

January 8, 2019

Town Chair Bryce Black called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

Other Board members present were Richard McDermott, Curt Stine, Donna Juleff and Josh Manor. Town Clerk Maureen Manore and Town Treasurer Michael Albert were present.

Also present were John Newcomb, Linda Newcomb, Evan Mercer, Lily Arbore, Jeff Anderson, Carrie Anderson, Dee Anderson, Roger Sabelko, LaVey Sabelko and Donna Gates.

Minutes

The draft minutes from the December 11, 2018, meeting were read. The minutes stood as drafted.

Financial Report

Treasurer's report for December was read. The ending balance for December was \$355,929.42. The current bank statement was examined.

Citizens' Concerns

Jeff Anderson asked if there were any plans to finish blacktopping Bear Pen Road. He said that having two different surface types made the road harder to plow. The Board will discuss road projects under the Road Reports agenda item.

Little Plum Lutheran Cemetery Take-over Resolution

Curt Stine contacted the Town Attorney by email, asking him for an estimate to prepare the necessary documents for a transfer of title, advice on receipt of money from the Church Board and draft a resolution. Attorney O'Flaherty responded with a list of proposed documents needed which included transfer documents, State filing, establishing a Perpetual Care Fund, resolution and review of title work. This was estimated to cost between \$1,000.00 and \$1,200.00.

Bryce Black asked Jann Charette, Wisconsin Towns Association Lawyer, about the need for a Perpetual Care fund and was told that municipalities are not required to have them. Bryce Black also questioned what needed to be filed with the state and why the title work needed to be redone, as it was done recently by the Church Board for their sale of their property.

Curt Stine will contact the Town Attorney again to get more information about title insurance, the Perpetual Care fund and what other legal work that needs to be done.

Discuss ATV Route Referendum or Survey to Gauge Community Opinion

Bryce Black summarized the evolution of the ATV route issue, saying that Evan Mercer, representing the Pepin County ATV/UTV Club, has asked the Board to open some or all town roads to ATV traffic. A few citizens have attended recent Board meetings to voice their opinions for or against this idea. Bryce Black would like a way to gauge the overall community response, by either sending a survey in the mail or having an advisory referendum.

The Board looked at a few sample referendum questions and survey questions.

Curt Stine stated that he opposed a referendum and that the Town Board should be the ones to decide. Donna Juleff and Josh Manor agreed. Richard McDermott said that the public might not see or understand the word "Advisory" on the referendum and that he also agreed with Curt Stine.

Motion made by Curt Stine, seconded by Donna Juleff, to have the Chair appoint a sub-committee of two Board members and citizen members to develop an ATV/UTV Route Ordinance to bring back to the next Board meeting.

Bryce Black said he agrees that it is the Board's responsibility to make this decision, but seeking public input is not avoiding taking responsibility. There is no rush, he said, and we need to take the time to get this right.

The vote on the motion was called, motion carried with one negative vote by Bryce Black. Bryce Black appointed Curt Stine, Donna Juleff and Jeff Anderson to the sub-committee.

Report on Other Meetings Attended

No other meetings were attended.

Mining Agreement Report

There was nothing to report.

Road Reports

Bryce Black received notice from the Department of Transportation that the Town's state road aid for 2019 will be \$78,550.32.

The list of proposed 2019 road projects were emailed to Pepin County Highway Commissioner Kris Quant for an estimate of cost.

Bryce Black received a letter from Kris Quant listing the bridges the state inspected and the maintenance recommended for each bridge. The Board agreed to have the Highway Department do the maintenance except for blacktopping the approaches to the Elk Creek Road Bridge. The list of bridges names one on Peters Road, but Frankfort does not have a road by this name.

Richard McDermott said that the County should also inspect the Town's various culverts and cut the trees that are growing in and around them.

Bryce Black reminded Pepin County Highway Department Foreman Doug Gruber that the Town did approve the brushing of Beaver Slide and Cut-Off Road.

Bryce Black said that he will ask the Highway Department for an estimate on blacktopping the remaining portion of Bear Pen Road.

Jeff Anderson informed the Board that there is a washout towards the top of Bear Pen Road on the downhill side that needs attention.

Durand Ambulance Contract

The Board examined the contract. Motion made by Donna Juleff, seconded by Richard McDermott, to accept and sign the Agreement for Ambulance Services. Motion carried with no negative votes.

Pay Bills

The Town bills were reviewed and paid.

The next board meeting was set for February 12, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. The tentative Town Board meeting agenda will cover: Town Board Minutes, Financial Report, Citizens' Concerns, Report on Other Meetings Attended, Mining Agreement Report, Road Reports, Little Plum Cemetery Take-over, ATV/UTV Route Ordinance, and Pay Bills.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Time 8:20 p.m.

Maureen Manore, Clerk