

**TOWN OF OSCEOLA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
Tuesday March 14, 2017**

**MINUTES**

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of Osceola met for a regular monthly meeting Tuesday March 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Osceola Town Hall, Dresser, Wisconsin.

**CHAIRMAN SCHMIDT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.**

**Chairman Schmidt verified that the meeting agenda had been posted Monday March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall, the Dresser Post Office, First National Community Bank and the Town of Osceola Website. A complimentary meeting notice was also sent to The Sun for publication.**

**Chairman Schmidt led the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Doug Schmidt, Mike Wallis and Dan Burch

**ALSO PRESENT:** Lorraine Rugroden – Clerk/Treasurer, Jim & Donna Berg, Al Bader, Warren Johnson, Myrna Weston and Paul Baker

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS:** Board members are in the process of approving check numbers 15557 through 15608 totaling \$1,785,114.94. Board members will finish auditing the bills following the meeting.

**AGENDA:**

**MOVED AND SECONDED BY BURCH/WALLIS TO APPROVE THE MARCH 14, 2017 TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Warren Johnson encouraged tax payers in the community to take the time to go to the listening sessions that the Osceola School District is providing that explain the Osceola School Referendum. He said they are asking for \$950,000 above the levy limit the next four years to a maximum of \$3.8 million, and it never goes away. Warren said town has to stay within their budget and he hopes people will research the upcoming referendum.

Jim Berg said he was at the meeting also and said that it's really deceiving, how it was written in the mailing that was sent out and the newspaper. He went on to say that the paperwork says that it will cost 33 cents per thousand of assessment and \$33 per \$100,000 of assessment, but you need to be able to do the math if your house is valued at more than \$100,000. Jim went on to say that it's not just \$950,000 a year, instead it's \$950,000 plus \$950,000 plus \$950,000 plus \$950,000 to reach \$3.8 million.

Myrna Westen, representing Safe Haven Animal Shelter is from St Croix Falls and is working with others to start an animal shelter in Polk County. They are looking to locate between St Croix Falls and Balsam Lake. They recently had a dinner that was attended by Darel Hall, Animal Humane Officer and a number of board members in the Polk County. Myrna said they've been working on getting the word out that they're here. Their plan is not to replace anyone but want to pick up some of the slack.

**MOVED AND SECONDED BY WALLIS/BURCH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND THE FEBRUARY 22, 2017 SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Isaacson Burial Site Request**

Mary Isaacson has been in contact with Jason Kjeseth, Polk County Zoning Administrator regarding placing a burial site on their property located on the south side of 90<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in the SE ¼ of the SE ¼, Section 18, Township 33 North Range 18 West. The town follows county zoning and Jason said burial sites are allowed in RA-5 zoning districts. In a letter to the Isaacsons, Jason stated they needed to inform the town board of their plans. Mary Isaacson came before the board to explain her husband's wishes.

Chairman Schmidt's concern was that if a burial site is created and later on taxes aren't paid on the property and the burial lot reverts back to the county, the Town of Osceola would be responsible for maintaining the burial site. Chairman Schmidt asked if it would be better to have the burial site set off to one side instead of in the middle of the property, noting that it may be hard to sell the property if the burial site is in the middle of the property. Mary said that due to the terrain being what it is, they determined that a flat spot in the middle of the property would work best. They desire to have a green burial that goes back to the land. There will be a flat natural stone to mark the grave. They will place a fence around the grave for the first couple of years until the land settles.

**MOVED AND SECONDED BY SCHMIDT/BURCH TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FACT THAT THERE WILL BE A BURIAL SITE ON THE ISAACSON PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE SE ¼ OF THE SE ¼, SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 33 N RANGE 18 W, PARCEL# 042-00382-0000 FOR DONALD ISAACSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **68<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road Maintenance Agreement**

The board discussed 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue road maintenance for the section of gravel road that extends westward beyond the blacktop. Warren Johnson owns two parcels along this stretch of gravel road. Keith Johnson owns the property where the road extends to the north. Warren Johnson stated that the road needs to be kept open to the property line in order to avoid having one parcel landlocked. The board wants to discontinue the road beyond the property line. Warren Johnson said most of the time he has the section of gravel road plowed by 6:30 a.m. on snowy days. Both Johnson and the board agreed that the town will plow the road to the turn around, below the hill by the feeding pens.

