

July 12, 2022

Town Chair Brad Anderson called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, 2022. The meeting was held in the Frankfort Town Hall and on Zoom.

Board Chair Brad Anderson and Supervisors Richard McDermott, Curt Stine, Donna Juleff and Josh Manor and Town Clerk Maureen Manore were present in the Town Hall. Plan Commission Chair Don Gisch attended remotely.

Arriving later in the meeting was Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services CEO Nate Boettcher.

### **Minutes: 6-14-2022**

The draft minutes from the June 14<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting stood as submitted.

### **Financial Report**

The Bank Account Reconciliation for June was read. The ending balance for June was \$314,381.04. The Board confirmed the reconciliation report with the Security Financial Bank June statement.

### **Citizens' Concerns**

Brad Anderson had a call about brush trimming needed on Maple Lane.

### **Report on Other Meetings Attended**

No other meetings were reported on.

### **Plan Commission Report**

Plan Commission Chair Don Gisch reported on the Plan Commission meeting held on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Plan Commission reworked the definitions for primitive rural hunting cabins. The definition for dwellings will be added, using the State Statute definition and the definition for owner will be revised after it is determined how the word is used throughout the ordinance.

In the Rural Residential District section, the Permitted Accessory Uses listing for energy systems was clarified, removing solar arrays and replacing with small solar systems. The setback concerning solar arrays was discussed when the arrays are not attached to a structure.

In the Lowland Conservancy Overlay District, the Permitted Uses were discussed and it was decided to combine the hunting, fishing and trapping with the wildlife management sentence and put "permeable" in front of parking area.

In the Steep Slope Overlay District, under conditional uses, the word "private" was removed from the campgrounds.

In the Home Occupation and Cottage Industry section a permit/notification requirement was added; all applicable licenses and professional certifications required by other government entities. The word "onsite" was added to the parking standard.

### **Presentation on Pierce Pepin Cooperative Service's High Speed Internet Expansion Program**

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services CEO Nate Boettcher gave a presentation on the fiber optic connectivity program being rolled out by his company. Their goal is to run fiber optic lines along the existing power lines to provide high speed internet to rural areas currently not being served. This project is being funded by grants from the state and local municipalities. CEO Boettcher encouraged the Town Board to petition the County for a portion of their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant as well as commit the some or all of Town's remaining ARPA funds to the project.

## **Cemetery Report**

No report this month.

## **Cemetery Mowing Agreement**

The Board reviewed the updated mowing agreement submitted by J & K Lawn Care. J & K Lawn Care is requesting to add a \$10 fuel surcharge to each mowing.

Motion by Chair Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Stine, to agree to the amendment to the contract, adding a fuel surcharge. A voice vote was held. Motion carried with no negative votes.

## **Road Reports**

The bridge on Swede Ramble had a deep hole in the gravel on one side. The Pepin County Highway Department filled the hole with gravel. The bridge is still on track to be replaced mid-July.

## **Petition Pepin County for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for Use on High-Speed Internet Coverage Expansion**

The Board discussed using the remaining ARPA funds on installing fiber optic line in the underserved portions of the Town, basically the citizens not in the Ntec coverage area. The Town has received \$34,540.62 in ARPA funds and has spent \$3,299. It was agreed that Supervisor Stine and the Clerk would work on a petition and, if needed, a resolution to submit to the County to request additional funds to go toward the internet expansion project. The Board will address this again at the August meeting.

## **Approve Payment of Bills**

The Board approved the payment of bills paid by checks 11206 through 11213.

The next board meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall and remotely on Zoom. A tentative Town Board meeting agenda will cover: Town Board Minutes, Financial Report, Citizens' Concerns, Plan Commission Report, Cemetery Report, Report on Other Meetings Attended, Road Reports, Pepin County ARPA Fund Petition for Internet Coverage Improvement and Pay Bills.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Time 8:26 p.m.

Maureen Manore, Clerk