

October 15, 2019

Town Chair Bryce Black called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall on Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

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

Minutes

The draft minutes from the September 10, 2019, meeting were read. The draft and minutes stood as read.

Financial Report

Treasurer's report for September was examined. The ending balance was \$295,431.71. The ending bank balance on the Treasurer's Report for September was verified against the bank statement.

Citizens' Concerns

Bryce Black received an email from a constituent asking why Goat Back Road has been closed to ATV traffic. Black replied that the Town's ATV Ordinance opened certain town roads as ATV/UTV Routes, but did not close any roads; by state statute, all roads are closed to non-agricultural ATV use unless designated as routes by local ordinance.

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

The Plan Commission meeting set for October 10th was cancelled (due to scheduling conflicts) and has not been rescheduled yet.

Liquor License/Conditional Use Permit Request – Jessica Bignell

There was no new information to discuss.

Report on Other Meetings Attended

Bryce Black attended a meeting on September 23rd for the LRIP program. This will be discussed under Road Reports.

Mining Agreement Report

Bryce Black spoke on the phone to Greg Bechel. Bechel is currently crushing rock in the Richardson Quarry, and plans to make 15-20,000 tons of ¾" rock. Black also asked if Bechel would agree to using the \$2,350.00 being held in a trust account at the Rodli Beskar law firm to pay down the delinquent personal property tax of \$4,848.42 still owed to the Town. Bechel said he would agree to this proposal.

Road Reports

Bryce Black received a notice from the State Department of Transportation informing him that the Town will receive \$86,408.64 General Transportation Aid in 2020, an increase of about 10% from 2019.

On September 23rd Bryce Black attended a meeting at the County Highway Commissioner's office to discuss the 2020-2021 Local Road Improvement Project (LRIP) grant cycle. Pepin County's Towns are on a rotating eligibility list for this grant, and the Town of Durand and Town of Lima will receive this cycle's funding.

The new Multimodal Local Supplement (MLS) grant was briefly discussed. The state will pay 90% of the project costs, but there is a competitive application process, and projects furthering economic development will have priority. The WTA is encouraging towns to think creatively. Bryce Black's idea for a project is to replace the small, somewhat decrepit bridge on Swede Ramble Road. The

bridge provides access to the DNR public hunting ground and to logging and agricultural areas. The Board agreed to this project being submitted for the grant.

The ditching and culvert and stream bank stabilization work on Elk Creek Road has been completed. Greg Bechel is now crushing rock in the Richardson quarry. The Kraemer Company is also blasting rock in the Anderson quarry and will have rock to sell. Jeff Brenden informed Bryce Black that the Town could purchase rock at the price quoted in the spring, 5,000 yards at \$8.27 a cubic yard. Bryce Black proposed that we buy rock (estimated 1,600 yards) for Gates Hill Road from Greg Bechel, and have his trucks spread it, since the Pepin County Highway Department would not have time to do this work for several weeks. Black also proposed that we buy 5,000 yards from Kraemer Company. The Board discussed how different rock use scenarios fit into the road budget. The Board agreed to the proposal to buy rock from both Bechel and Kraemer. The Board discussed placing a barrier around the Town's rock pile at the Anderson quarry because Bryce Black was informed that it was not the Kraemer Company's job to secure the rock. The Board decided that a snow fence around the area would be adequate and 8 to 10 rolls should be enough.

The Board decided to have the County Highway Department place snow fence for the winter on Goat Back Road and Gates Hill Road.

Josh Manor said that there is an extra used culvert from Elk Creek Road at the Town Garage.

Curt Stine said that on County Road N, just south of his driveway, there are gouges in the pavement in the inside lane.

2020 Budget Preparation

The Board examined the proposed budget for 2020. A change was made to increase the Equalized Value Assessment from \$8,000 to \$8,300. The Board approved the proposed budget for publication.

Set Date for Budget Hearing

Set Date for Special Meeting of the Town Electors

The Board set the date for the Budget Hearing as November 12, 2019, to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Frankfort Town Hall. The date for Special Meeting of the Town Electors to approve the 2019 Town tax levy to be paid in 2020 was set for November 12, 2019, immediately following the Budget Hearing.

Rich and Jessica Bignell arrived at 8:15 p.m. Donna Juleff made a motion to re-open agenda items Plan Commission Report on Meeting for Bignell Conditional Use Permit Application and Public Hearing Date and Liquor License/Conditional Use Permit Request – Jessica Bignell. Curt Stine seconded and the motion carried. Bryce Black explained that the Plan Commission was unable to meet because there would not be a quorum present.

Donna Juleff encouraged them to reach out to State Assembly Representative Warren Petryk to discuss changing the liquor license laws for municipalities that ended up having only reserve licenses.

Pay Bills

The Town bills were reviewed and paid.

The next board meeting was set for November 12, 2019, following the Budget Hearing and Special Meeting of the Town Electors, which begin 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, Liquor License/Conditional Use Permit Request, 2020 Budget Adoption and Pay Bills.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Time 8:25 p.m.

Maureen Manore, Clerk