Nay 0

Clerk/Treasurer Henning asked the Board if they had comments on the upcoming budget.

Restructuring of Office Positions: Chrm. Hanson spoke of how the Town is considering restructuring and redefining the office positions to be more efficient and cost effective. He said that Mr. Hibbard researched into the State Statutes for potential issues. Clerk/Treasurer Henning spoke of other Towns that have contacted us for information as they are interest in combining positions as well.

Adjournment: Chrm. Hanson moved TO ADJOURN. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Aye 5, Nay 0

THE BOARD'S NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008,
AT THE TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
5750 OLD TOWN HALL ROAD.

Kimberley Bunderson
Administrative Assistant

Attendance: Todd Andrews, Ed Bartch, Ginny Bartch, Harvey Hite, Marlys Hite, Sue Larson, Derek Laughren, Harold Rosentrater, Nate Szymoniak, Duane Walker, Suzanne Walker, Kayla Zich, Amy Zimmerman, Jerre Zimmerman, Kristin Zimmerman, Sue Zimmerman