

November 12, 2019

Town Chair Bryce Black called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall on Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

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

Also present were Kathleen Plunkett-Black, Lily Arbore and Joan Huppert.

Minutes

The draft minutes from the October 15, 2019, meeting were read. The minutes stood as submitted.

Financial Report

Treasurer's report for October was read. The ending balance was \$293,908.47. The ending bank balance on the Treasurer's Report for October was verified against the bank statement.

Citizens' Concerns

None

Plan Commission Report on Meeting for Bignell Conditional Use Permit Application and Public Hearing Date

Plan Commission Chair Don Gisch could not attend the meeting tonight but asked that a written statement on the Conditional Use Permit update be read to the Board. He wrote that the Plan Commission has reviewed all pertinent information and has scheduled a hearing on December 3rd. The hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. and afterwards the Plan Commission will vote on its recommendation to the Town Board along with recommendations for stipulations concerning the Conditional Use Permit.

Liquor License/Conditional Use Permit Request – Jessica Bignell

There was no new information to discuss.

Report on Other Meetings Attended

Bryce Black attended a Durand Rural Fire Department meeting on October 30th. Members were reminded that new rates for fire and accident calls were adopted at the annual meeting; it was recommended that, to inform the citizens, Towns include the new rates when sending out the tax bills. The ongoing discussion with the City of Durand about forming a new fire district is on the back burner for now. The purchase of a new fire truck is planned for 2023, and the department is budgeting to save for this purchase.

Curt Stine attended the Pepin County Land Conservation Committee meeting on November 4th. The committee voted to recommend the County Board pass an ordinance to make composting manure mandatory for large CAFOs (confined animal feeding operations).

An upcoming joint meeting of the Wisconsin Towns Association Pepin County Unit and Pierce County Unit will be held on December 2nd, 7:00 p.m., at the Town of Union Town Hall near Plum City.

Cemetery Ordinance Review

The Board examined the revisions to the ordinance suggested by Bryce Black. Most of the changes were to include the Little Plum Lutheran Cemetery.

Pepin County Coroner Joan Huppert explained that Pepin County recently had a problem when they needed to dispose of remains of a deceased jail prisoner, but were (initially) unable to find any family or friends to claim the cremated remains. She requested that the Board consider dedicating a portion of the Little Plum Cemetery as a "Butterfly Garden" where unclaimed cremains could be scattered if

such situations arise in the future. She said the Coroner's budget could not afford to purchase a lot or offer the Town any monetary compensation.

The Board discussed the request and decided to look at the cemetery when the weather is warmer to determine if there would be a suitable area. The Cemetery Ordinance would probably need to be amended to accommodate this request; review will be taken up at a later date.

Mining Agreement Report

Greg Bechel Trucking and Excavating LLC has delivered 2,530 tons of crushed rock to Gates Hill Road. Since the Pepin County Highway Department was busy with other projects at that time, the Town of Union was hired to grade the rock. A bill for \$23,402.50 was submitted by Bechel for the rock and delivery. The Board agreed that \$4,951.57 would be deducted from the bill to satisfy the remaining delinquent personal property tax owed.

The Board also agreed that the \$2,350.00 being held in a trust account at the Rodli Beskar Law Firm for future Mining Agreement negotiations would be returned to Bechel.

Road Reports

Bryce Black has signed a contract with Kraemer Company for 5,000 yards of rock at the Anderson Quarry. No payment will be made until the rock is crushed and in the Town's pile. Black spoke to Pepin County Highway Department Foreman Dale Carothers and Kraemer Company's Jeff Brenden about putting snow fence around the Town's rock pile to deter theft. They suggested using caution tape and more signs instead.

Paradise Lane has a washout caused by a culvert that is too short. The culvert will be extended by 15 feet and riprap added.

Bryce Black asked the Board to consider having the County do brushing on the hills on Beaver Slide Road and Cut Off Road.

Adopt 2020 Budget

Richard McDermott made a motion to adopt the 2020 budget as presented at the Budget Hearing. Donna Juleff seconded and the motion carried.

Pay Bills

The Town bills were reviewed and paid.

The next board meeting was set for December 10, 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, Road Reports, Discuss and Vote on Bignell Conditional Use Permit Request, Appoint 2020-2021 Election Workers, Building Inspector Contract Renewal, Assessor's Contract Renewal, Board of Adjustment Appointment, Command Central Hardware Maintenance Agreement, Set Caucus Date and Pay Bills.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Time 8:25 p.m.

Maureen Manore, Clerk