

JULY 25, 2022 WHEATLAND TOWN BOARD MEETING

Meeting was called to order by Chairman William Glembocki at 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 25, 2022, at the Town Hall, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Town Board members present: Supervisors Andrew Lois and Kelly Wilson. Others present: Clerk Sheila Siegler, Town Treasurer Deborah Vos, Town Constable Robert Santelli, Fire Chief Lou Denko, Mark Seegers, Doug Schomberg, Wayne Kaddatz, John Lewis, Jill Lewis, Emily Lein, Traci Denko, Teri Kneuse, Sharon Pomaville, and *West of the I* reporter Darren Hillock.

Notices were posted in three public areas (Town Hall, Transfer Station and Wheatland Center School) and the town's 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. Clerk noted that some of the email addresses are being rejected when sent out in a group. Tech support is researching but no answer at this point. As a result, a small group is not receiving this email notification.

Minutes of the July 11, 2022 town board meeting were moved for approval by Andrew Lois and seconded by William Glembocki. Carried

Report –

Fire Dept. – Chief Denko said the fire department has been very busy. He said there was a total failure of the county radio system over the weekend. He understood it to be a network problem between the towers. There was no communication with county dispatch and it was county-wide, all departments. Fortunately, we had a makeshift “work around” communication but it was a serious problem.

Public safety – Constable Santelli said he has cited the property owner with the junk and garbage on his property on CTH W south of CTH JB. It is now in the court's hands. He and the town court prosecutor viewed some properties in Wheatland that he has had ongoing disputes with regarding junk and garbage. The purpose was to see whether we can address this better if the ordinance is amended. The court prosecutor will consult with the town attorney who would create an ordinance amendment.

The A/C compressor in the squad had to be replaced. It has been an ongoing problem. This will hopefully be the answer.

Chairman said he has had complaints from residents on 352nd Ave. between STH 50 and 52nd St. concerning speeding. A suggestion was to put orange flags on the 35-mph speed sign to draw attention. He has requested the county do this but it is a county road so they would need to take the action. Constable said he has been running radar on this road and will continue to do so.

Public comment – Emily Lein, 36514 Geneva Rd asked how people are notified of town positions they may be interested in. For instance, the recent Plan Commission appointment. Is this something on the town website? And if interested in clerk or treasurer position, how would someone know what the duties are?

Chairman said the town ordinance calls for the chairman to appoint plan commission members and the board then confirms his appointments. That was what was done. Regarding the clerk and treasurer positions, the outcome of the referendum would change that. Elected is dictated by state statute which is short on detail. If appointed, the duties can be spelled out in detail as to what is expected.

John Lewis, 36514 Geneva Rd said they want to know what the statutes say and what it is the clerk and treasurer do now. That will help them decide on the referendum question.

Traci Denko, 38601 31st St. said put a statement with the pro's and con's to help people decide.

Clerk said we will put out a statement with those items if the referendum is on the November ballot but closer to the election date. Sharon Pomaville reminded the board to make sure it is ahead of the absentee voting dates.

Presentation by Teri Kneuse, Kenosha County Food Bank regarding the Food Bank's progress to date on funding and more specifically to share the challenges in finding a permanent site locally within Kenosha County.

Teri Kneuse, Kenosha County Food Bank Board President introduced herself and Sharon Pomaville (Sharing Center President) who is a board member. The food bank organized this year as a non-profit 501(c). She said the food bank is looking for an affordable permanent home. A location in the city of Kenosha would be preferable because it is closer to the food donation sources such as Gordon Foods, etc. and larger pantries such as Shalom Center. But they have been unable to locate a site that is affordable for a non-profit organization so are looking further west into the county. Ideally, it would be near STH 50 and near I-94 but they need a large, refrigerated space with enough height for a fork-lift to stack pallets. They are also in discussion with the Racine County Food Bank which is located in

downtown Racine about a merger and creation of a regional food bank. Their first preference would be to stay in Kenosha County close to their source of donations.

She explained the food banks collect the food from distributors, store it in the cold storage warehouse, and then deliver to food pantries as needed, where the individuals would pick it up. They did raise funds this year thru donations to purchase a refrigerated truck for this purpose.

