

Town of Whitewater Town Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 14, 2018
7:00pm

Present: Lowell Hagen, Robert Strand, Norman Prusener, Carrie Hintz

Bob made a motion to move approve the agenda, seconded by Norm. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the February 14, 2018 town board meeting were reviewed. Norm made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk report – There will be a Spring Election on April 3.

Treasurer report – Carrie read the account balances. Norm made a motion to accept the Treasurer's reports as read, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

2nd Side Supervisor – Nothing

1st Side Supervisor – Bob talked to Tanis Construction about town hall siding and gutter work and is waiting for a price.

Chairman – None

Sheriff's Department Incident Report – Ira Martin read report (see attached).

Retaining wall request at N7843 E. Lakeshore Drive (DGS00015) – Landscaper / builder Luke Peyton is looking for approval on a proposed retaining wall. Norm looked at it and there is water coming down over the street on both sides. Crack across road and ditch is filled in. Possible there is a buried culvert, which should be diverted with a catch basin so it goes between 2 lots. Bob said it's okay for Luke to hook up to that culvert. Norm said must have a catch basin and must pitch away from the road so that plows can wing snow back. Luke said it's currently a collapsed railroad retaining wall. Town owns up to the property line. Bob said they need an encroachment agreement with a \$250 fee and the town will have to review at the next meeting. Norm made a motion to entertain the encroachment agreement, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on June Sherman's resignation and hiring a replacement – June told Carrie she needs to resign from cleaning the town hall. Carrie said that Donna Sherman, already a town employee, is interested in taking over those duties. Lowell said that Donna used to help June clean so knows what to do. The board will pay Donna's existing hourly wage for the cleaning hours. Norm made a motion to accept Donna, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on hiring part-time summer help – Mandy Adsit won't be coming back this summer. Tim Ryan will be coming back. Lowell said to put an ad in the paper asap at \$12.50 per hour. Lowell said Tim is more supervisory and should consider giving a raise. Norm made a motion to advertise for a new person at \$12.50 per hour, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously.

Set date for road tour – Road tour will take place on Monday, March 19 at 7:30am. Norm said that after the road tour we should have an open meeting to discuss what roads we want to fix and then put out for bid.

Road bid template – Norm brought up going back to bidding per mile versus bidding per project like we've done the past few years. Lowell said he likes it just the way it is where we bid per project. Norm looked at Esterly and we paid 20% more per foot in 2017 than in 2014 when we used the bid per mile. Norm said by getting the price per mile, we can know exactly how much it's going to cost for each road. Norm said the contractors want the good jobs but not the little jobs, so they bid those high. So we're paying a lot more for

the junk jobs. By bidding per mile, we have one contractor do all of the work. Norm suggests going with the per mile cost and then determine how many feet of each road we want to do. We also should make a list of culverts, ditching, etc. that we want to have fixed and put those out for pricing, which Bob said we'll do on the road tour. Bob said that Island Road was ground and replaced and we'd have to put that on the per mile bid form too. Bob said that having contractors come and see the road, they can tell us what the proper treatment is for each road is since they're the expert. Norm said we have expertise on the roads and we can figure that out where as the contractors have a vested interest in it. Lowell said Norm makes a valid point, but these companies bid the town higher because we're small anyway. Lowell said we went away from the per mile model because projects weren't coming in as we thought. Bob said that how we did it last year made us know how much we were going to spend. The other way opens us up for mistakes. Norm said giving the contractor the responsibility, is like going to a car dealer, telling them how much money you have, and asking which car to buy. Norm said we know our roads better than any contractor. There are classes available to learn more about road work too. Norm said some projects are over and some under budget and it averages out. Bob said that in his business, per job, he has each individual bid their job and will be that cost unless there is a change or a surprise. Norm made a motion to go back to the per mile and per ton bid so we have one contractor. Lowell asked three times for a second. No second. Lowell made a motion to bid per individual project versus per mile, seconded by Bob. Motion passed 2-1.

Other town business – Lowell said the Reliance Road culvert is gone. Lowell asked if the town can rent a saw, saw the road ourselves, dig it out and replace it ourselves. Norm said we've done that a lot. Bob said he's not happy with Egnoski's work on Millis Road because he didn't compact it. Ed McManaway said the same happened on Island and Hwy 89. Lowell said Reliance needs a 34' culvert. Bob said Reliance takes a lot of weight and is wondering if we should hire someone who knows how to do it correctly. Norm said it's not a problem to do them ourselves. He said on Esterly there will be boulders and it will be tight. Norm said Bob Harris could fill with stone for now and get bids on all 3 culverts needed.

Laurel Swan told Lowell that during the last snowstorm the plows left a huge hole in his yard. Bob said it's in the road right-of-way and he thinks we should lay the sod back down and do what we need to do repair it so Laurel can mow it. Bob will have Bob Harris repair that.

Tomorrow morning there is an informational town meeting at 9am with people who want to put the solar system in on Bluff Road. Norm said there is a big one in Beloit with concrete bases. Lowell said these will be low units that tip and follow the sun as the day goes on. They won't have concrete bases. Lowell would like to get money for the town. Ed McManaway said they are going in off of Hwy C in Darien. Darren at Walworth County told Lowell they just need a conditional use through them.

Public Input – Claudia Holst said that Carrie is on top of things and makes working elections easy.

Adjourn to Closed Session - Norm made a motion to adjourn into closed session, seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously. Called to order. Present: Lowell Hagen, Norman Prusener, Bob Strand, Carrie Hintz, Donna Sherman

Completed Clerk/Treasurer annual review.

Adjourn back to open Town Board Meeting.

Board paid bills.

Norm made a motion to adjourn at 8:06pm, seconded by Bob. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer