

TOWNSHIP OF BALDWIN

MONTHLY MEETING

November 5, 2020

Chairman Douglas Veenendall called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM immediately following the Budget Hearing and Special meeting. Board members in attendance: Supervisors Don L. Johnson & Joseph Kusilek, Treasurer Ronda Helgeson and Clerk Jim Harer.

Others: Kay Harer, Chris Veenendall, David & Karen Niccum, Terry Helgeson Tom Olson, Brian L Zimmerman and Scott Miller.

Don L. Johnson moved to approve the agenda with item M moved to B. Seconded and carried.

The October 2020 board minutes were read. Motion by Joseph Kusilek to approve, seconded and carried.

Don L. Johnson moved to approve vendor run checks #10645 & 10674-10711 for \$31,754.87. Seconded by Joseph Kusilek. Carried.

Wendy Sanders representing Cedar Corp. gave the board an up-date on the Rose Lane/70th Ave. construction project. A construction plan was handed out and in the diagram's wetland areas were marked. As of now there are 1.5 acres identified and the DOT requires a 20% mark up so 1.8 acres. Artificial wetlands are yet to be marked, waiver of shoulder width may be applied for to lower the wetland acres and thus lower cost. Soil borings will be completed, and the culvert replacements finalized.

Scott Miller addressed the board in opposition to the St. Croix County Proposed Communicable Disease Ordinance. The ordinance infringes on our Constitutional Rights and is proposed to be enforced by non-elected - county staff.

After discussion by those residents in attendance and board members Supervisor Joseph Kusilek moved to adopt Town of Baldwin Resolution 2020-11-5 declaring town opposition to the proposed county disease ordinance. Seconded by Don L. Johnson. Carried by unanimous voice vote.

The resolution was signed by board members and attested to by the town clerk. Copies will be sent to St. Croix County Board Chairs and Board members representing District 16 & District 18 who's boundaries include Ward 1 & 2 Town of Baldwin. Also the Resolution will be posted at the hall and collection center.

Wage review: Town maintenance position. Tim Simmons is not able to attend tonight. His work was reviewed by the town personnel committee with ratings in the "exceeds expectations" range.

Motion by Douglas Veenendall to give Tim a \$1.31 raise, this would put him in the County Highway Department scale for similar work. Seconded by Joseph Kusilek. Carried by voice vote.

Douglas Veenendall moved to give the hall and collection attendants a \$1.50 per hour raise with the goal of reaching \$15/hour. Seconded by Don L. Johnson. Carried by voice vote.

These wage increases will become effective on November 15, 2020.

Flood damage and COVID 19 grants were discussed. Presently we are waiting on about \$70,000 in flood relief and about \$5,000 in COVID 19 expense related reimbursement.

There was no new information on the Alvermann and Schillinger un-permitted mobile home situation.

Cory Breunig has petitioned the Wisconsin Department of Administration to request annexation of 6.67 acres, parcel #002-1078-90-001 from the Township of Baldwin into the Village of Baldwin for commercial/industrial use in that he would need sewer and water not available in the town. A letter received today indicates the state has accepted his request for annexation.

A draft 3-year road plan was handed out and board members were asked to review for finalization in December.

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Board Minutes (Continued)

The phone and internet use and cost for the town hall was reviewed. Elections no longer need phone service and users of the hall generally use their cell phones for any internet uses. The current amount for phone and slow internet is +/- \$69/month but a three-year contract is now required at about \$136/month.

Joseph Kusilek moved to discontinue phone and internet service for the town hall furnished by Baldwin Lightstream. Seconded by Don L. Johnson. Carried by voice vote.

Asked to review our permit procedures the Town Treasurer and Clerk recommended eliminating the policy of refunding Driveway and Accessory Building permit fees. The board was in general approval of that idea and asked to see language changes next month.

No action was required on the refund of past taxes for Deanna D. Lind property until formal paperwork is received.

Some discussion was held on the installation of 5G Broadband in the town. Little was known about planned installation in our town or any health concerns related to it. Statewide towns have had trouble with the installation placement in town right-of-way and the Town of Hammond has had residents attend board meeting objecting to the health concerns related to "radiation" produced by the system. The general feeling is that town have little authority over the projects.

The chairman related concerns from town residents that dogs have been chasing deer. The dog's owner is believed to be Tim Bazille and are unlicensed.

A letter was read from the Wayne Willink family thanking the town for flowers and stating how Wayne had enjoyed being part of town proceedings.

Future agenda items: Cedar Corp., approval of 2021 operations budget, set a Town Caucus date, Schillinger and Alvermann mobile homes, Fire call ordinance, United Fire ordinance, non-refund language.

Motion by Joseph Kusilek to hold the next board meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 7 PM. Seconded by Don L. Johnson, carried.

Meeting closed at 9:10 PM.

(Approved and signed December 3, 2020.)

Douglas Veenendall, Chairman

James Harer, Clerk