

January 6, 2021

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 pm in the town hall. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. All members were present. The meeting was officially noticed on November 30, 2020.

Heeg made a motion to approve the minutes for December 16, 2020 meeting. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Chief Scott Young thanked the Town of Saratoga for transferring unused Routes to Recovery grant money to the City of Wisconsin Rapids. It was used to purchase a power cot loading system for their ambulance. The system helps all the people the department services; including the Town of Saratoga. EMS Division Chief Jason Joling presented the American Heart Association's Mission Lifeline Gold Plus Award to the Saratoga First Responder Department. It is an award of achievement for identifying patients who are having a heart attack and getting them to a facility within 90 minutes of first contact.

The Board reviewed the bids that were received for a new town plow truck and equipment. Truck Country submitted 2 bid; one for a Freightliner for \$93,560, the other for a Western Star for \$101,252. Mid-State Truck submitted a bid for a 2022 International for \$94,850. After reviewing all the bids, Passineau stated that the International would be the cheaper since it includes the freight charge, but the Freightliner does not. Carrell made motion to accept the bid for the 2022 International from Mid-State Truck. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the bids that were received for the equipment for the new town plow truck. Both bids received were from Monroe Truck Equipment. Option 1 was per the Towns' specifications and was bid at \$109,766. Option 2 is one they are building now for another customer and it bids out at \$85,984. There was a question of whether stainless steel needed to be undercoated. Passineau stated he can discuss the options with Monroe and get the electronic controls changed to cable controls which he believes could reduce the bid by approximately \$12,000 in addition to getting the undercoating taken off. Installation is included in both bids. McDonald made a motion to allow Passineau to discuss the equipment bids with Monroe and accept the bid with modifications that is most advantageous to the Town as long as it doesn't go over \$109,766. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Rapids Home Furnishings, 7830 Hwy 13 South had a storage containers delivered on December 14th. No representative from the company was present to discuss the extension requested.

The Board discussed setting a policy for the placement of requested streetlights. 2000 was when streetlights were last installed on a Town road. A resident requested a streetlight at the corner of Highway 13 and Nature's Way. Passineau suggested checking with DOT for placement of the streetlights. The Town Board may consider placement of a streetlight on a public town road where it intersects a State Highway. The request would need to be brought before the Board. The Board may reject any request that is not advantageous for the Town. The Town will not install or pay for street lights to be placed at private roads/trails and State Highway intersections.

The Towns will need to replace its current copy machine since parts will no longer be made for the machine that was purchased in 2012. Bauernfeind Business Technologies sent two options for replacement. Option one is a 25 page per minute print for \$4,697. Option two is for 32 page per minute for \$5,608. The Town would be able to lease the machines and pay

monthly payments, which would add an additional \$1,000-\$2,300 more to the price. The purchase of the machine was included in the 2021 budget. Compared to the last quarter of printings, the new machine would save approximately \$150/quarter for ink. McDonald made a motion to purchase the 25 page per minute copy machine for \$4,697. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Town received paperwork from Landmark Dividend. They would like to purchase the Towns' cell tower lease on County Road Z in return for a lump sum of \$105,000. After reviewing the Towns' lease amounts, the Town would lose a significant amount of money by taking the lump sum. McDonald made a motion to reject the offer to purchase the cell tower lease. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Employee Bond insurance. The Town currently carries a bond for 4 positions which will expire in April 2021. The insurance will automatically renew for another two years at a cost of \$238. The Town did receive paperwork for a different bond that would be \$245 for the two positions for two years. The Town would also be able to add more positions to cover at an additional cost. Heeg made a motion to continue the employee bond insurance with our current carrier, Liberty Mutual Surety at a cost of \$238 for two years for 4 positions. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the completed road repairs that were done by Wood County for the 64th Street culverts and several dips on 52nd Street, Spruce, and 64th Street. Several Board members have driven over them and found that they were not in good condition. Several people that drive the roads often said that they roads were bad immediately after they were completed. The Board would like the Highway Commissioner or a representative from the County to drive them with Chairman Rickaby to discuss how they can be remedied.

The Certified Survey Map for Daniel Spaulding was reviewed. It will be sent to the Plan Commission for review and brought back to the Town Board.

Brandon Burroughs gave the Constable's report.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the treasurer's report. December taxes have been collected. Saratoga is one of the few municipalities that is open to the public for tax collection. There have been several calls regarding snowmobiles. Snowmobiles have the right to be within the right-of-ways on roads.

The asbestos flooring in the First Responder office is scheduled to be removed on January 18th, 2021.

A plow truck is down for a repair. There was some discussion on whether to fix a power steering gear box or to replace it. The Town will go with whichever is quickest.

The Board set the policy that all Certified Survey Maps will need to go to the Plan Commission before coming to the Town Board.

Heeg made a motion to pay bills. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Heeg made a motion to adjourn. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Heidi Kawleski, Clerk