They intend to establish a capital campaign drive for the goal of raising funds to establish the food bank. The first business though is to make the decision of local or regional. They are looking at a long-term lease as being 10 years if they are able to locate a building that suits their needs and finances.

The “meet and greet” to explain their mission is a part of the non-profit organization requirements. They may reach someone in this manner of networking that they would not have known about.

She and Sharon Pomaville said, depending on how you define them, Kenosha County has four primary food pantries and 4-6 on top of that. Racine County has a food bank and 25 pantries. Walworth County has a food bank and eight pantries.

Request from Don Weis to extend the hours until 11 p.m. for band to play at New Munster Park on September 3rd for daughter’s wedding

Chairman said this gave the public an opportunity to object if they had a problem with the longer hour. Kelly Wilson moved to allow the band to play at the New Munster Park Pavilion on September 3, 2022 for Don Weis’ daughter’s wedding until 11 p.m. Andrew Lois seconded. Motion carried.

Communication from Wheatland Presbyterian Cemetery Association for cemetery at 34855 Geneva Rd regarding future operation/maintenance of the cemetery

The cemetery association is contacting the town because they are running out of members. They have funds for the foreseeable future but state statutes require they have a minimum of three members to meet as an association and they now stand at four. They have not been able to find younger members who are interested. State statutes require the town to take over if they cease as an association. They do still allow burials, have a cemetery layout, have available grave sites, and would like to continue the cemetery as allowing burials. They have members planning to be buried there. This would be a change from the current cemeteries that we maintain.

Clerk passed out information to the board and asked them to review it. We would need to have our attorney review the question. If members are allowed to be buried, are we required to open it to anyone interested, likely the funds would have to be placed in an escrow account, and other legal issues.

Kelly Wilson asked how much extra work it would be for the town. Clerk said that would need to be explored. The association has not stated a timeline but is being proactive.

Continuing discussion on the merits of appointed clerk and treasurer positions versus elected and whether to call for another referendum vote on the issue for the November general election

Previously discussed the Chairman said. Is there anyone who wants to add something? None. He said we need to pass this at this meeting or the next to have this on the November 8 election ballot.

Resolution #2022—006 – call for referendum election for question of appointed clerk and treasurer positions

Kelly Wilson moved to approve Resolution #2022—006 calling for a referendum election for the question of appointed. Andrew Lois seconded. Motion carried.

Announcements- Reports - Correspondence –

A. Reports

1. Road – paving is complete in the two subdivisions (Rollingbrooke Manor and subdivision on SE corner Geneva RD and KD). Traffic bond was installed as shoulder material and some people objected because it can slide into the lawn area. Chairman explained it was necessary to try to maintain a firm surface next to the pavement to lessen the chance of blacktop breaking off. Eventually grass will grow over but it is a more stable material versus topsoil and grass.

Clerk said an email was sent to the WI DOT and also sent to the town by a resident of Oak Forest Subdivision thanking the DOT, and the board for their support, for installing a right-turn lane for westbound STH 50 traffic entering the subdivision at 381st Ave. It was an extremely thoughtful and supportive email.

2. Chairman – 45th St. from CTH W to Brighton line needs to be mowed. Send in work order.

3. Supervisor Lois – noticed a large pothole in northbound 376th between Geneva Rd. and STH 50. Also needs some shoulder material.

4. Supervisor Wilson – sent email to Menards and said mid-July we would make the

purchase for the transfer station materials.

She received a call from KCC Executive Samantha Kerkman asking for support for keeping the green left-turn arrow at STH 50 and CTH O. It was put in place temporarily while STH 50 was under construction. Wheatland Center School Administrator Marty McGinley has sent a letter of support. Supervisor Lois and Chairman Glembocki said they also received a call. Chairman directed the clerk to send a letter to KCC Executive Kerkman supporting keeping the green left-turn arrow.

5. Treasurer report – Treasurer Deborah Vos reported a June 30 net worth of \$1,439,927.86. William Glembocki moved a motion to accept the detailed report. Kelly Wilson seconded. Motion carried.

