

March 9, 2021

Town Chair Bryce Black called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Due to precautions being taken for the Covid 19 virus pandemic, remote attendance for this meeting was an option.

Board members attending remotely were Bryce Black, Richard McDermott, Curt Stine and Josh Manor.

Citizens attending remotely were Debra Fisher, Leana Stewart, Mike Roberts, Lily Arbore, Rich Bignell and Jessica Bignell. Evan Mercer and Eric Sturn were also attending remotely.

Board member Donna Juleff and Town Clerk Maureen Manore were present in the Town Hall and were signed into the meeting on-line. Town Consultant Dan Fedderly was signed in on-line.

Minutes

The draft minutes from the February 9, 2021 meeting were read. The minutes stood as submitted.

Financial Report

Treasurer's report for February was read. The ending balance for February was \$312,316.82. The Board was provided a copy of the February bank statement for verification.

Citizens' Concerns

Bryce Black informed those attending that they would be able to address items on the agenda when that item was on the floor.

There were no citizens concerns expressed at this time.

Swede Ramble Bridge Replacement Options

Town Engineering Consultant Dan Fedderly reported that he is working on a design for the replacement bridge on Swede Ramble Lane. The replacement bridge needs to be sturdy enough for heavy agricultural equipment. Ideally, it could be installed without the need for a temporary by-pass route. And, it needs to be affordable within the budget constraints of the LRIP-Supplemental grant the Town was awarded.

Eric Sturn, Contech Engineered Solutions, gave a presentation of culverts that would be suitable as a bridge replacement. He recommended a marine grade aluminum box culvert with an estimated life span of over 75 years. This culvert would be ready to install in the spring with a three-day turnaround.

Report from ATV/UTV Ordinance Review Committee

Donna Juleff reported that she and Josh Manor got together on February 26th to do the survey mailing prep work (applying stamps, address labels and sealing envelopes). 291 surveys were mailed out on February 27th. The deadline for returning the surveys is March 27th.

There were some citizen questions about how the addresses were chosen and why some households got two surveys instead of one and some did not receive any. The address labels were printed from the tax rolls which would result in multiple labels in some cases and no labels for renters.

A notice will be placed on the Town website informing people that if their household did not receive a survey to please contact the Clerk if they want one.

Mike Roberts read from a prepared statement addressing concerns about the survey's final wording, stating that it was flawed and never formally approved by the whole committee. He contended that the survey's creation and mailing were done in violation of the open meeting law.

Cemetery Maintenance Update

Bryce Black reported that Timber Ridge Tree Service was not able to remove the dying pine tree since the last Board meeting due to a prolonged period of sub-zero weather followed by a thaw that resulted in mud. This project will need to wait until the summer.

Report on Other Meetings Attended

Bryce Black reported that he received a call from Don Hartung, Durand Rural Fire Department, to ask if he would be attending a Fire Department meeting that evening. Although Black is the primary Town Board representative and Curt Stine the alternate, only Stine had been receiving DRFD meeting notices. (Stine had received the notice for this meeting but could not attend, and assumed that Black also received a notice.) This misunderstanding has since been remedied to ensure Black and Stine both receive the meeting notices.

Road Reports

Bryce Black reported that brushing was done on Cut Off Road.

Pepin County Highway Department Foreman Dale Carothers is working with landowners on Goat Back Road concerning removal of overhanging branches and tree removal.

Cut Off Road needs more crushed rock, estimated at 720 cubic yards. The Town's current stockpile of rock at the Anderson Quarry is about 1476 cubic yards.

Bryce Black spoke to Allen Olson of Milestone Materials about purchasing rock once the Town's stockpile is depleted. Milestone Materials recently purchased Kraemer Company, long-time operator of Anderson Quarry. Rock is available from Milestone Materials' stock on an as-needed basis for \$9.03 a cubic yard.

The Highway Department has asked that the Town complete its road tour earlier this year. Bryce Black and Curt Stine will conduct the road tour.

Richard McDermott reported that the Beaver Slide Road sign is missing.

Town Website Host

Maureen Manore reported that she has begun constructing a new website on Yola and will continue working on as time permits.

Approve Payment of Bills

The Chair examined and approved the payment of the March bills.

Motion by Donna Juleff, seconded by Richard McDermott, to approve the Chair's authorization of the payment of bills paid by check 11012 through 11021, totaling \$21,554.61. A roll call vote was held, the results as follows: Josh Manor – yes; Richard McDermott – yes; Curt Stine yes; Donna Juleff – yes.

The next board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday April 20, 2021 following the Annual Meeting which begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Frankfort Town Hall. A tentative Town Board meeting agenda will cover: Town Board Minutes, Financial Report, Citizens' Concerns, Cemetery Maintenance, ATV/UTV Committee Report, Report on Other Meetings Attended, Road Reports, Bill Paying Policy, Town Hall Hotspot Discussion and Pay Bills.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Time 8:26 p.m.

Maureen Manore, Clerk