The board discussed laying down six to seven loads of trap rock and packing it down on the gravel road section that is to remain open. Johnson wants the road to be graded from

time to time to help maintain the road due to a lot of heavy farm equipment that use the road. Johnson also wants the town to put up a sign that identifies the end of the road.

**Resolution 17-01 Initiating the Process to Discontinue a Portion of 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

At the February 7, 2017 Town Board meeting the board agreed to begin the process to discontinue the last portion of 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue beginning at the property line and going north .11 miles to the end of the road. This end portion of 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue is located on a 40 acre parcel owned by Keith Johnson. The road is used for his farm operation. Warren Johnson stated that the road needs to be kept open to the property line in order to avoid having one parcel landlocked. The board is in agreement and approved Resolution 17-01 to initiate the process to discontinue a portion of 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue. A public hearing will be called to hear public comment before the board makes a final decision. A class three notice (3 weeks) will be placed in the newspaper.

**MOVED, SECONDED BY WALLIS/BURCH TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 17-01 INITIATING THE PROCESS TO DISCONTINUE A PORTION OF 68<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND CALL A PUBLIC HEARING. ROLL CALL VOTE: WALLIS YES, BURCH YES, SCHMIDT YES.**

**Public Nuisance Property on CTH M**

The board received a citizen complaint of a public nuisance property located at 2361 75<sup>th</sup> Ave/CTH M. This is the same property that the board has worked to get the owner to clean up in the past. In 2015 the owner did clean up the property to some extent, but after the board reviewed recent pictures of the property, they agreed that the owner needs to be contacted again. Jason Kjeseth, Polk County Zoning Administrator will do a site visit to determine if the owner is in violation. If found in violation, the owner will be sent a letter and given a date when the property needs to be brought back into compliance.

Supervisor Burch said he is not opposed to letting the county get involved but also noted that the town has a public nuisance ordinance and a citations ordinance in place for this. The board will wait until the county has done their part before deciding if anything further needs to be done. Public nuisance properties will be noted during the annual road tour.

**Set Date for April Town Board Meeting and Annual Town Meeting of the Electors**

Due to the April Town Board Meeting falling on April 4<sup>th</sup>, the night of the Spring Election, the meeting date needs to be changed to a different night. The Board agreed to change the Town Board meeting to Tuesday, April 11, 2017. The Annual Town Meeting is set for Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

**MOVED AND SECONDED BY SCHMIDT/WALLIS TO SET THE DATE OF THE APRIL TOWN BOARD MEETING TO APRIL 11, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AND THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS TO APRIL 18, 2017 7:00 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**PLAN COMMISSION REPORT:**

- No February meeting.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

Have been cutting up a lot of trees, filling pot holes and doing some brush mowing  
Three or four shingles came down during the last wind storm. Will get estimates to  
roof the town hall and garage.

Will get estimates to remove tree at Sand Lake

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

- Temporary road weight restrictions
  - need for consistency
  - Special Weight Restrictions – House Moving and Single Trip Permit

**Supervisor Mike Wallis**

- Town of Osceola/Village of Dresser Boundary Agreement Update
  - Boundary Agreement Committee will meet March 20, 2017
  - The final draft of section four is out for review and the committee is looking to finalize it at the March meeting.
  - Attorney, Tim Laux is part of the final review.

**Supervisor Dan Burch**

- The next Osceola Ambulance meeting will be April 20, 2017
- Attended the Village of Dresser F & A Dairy hearing. F & A Dairy admitted that they hadn't been in compliance but think it's fixed now. They were issued a permit.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Clerk-Treasurer Lorraine Rugroden reported that as of February 28, 2017 bank account balances were 1,411.8 in the Town's checking account and \$346,540.83 in the Regular Money Market Account and C/D's and \$327,066.5 in the tax deposit account, amounting to total Cash-on-hand of \$675,019.24.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Town Board Meeting

Town Board Meeting Agenda:

- Boundary Agreement
- 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road Abandonment
- 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue Plowing agreement
- Road Restrictions
- Public Nuisance

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOVED, SECONDED BY BURCH/WALLIS TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 14, 2017 TOWN BOARD MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

**TO BE APPROVED: 4/11/2017**

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Lorraine Rugroden, Clerk/Treasurer