6. Clerk

July 25, 2022 Meeting - Clerk's Report to Town Board	
Filed Reg. Deeds	Removal of the raze order for 95-4-119-031-0330, 34410 Geneva Rd. was filed with the Kenosha County Register of Deeds. Occupancy permit has been issued.
Paving	Paving and shouldering completed in Rollingbrooke Manor Sub. and the subdivision on the southeast corner of Geneva Rd & 352nd Ave.
349th Ave. dead tree	Property owner asked why tree not removed prior to road paving. We need to decide on removing tree at 6813.
Window broken	Town hall lower level, second set of windows south of west side door has a large hole in the storm window. Noticed 7/20/2022.

Chairman authorized clerk to get prices from Arbor Images and Complete Tree Service to remove the dead oak tree at 6813 349th Ave. which is in the road right-of-way

Clerk to get someone to remove the storm window panel and have the glass replaced. The window next to this also has a storm panel that may need to be replaced.

76th St. access in Lilly Lake – this was discussed previously and the town attorney contacted. Since this is an unimproved public road, the town cannot deny access. The property owner of the existing lot has an easement to traverse a private lot to access 76th St. and was told there are no funds in the budget to improve what is now a grass area. Their attorney said this was not a concern

High Street German Methodist Cemetery – one of the older ladies from the Uebele family thought she had to sign the cemetery over to the town. Town attorney was contacted and he said it should have been signed over when we received the cemetery. Since there had not been a cemetery association for many years, there would have been no one to sign anything. Plus, we have three other cemeteries that we currently maintain that fit the same scenario. Since there is no way to follow up on this, the town attorney said to drop the issue.

\$750 was received from Eric Rose, River Valley Ranch as reimbursement for the cost of the contractor hired to remove materials from the building on his property during the recent fire.

B. Correspondence

C. Announcements

Financial matters:

A. Purchase approval –

B. Other financial matters – review & action on High Street German Methodist Cemetery fence replacement proposals funded by donation from Uebele family.

Notice was published for an intent to contract for a public works project >\$5,000 and <\$25,000 in the *Kenosha News* several weeks ago as required by law. No one contacted us to ask for a proposal.

Century Fence and B & M Fence – wide disparity in proposals. B & M actually has more linear fence listed and is \$23,500 includes removal of existing fence – 4 ft. black vinyl coated chain link for three sides and 4 ft. steel fence and gate(s) along the front of the cemetery. B & M also wraps the steel fence around the corners.

Parking - 376th Ave. does not have parking because of the ditch. Clerk met with the Uebele family and it was decided to set the fence back 15 ft. which will allow people to drive in on the grass to park and this space will also avoid having fence posts damage roots of the trees along the front of the cemetery. Responding to Supervisor Lois, clerk said there were no graves determined to be in this area last year and no markers were found when the ground survey was done. There had been a church in the southeast corner, parts of foundation are visible. Fence will still be east of that.

Andrew Lois – gravesites available? Clerk said we would have to do a more thorough ground

survey if we contemplated that because there was no plat map showing gravesites. That would put this in a different category than just maintenance.

Andrew Lois moved to approve the proposal from B & M Fence for \$23,500. Kelly Wilson seconded. Chairman said the second proposal was from Century Fence for \$34,412 including removal of the existing fence and wondered about the difference but the material lists include the same type of fencing. B & M Fence is a reputable company. Clerk said the fencing is totally funded by the Uebele family donation. Motion carried.

On a related matter, the Clerk said when she met with the Uebele family earlier this summer, the maintenance was totally not done. Present landscaper won't call back after many calls and text. Clerk sent a final text saying we were getting someone else to do the maintenance and that he should send a final bill for the year. It was disappointing because a good deal of money was spent last year removing shrubs and small trees and it looked so nice. Jim Butler has agreed to provide maintenance from now on. He will get it back in shape.

C. 2021 audit report – review and possible approval – Board has copies and will look over for action on the next meeting agenda.

Clerk handed out an updated list of the bartenders issued for the year. Clerk also handed out the Salary Schedule for all town elected and hourly employees.

Adjournment – Andrew Lois moved to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. William Glembocki seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Siegler, Town Clerk