

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON BI-MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

December 3, 2009

Members Present: Micheal Peterson, Charles Bauer, Donald Perry, Karen Tomesh, Michael Stacy

Staff Present: Janelle Henning, Diane Krinkie

Members/Staff Absent:

A quorum being present Chrm. Peterson called to order the bi-monthly Town Board meeting of the Washington Town Board at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, December 3, 2009, at the Town Municipal Building, 5750 Old Town Hall Road.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Minutes:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2009 BI-MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING. The motion was seconded by Supv. Bauer.

Aye 5 Nay 0

Hwy II Speed Limit:

Admin. Henning provided background information on the Hwy II speed limit. In June a letter was submitted to the Eau Claire County Highway Commissioner in regards to the speed limit & condition of CTH II. The current speed limit is 55 mph and the Town recommended the highway be evaluated and potentially reduce the speed limit to 45 mph. Eau Claire County performed a speed study which concluded the speed should remain at 55 mph, however; Eau Claire County had requested WISDOT evaluate the road segment between Peuse Road and Graff Road. On November 25, 2009, Admin. Henning met with Highway Commissioner Evans to discuss the study. At this meeting, Mr. Evans indicated the WisDOT recommended a speed limit of 45 mph between Peuse and Graff Roads. Admin. Henning requested consideration be given to reducing the speed limit to 45 mph along the entire 2 mile section of the highway due to the road width, the number of accesses and the varying grades of the highway as well as the deteriorating condition. Concern was also expressed regarding a speed zone change on a minor section of the highway which could present the potential for driver confusion and limited adherence to the speed zone change. The issue will go before the Eau Claire Highway Committee for approval.

The condition of CTH II was also addressed; reconstruction of this road is not in the five year plan. Over the next five years, only the sections with deteriorating conditions will be repaired. Admin. Henning requested an evaluation be done by the driveway area east of Talmage Road due to how the shoulder drops off significantly. The County agreed to evaluate the area and blade patch as needed.

Charles Gerous, 5203 Deerfield Road, Eau Claire:

Asked the Board where the location of speed study was measured on CTH II. Admin. Henning stated they measured various segments of the highway. The speed study finding indicated the average free flow speed on the road overall was 53mph. Mr. Gerous, stated he had concerns related to the cattle haulers who are driving too fast and motorcycles going 80mph. Mr. Gerous requested a name at the County he could contact to express his concerns regarding the speed limit. Admin. Henning suggested contacting Marcus Evans, Highway Commissioner.

Chrm. Peterson encouraged residents to attend the Eau Claire County Highway Safety Committee meeting on December 10, 2009.

Gordon Bischoff, 5150 Deerfield Road, Eau Claire:

Expressed his concerns related to the speed and width of the road. Chrm. Peterson encouraged the residents the importance of attending the Highway Safety Committee meeting to express their concerns.

Employee Handbook:

Supv. Perry moved TO APPROVE THE REVISED TOWN OF WASHINGTON EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK WITH ALL REVISIONS CHANGES DATED DECEMBER 3, 2009. The motion was seconded by Supv. Bauer.

Aye 5 Nay 0

Administrators Report:

Admin. Henning distributed an arial view of the property located at the intersection of Stein Blvd. and Grover Road. Admin. Henning delivered a letter to the resident regarding the obstruction of the line of sight due to a row of hedges located near his south property line. The resident was notified if the hedge was not property maintained to the appropriate height of a maximum of 30 inches by November 9, 2009 the Town of Washington would remove them to maintain adequate site distance at this intersection per safety guidelines. On Monday, November 3, the road crew trimmed the hedges. The resident contacted the office to express his disapproval with the trimming. Attorney Hibbard has sent a letter to the resident in relation to the Town's authority to trim the hedge. Admin. Henning will email the Board a copy of Attorney Hibbard's letter.

Supv. Tomesh requested Admin. Henning evaluate the intersection on the corner of Cottonwood Drive and Golf Road. Admin. Henning did correspond with the City of Eau Claire and unfortunately we have no jurisdiction due to the road right-of-way for these roads are the City of Eau Claire. This concern has been forwarded to the City of Eau Claire and they will do an evaluation.

Tax mill rates have been calculated and sent to the Eau Claire County Treasurer. Tax statements will be printed and mailed to residents by December 18, 2009.

A letter from Mr. Michael Perry to the Eau Claire County Highway Commissioner was included in the Board packets in reference to problems on CTH IJ & Steinke Road. The Town has evaluated these concerns and has communicated with Mr. Perry regarding this issue.

Admin. Henning has composed a letter addressing the road right-of-way to vendors who sell and install sprinkler systems. This letter will communicate guidelines for future installations of sprinkler systems so they are not installed in the road right-of-way.

On December 1 the Towns presented a counter proposal to the City of Eau Claire in relation to the mediation and the Intergovernmental Agreement.

There has been a zoning violation on Blackberry road; a resident has been running an asbestos business from their home. Eau Claire County has issued them a notice of violation.

The TRIP Committee meeting was held at the Town of Washington this evening. This committee works on State funding for local roads. The Town of Washington was awarded \$26,540.96 for the Prill Road project.

Listings of the 2010 Board meeting dates were included in the Board packets. A Holiday Luncheon will be scheduled for Thursday, December 17 at 11:30 a.m. at the Town of Washington Municipal Building.

There has been one parking ticket issued: parking in a no parking zone and one follow up letter written to a resident on Prill Road for not repairing the fence after the fence viewing.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report:

None.

Checks:

Supv. Perry moved TO APPROVE CHECKS #19723 THROUGH #19751 TOTALING \$16,961.37. The motion was seconded by Supv. Bauer.

Aye 5 Nye 0

License:

None.

Chairman's Report:

Chrm. Peterson presented Supv. Stacy with a plaque from the American Legion in appreciation of opening their District 10 meeting.

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue Town Hall meeting regarding assessment at the county level was held on December 2, 2009; the following were in attendance Chrm. Peterson, Admin. Henning, Supv. Bauer, and Supv. Tomesh.

Supervisor's Report:

Supv. Stacy asked if a letter could be sent to the resident on Elderberry Lane, the house has been vacant for quite some time. Admin. Henning stated she had the opportunity to speak with the resident and did come to an agreement as to what portion of the lawn she would maintain.

Citizen's Input:

None.

Future Zoning Requests:

None.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

Review meetings in January 2010.

Adjournment:

Supv. Bauer moved TO ADJOURN. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Aye 5 Nye 0

THE BOARD'S NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT 7:00 P.M. ON
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009, AT THE TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
5750 OLD TOWN HALL ROAD.

Diane Krinkie,
Deputy Clerk

Attendance: Brigid Gerous, Charles Gerous, Gordon Bischoff, Paul Szepieniec