

TOWN OF MENOMONIE
ANNUAL MEETING
TUESDAY
MAY 19, 2020
7:00 PM

Frank called the meeting to order. There were 17 Town of Menomonie residents in attendance.

MINUTES 2019

All present reviewed the minutes of the April 16, 2019 minutes.

Neil Koch made a motion to approve the April 16, 2019, minutes. Carl Casper 2nd. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Nancy Ponto read the Financial Report. Ed Hartung made a motion to approve, Neil Koch 2nd, Carried.

CHAIRMAN REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Finished Northline Road some seal coating along with grader patching.
Line of Credit for \$100,000 and transferred \$60,000 to pay the end of the year expenses.
The new fire truck bought by Rural Fire Dept. has also raised our fire dues.
Frank explained how the town has to bond to meet its financial means. 390th Street is bonded along with the assessment costs for the truck assigned to the town for their costs. When they are paid off, the taxes assessed to the residents likely could go down.

Housing Report

10 new houses last year
3 Mobile Home Courts

Plan Commission Report:

Kent Jackson gave a summary of the Plan Commission year. He recognized Plan Commission Members: Lisa Pelnar, Marty Ondrus, Mike Kneer, Scott Barhart, Tom Harris and Lamont Steinmeyer. Also thanked Leslie Doane, former Town Clerk for attendance at the meetings and taking the minutes. Departed members were Neil Koch, Earl Wildenberg and Bob Colson. New members are Scott Barnhart, Tom Harris and Lamont Steinmeyer.

There were 6 requests for CMS – 3 fast track and 3 special exceptions. All 6 were recommended to the Board for approval.

Park Update:

Rich Wyss donated the land. All money used for the Park is money the Township receives from the demolition pit. No money is budgeted from the taxpayers. The road was put in and a parking lot is needed. All 3 of the driveways on that road have been reconstructed. We need to pour some curb. We have \$24,000 left in the park fund and not sure if we'll have enough money to pay for the blacktop. There is access to a walking trail from Vision Quest.

NEW BUSINESS

Road Work

Northline Road – Last half mile will be finished at a cost of approximately \$56,000 for blacktop and construction.

390th Road (Rudiger Road) – new culvert to be put in and seal coating (using fog sealing).

Seal coating will cost about \$160,000 this year. We are going to try using a different type of rock.

Problems under the I-94 Bridge will be rectified, as Frank talked to the State Engineer.

Total road costs this year will be approximately \$300,000.

Elected v. Appointed Clerk

Frank presented a sheet of pro's and con's of having an elected clerk vs. an appointed clerk. Appointed does not have to be a town resident, they can provide a list of qualifications for being appointed to that position, an elected clerk cannot be removed by the Board during their term of office but an appointed clerk can be removed for cause. Appointed can be contracted into a 3 year term and wage set by the Town Board. In two years, the town can go back to an elected position if things don't work out. This can be done only one time during the first two years.

Stewart Parins brought up that we could have this go to a referendum asking all town residents if they want to change to an appointed position. Stewart and Mike Kneer both said they would have liked to see the job description of an appointed clerk. Stewart asked if it couldn't be tabled until next month's town board meeting. He was told that because our population is over 2,500 people, we need to decide this at the annual meeting or must have a referendum in the November election. A great deal of discussion was held. Charisse Sutliff was introduced as the person that was hired to fulfill Leslie Doane's term as an elected clerk.

Neil Koch made a motion that we change to an appointed clerk. Jane Jackson 2nd. When put to a vote, 15 people voted for moving to an appointed clerk and 2 voted against. Carried.

Public Concerns

Treasurer's Wages

Frank brought up that Nancy would like a wage increase from \$5,988 to \$10,000. Kent Jackson made a motion to increase the Treasurer's yearly wage to \$10,000, Charisse Sutliff 2nd. Carried.

Broadband

Last year the Weston project was completed. 14/7 received a grant for this year to go from Tractor Central north to County Trunk F & J to Pheasant Crossing. Town of Menomonie is contributing \$5,000.

24/7 wants to go West of Irvington and West of 25 North to expand. Frank would like them to fill in the gaps between what they have done so that more of our residents receive broadband.

DATE FOR 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

Ed Hartung made a motion to set next year's annual meeting for April 20, 2021. Mike Kneer 2nd. Carried.

ADJOURN

Ed Hartung made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Stewart Parins 2nd. Carried.

Nancy Ponto, Interim Clerk, Town of Menomonie