

February 13, 2018

Town Chair Bryce Black called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall on Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

Other Board members present were Richard McDermott, Curt Stine and Kay Hamilton. Town Officials Michael Albert and Maureen Manore were present.

Also present were Angela Kissell, Adam Kissell, Josh Manor and Tom Clark.

Minutes

The draft minutes from the January 16, 2018, meeting were read. The draft minutes were accepted.

Financial Report

Treasurer's report for January was read. The ending balance was \$426,469.15. The Board verified the ending bank balance. Richard McDermott checked the interest rates for certificates of deposits (CD) at Security Financial Bank. The rate for a 23 month CD is 1.74% and the penalty for early withdrawal is the forfeiture of interest on the amount withdrawn. It would require two signatures to initiate the CDs, from the Town Chair, Clerk or Treasurer. The Board discussed placing the majority of the money that was in the three savings accounts into three CDs and leaving some money in the savings accounts to keep them active.

Richard McDermott made a motion to transfer the three savings accounts into three different CDs of 23 months at Security Financial Bank. Kay Hamilton seconded and the motion carried.

Citizens' Concerns

Tom Clark, Buffalo County District Attorney, introduced himself as a candidate for Circuit Court Judge of Pepin and Buffalo Counties. He gave a brief history of his education and work history. Bryce Black received an email from the Wisconsin Towns Association on January 29th alerting legislators about Senate Bill 713 which would eliminate the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands' State Trust Fund loans. These loans are a source of low interest loans for many Wisconsin municipalities. Bryce Black wrote a letter to the state Senator chairing the committee which was having a hearing on the bill, with copies sent to Senator Vinehout and Representative Petryk. Representative Petryk called Bryce Black with assurances that the bill would not move forward.

Request for Transfer of Liquor License to Town of Pepin – Hidden Meadow and Barn

Angela and Adam Kissell, owners of the Hidden Meadow and Barn in the Town of Pepin (a venue for weddings and other group events), requested that the Board consider transferring the Town's existing Class B License to the Town of Pepin. They explained how being able to serve alcoholic beverages besides beer and wine would benefit their business. Angela Kissell spoke to Tom Ourada, WI Department of Revenue, who said that a contiguous municipality can transfer its Class B license to the neighboring municipality. The municipalities would need to decide on the terms of the transfer and a fee of no less than \$10,000.00 would be paid to the Town of Frankfort.

The Board discussed whether having the potential to issue a liquor license to a business in our town was a resource more valuable than the one time transfer fee. It was decided to contact the WTA and Tom Ourada to find out if the Town could set the terms to include first right of refusal for the license if it is not being used. Curt Stine will attend the Town of Pepin Board meeting next week to find out if they are interested in this transaction and what ideas they might have for terms.

Mining Agreement Report

Bryce Black invited Greg Bechel to attend tonight's meeting to clarify his request to end or modify the current Non-Metallic Mining Operating Agreement. Greg Bechel did not come to the meeting.

Kay Hamilton reported that the lease for the Richardson quarry expired in January 2017. She notified the Pepin County Conservationist Chase Cummings and he will follow up on this information.

Report on Other Meetings Attended

There were no meetings attended.

The Wisconsin Towns Association will provide Board of Review training at their regional conference on March 24th in Eau Claire.

Randy Nelson Estate – Delinquent Personal Property

Kay Hamilton has been in contact with Pepin County Treasurer Nancy Richardson concerning the Nelson estate. Randy Nelson died on January 20th. His estate owes the Town \$17,483.87 in delinquent personal property taxes. Kay Hamilton contacted the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) about possible action the Town could take now. The WTA suggested hiring a lawyer to file a claim against the probate assets. There is a limited amount of time to file. Nancy Richardson will notify the Town when probate has been initiated.

Road Reports

Pepin County Highway Department cut brush on Holmes Road. They were instructed by Bryce Black to also cut brush on Beaver Slide Road.

Richard McDermott said that they need to cut the trees out of the culvert on the western end of Kallstrom Road.

Town Garage Maintenance

Tom Hayden, Rural Mutual Insurance adjuster, met with Bryce Black on January 18th at the Town Garage to inspect the damage to some of the garage's 2x4 knee braces. He determined that the damage was probably caused by machinery inside the garage running into the braces, and that it may have happened years ago. Hayden said that our deductible is \$250.00 and the repair probably would not cost much more than that. The Board discussed whether to seek bids from a carpenter or employ Community Service workers.

Draft Cemetery Ordinance Review

Kay Hamilton presented a draft cemetery ordinance. The Board reviewed the document and suggested a few changes.

Memorandum of Understanding with Pepin County for Election Management System

Richard McDermott made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding with Pepin County. Curt Stine seconded and the motion carried. Bryce Black signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

Pay Bills

The Town bills were reviewed.

The next board meeting was set for March 13, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall. The tentative Town Board meeting agenda will cover: Town Board Minutes, Financial Report, Citizen's Concerns, Report on Other Meetings Attended, Mining Agreement Report, Road Reports, Durand Ambulance Contract, Cemetery Ordinance Review and Possible Adoption, Update on Request for Transfer of Liquor License to Town of Pepin – Hidden Meadow and Barn and Pay Bills.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Time 9:05 p.m.

Maureen Manore, Clerk