

NOVEMBER 30, 2020 WHEATLAND TOWN BOARD MEETING

Meeting was called to order by Chairman William Glembocki at 6:00 p.m. Monday, November 30, 2020 at the Town Hall in New Munster and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Town Board members present: Supervisor Andrew Lois and Kelly Wilson. Others present: Clerk Sheila Siegler, Treasurer Deborah Vos, Town Attorney Jeffrey Davison, Fire Chief Louis Denko, Maggie Fosdick, Wayne Kaddatz, Diane Grenus, and Brian Boeckenstedt.

Notices were posted in three public areas (Town Hall, Transfer Station and Wheatland Center School) and the Town website. The Kenosha News and Westosha Report were notified. Individuals who have requested meeting notices by e-mail were sent agendas as required by state law.

Chairman Glembocki noted the November 16 Minutes omitted the following action, "Kelly Wilson moved to approve the Minutes of the October 12 and 19 town board meetings and November 11 town board budget workshop, seconded by William Glembocki and motion carried." He moved to approve the November 16, 2020 Minutes with the addition of the omitted motion. Andrew Lois seconded. Motion carried.

Report –

A. Fire Dept. – Fire Chief Denko said they were busier than ever with First Responder calls. Some are Covid related and some are neglected medical problems. Some people avoided medical appointments for their health problems because of Covid fear.

The radio changeover with Kenosha County is now scheduled for Wednesday, December 2. A tower has been constructed in Silver Lake Park and is supposed to benefit all county fire/rescue. They are going from three frequencies to four and the higher tower will pick up more. There will be a learning curve in adjusting to the additional chatter on the radio.

Recently, we lost power from WE Energies two times in a matter of weeks for an hour or more because of storms. The signals on STH 50 and STH 83 were affected as well as STH 50 and CTH O. There should be battery backups. Clerk said STH 50/83 intersection signals were being reconstructed in 2021. Chairman will contact the state and county highway departments concerning battery backups.

Supervisor Andrew Lois reported the signals at STH 50/CTH O need to be looked at because the wait time between lights is changed. Clerk said other people have also reported this and were advised to contact Kenosha County Highway Dept.

Chief Denko said he noticed the shoulder on CTH KD in the 4300 block on the east side is rutted and needs to be repaired.

B. Public Safety Report – none

Public comments – Maggie Fosdick, 35003 67th St. who is also the Chief Election Inspector for Wheatland thanked the board for the resolution recognizing the election workers but said the clerk had put in a lot of extra hours over and above and should be compensated. All board members expressed their appreciation to the clerk and thanked Fosdick.

Brian Boeckenstedt, 5200 State Road 83, asked for Public Comments to be scheduled for the end of the meeting. Board members and town attorney all stated that scheduling public comments prior to action was more beneficial and allowed for the comment to be considered before the vote. Chairman Glembocki said it is a meeting of the board and not a public hearing. Wayne Kaddatz, 39405 60th St. and a former town chairman said he always let everyone talk when something came up that interested them. There was not a scheduled time for the public to comment and everyone felt included.

Brian Boeckenstedt also commented on the battery backup for the lights. He asked, "what is a life worth?" Chairman said the town does not have any control over the state road. We will bring up our concerns to the county and state highway staff, but the state has the final approval of things on state roads.

Boeckenstedt stated the local volunteer inspectors did an amazing job but again brought up that his son was listed on the registration list here and had registered and voted using the absentee ballot process at UW-Whitewater a couple of days before the election. He could have voted twice and said this was an issue along with all the absentee ballots. He said he bought a copy of the Wheatland November 3rd election registration list (poll book) and is going thru the list looking for people who should not be there.

Diane Grenus, 39400 60th St., said the "Wheatland Strong" board she brought in has room for additions if anyone wishes to add something. She has more "blanks" that people can paint and decorate. She also asked when the town would put up the board in the town hall. Board decided to put it on the west wall and locate it under the veteran's plaque. Chairman said it would be put up soon.

Discussion on whether to change board meetings to virtual meetings for a certain length of time because of Covid

Chairman Glembocki said a friend of his and five other members of that friend's family have died of Covid in the past two weeks. The county board has gone to virtual meetings. Covid is serious and he feels we should change to virtual meetings for the next months.

Supervisor Wilson said she wants to go virtual. Supervisor Lois said he was ok either way.

Zoom meetings were discussed with public comments required to be e-mailed to the town clerk by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting. The board looked at the language the county is using and agreed that we would use that wording. Zoom meetings can be monitored by using the invitation that will be listed on the agenda or perhaps live-streamed on you-tube but viewers would not be participating, just the board. The Clerk will purchase the necessary software.

Kelly Wilson moved to meet virtually rather than in-person beginning with the December meeting and continuing thru January and February with a decision made in February as to the Covid status at that time and to require written public comments to be e-mailed to the town clerk prior to 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting with the comments to be made a part of the meeting. Andrew Lois seconded. Motion carried. The clerk will also investigate "Go To Meetings" at the suggestion of Chief Denko.

Reports - Correspondence - Announcements

A. Reports

1. Road – Chairman said Asphalt Contractors will provide snow removal at the same rate as last year.
2. Chairman - none
3. Supervisors - none
4. Treasurer – September & October reports. Treasurer Deborah Vos reported September net worth of \$1,034,554.33 and October net worth of \$914,222.45. Report was accepted as presented by a motion from William Glembocki and a second by Kelly Wilson
5. Clerk – reported submitting application for "Road to Recovery" funds in the amount of \$5,201. Remaining allocation was assigned to Kenosha County for their use.

The Lilly Lake gauge was removed before ice forms. The elevation reported by Mike Adam was 757.92 ft. The lake elevation has dropped a lot since this summer. (DNR OHWM is 757.8 ft.)

Clerk gave board members an expense report to date for lake district expenses.

Brett Butler will close off the gate in the fence at Lilly Lake Beach for the winter to prevent anyone using the gate and possibly being injured.

B. Correspondence – a "thank you" note for plant sent for building inspector's father

C. Announcements

- Town office is closed November 26 & 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday
- November 30, 7 p.m. - Budget Hearing & Special Town Meeting to approve 2020 levies

Financial matters:

A. Purchase approval –

B. Other financial matters – Water Patrol – question has come up if the intergovernmental group will pay for the costs for recertifying two water patrol officers who are not affiliated with another agency at this time. Board directed the clerk to again verify with the insurance company that we have worker compensation coverage for these officers. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Sunrise Cleaning will be cleaning the town hall.

Adjournment – William Glembocki moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Kelly Wilson seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Siegler, Town Clerk