

December 15, 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; Kretschmer by zoom. The meeting was officially noticed on December 9th, 2021.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Brandon Burroughs gave the Constable's report. Melody Steen, 505 State Highway 73 S, was found guilty and is ordered to pay \$5300 for violation of the nuisance ordinance.

Lorelei Fuehrer gave the Zoning Administrator's report. The Town was in the process of having the 824 Church Avenue razed. The owner has planned to contract to have the house razed on his own. Lorelei verified this with the person that is supposed to do the razing. It should be completed by the end of January. The Building Inspector and Lorelei viewed the burned house at 6020 Highway 73, and deemed it a total loss and issued a razing order. Two rezoning applications have been submitted for Al Wondzell around the corner of Highway 13 and Evergreen Avenue.

Rhonda Carrell gave the SPARKS Committee report. They would like to work with the County and the Village of Port Edwards on NEPCO lake access. Their next meeting is December 20th, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Heidi Kawleski gave the Clerk's report. Savion will be having a public meeting on January 24th at 6:30 PM at the Town hall regarding the proposed Saratoga Solar Project. The Town will need to provide a job description for the Alternate Board of Appeals positions to Botham Ink, in order to get them posted to the Towns' website. In the latest approved Plan Commission minutes, it states that Lorelei works an average of 30 hours a week. It was verified with Lorelei that this was during the summer when she was doing both Building Inspecting and Zoning Administrator. During the winter it was significantly less. The Town has contracted with Josh Volz to do the Building Inspections. She estimated the Zoning Administrator was around 6-7 hours a week.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the Treasurer's report. 2021 tax collection has begun. In the monthly summary, it shows the interest of the ARPA money which was received from the State, being added to that account. When the Town does the yearly required report, it will only cover the original amount received from the State. Jeremy Schmidt has paid the amount due to the Town for extra tires that were brought into the transfer site from 2018.

Carrell made a motion to approve the minutes of December 1st, 2021. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Certified Survey map for Joy Jensen was reviewed. She is splitting one parcel into two. Both are above the required 1 acre and the septic is on the parcel with the house. Leichtnam made a motion to approve the CSM for Joy Jensen. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Wood County Planning and Zoning needs the approval or denials of all requested CSM's that come to the Town within 30 days of notice to the Town. Within the last few years, the CSM's have been going to the Plan Commission before they come to the Board, which often takes longer than the 30 days. The Board agreed in order to avoid delays; the CSM's can just come to the Board right away instead of going thru the Plan Commission first.

Carrell made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-11; Amending the 2021 Budget. \$7,000 will be moved from Health and Human Services to Public Safety. The overall budget total will remain unchanged. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Rickaby appointed Rhonda Carrell as Board of Appeals Chairman. Carrell recused herself. The remaining Board members approved of the appointment.

Leichtnam made a motion to appoint the Election workers for 2022-2023. McDonald seconded it. The Board discussed where the names of workers came from. Many of the names on the list have been appointed as Election Workers for many years; the remaining people have requested to be added to the list within the last two years. Several names were submitted by the Republican party. Wisconsin State Statutes stipulates that people submitted by political parties must be called to work first; before experienced unaffiliated workers. Leichtnam withdrew his motion. Kretschmer made a motion to appoint the following people as Election Inspectors for a two year term: Marie Drexler, Sandra Sweeney, Bonnie Lafleur, Tracy Van Asten, Susan Gamroth, Susan Lamb, Melva Smits, Darlene Back, Betty Pearson, Karlyn Ceplina, Margaret Skerven, Suzan Smith-Davis, Tina Krummel, Arleen Lobner, Bonita Moore, David Lobner, Paulette Sullivan, Brenda Szulczewski, Sally Fait, Jon Krummel, Margaret Bowman, Charlene Bjerk, Kristine Carlin, Jeff Jelinek, James Krzykowski, Cynthia Erickson, Deb Totzke, Carol Schultz, Joann Maager, Dave Wilkinson, Paula Klevene, Susan Brundidge, Patricia Foley, Diane Renner, Janet Forton, and Eric Forton. Each election needs between 5-20 workers depending on how busy the election is expected to be. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed. Leichtman opposed the appointments, stating he didn't believe it was right that the Town be required to use people that were just recently submitted by a political party before people that have worked at elections for many years.

The Town approved a Town flag design several years ago. Neumark Design and Print created a design for Town letterhead and envelopes based off of the flag. Those designs were not approved at the time. Neumark has since gone out of business, so the Town is unable to secure the rights and the right kind of file for use on Town paperwork and media. The Board reviewed new Town logos created by Botham Ink. There was a color change suggestion. The Board will look at the logo in different colors. [Amended 1/19/2022](#)

The Town is able to submit a grant application for the TRI-S program. The program can provide up to a 90% reimbursement if the grant is awarded. There is a safety concern for passing traffic at the intersection of Highway 13 and Blue Ridge Lane because of the grade of Highway 13. The Wood County Solar Project is using those roads as part of their heavy truck traffic route. The newly proposed Saratoga Solar Project would also be using the same roads as part of their heavy truck traffic route. The Road Oversight Manager, Doug Passineau, would like to submit a grant application for the project. It would include a turning lane off of Highway 13, curb and gutter at the intersection with Blue Ridge, and increase the ESAL capacity in order to handle the heavy truck traffic required for the solar projects. McDonald made a motion to apply for the TRI-S grant for reconstructing Blue Ridge Lane. Leichtnam seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Leichtnam made a motion to approve \$1327.25 be paid to the Towns Advocacy Council. The Council hires lobbyist to work on behalf of the Wisconsin Towns. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

McDonald made a motion to approve provisional operator's licenses for Jennifer Lange and Vericon Gammell. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Board members gave informational announcements.

Leichtnam would like a Plan Commission member to be at Town Board meeting once a month. Chairman Rickaby would like to ask the Towns' attorney if there could be a combined Plan Commission and Town Board meeting since there are so many new people on both Boards.

Carrell made a motion to adjourn. McDonald seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski, Clerk