

## **TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, December 14, 2021, 6:00 PM, CROW WING TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Chairman Tucker Schuety, Supervisor Doug Kern, Supervisor Paul Stephany, Treasurer Diane Stephany, and Clerk Sue Kern.

Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Residents were reminded to sign the roster.

There were no gopher bounties.

Tucker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Brad Arnold stated he had a few things to add to the agenda. Doug made the motion to approve agenda as amended. Paul seconded. No Discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

The applicants of the Owned Storage 371 plat were in attendance. This property is in the 371-corridor adjacent to Safari North. Brad informed the board the Planning Commission showed a vote of support for the preliminary plat application 01-21 and Conditional Use Application 01-21 for a Planned Unit Development. The applicant has done all the proper procedures with professional civil engineers, designers and legal counsel. Staff findings of fact were discussed. They are here tonight for approval by the Town Board before starting the project in the Spring of 2022. The storage units would be for campers, boats, lawn equipment and would be individually owned. The building would be secure and gated. The individual owners would set up their own board to maintain the property. The intent is to start with building 5 units at a time and continue over the next 3-4 years. All storage would be inside the building. No commercial businesses. No habitation. The property would be fully respectful and clean and low impact use with a fully buffered area. A question was raised as to whether 50<sup>th</sup> would need paving and the answer was no it would not be necessary. Tucker stated the applicant is going down all the right paths, has checked with the state, done water studies and done a proper site plan and he showed support of the project. Doug raised the concern that there might possibly be a body buried at the site and the applicant said they would take much care regarding that and handle the manner respectfully and professionally and pay for the removal of said body should one be found. Doug showed support for the project. Paul thought it sounds good and glad they have already done a storm water study. All 3 board members showed support.

New Business: Brad brought forth the need for the Township to have a local attorney to do Township business. An attorney is needed for handling violations and title work. Ginny Knudson's name was brought up regarding a specific title situation and was thought to be a possible attorney for the Township. The Township has had an attorney in the past on retainer, but that relationship has ended. Discussion of title attorney versus a regular general attorney was had. It was decided that a general attorney would be needed. The ordinance is being updated and it would be advantageous to have an attorney help with that. Also, attorney would help with ROW discussions, protect the Planning & Zoning commission and help with violations. An attorney is needed rarely but needful at times. Fees could be absorbed by the process of the title applications and no cost to the Township. It was stated that we should 'start looking'. Brad would talk to Ginny to see if she was interested or willing or if she could suggest another attorney.

The Planning Commission has been short a member for some time now and David Nelson has showed interest in being that member. He is present tonight at the meeting and has been attending both Planning and Zoning meetings and Regular Township Meeting for the last couple of months. There haven't been any critical action items come up with Planning and Zoning but its best to have a full board. We have expired all the proper channels to advertise the vacancy, and no one has responded to that until now. Planning Commission members are appointed by the Board, and it is not an elected position. Doug made a motion to appoint David to the Planning Commission. Tucker seconded. Instructional materials will be given to David as they are available. They will be watching for training as it becomes available. Motion passed 3-0.

The fee schedule was discussed. The schedule Amanda has been using was from 2017. Sue and Justin both found a copy of the fee schedule that was from 2019 that was identical except for septic price should be \$200 and not \$150. The increase was to cover costs. It was decided we needed to update the fee schedule to date. The schedule will be put on the website and current copies put in the town hall. Tucker made the motion to update the fee schedule to date. Paul seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Unfinished Business: Chad Jillson violation was discussed. Brad and Amanda have been in contact with the courts, judges, probation officers and law enforcement. Brad stated he just received a call from Chad just prior to coming to the meeting. Deadlines are up. Brad will follow up with him.

The Ream violation was discussed. For a short time, there had been no communication, but Mary called and said she had been gone dealing with a family member's estate. She is back now and has met with Brad. She is very pleasant and cordial. The history is that she has been on the property since 1982 and over the years debris accumulated and spilled over the property line. She and the old neighbor didn't really adhere to the property line and lost track of where the line was. The new neighbor had filed the complaint. The owner with the violation rented some equipment and pushed the pile back on to their own property. This included an old van, tires, a shed, a camper, etc. Brad felt it was the equivalent of 5 dump truck loads. She has tried to get the matter taken care of but the people she called were a distance away and did not want to do the work. Brad is working with her and reaching out to local people who may be willing to do the work. She is trying to get a loan to pay for this work. She will keep communication open. Brad felt the immediate concern has been dealt with. The neighbor has complained again wanting to know when it will be dealt with. Brad explained there are extenuating circumstances and it will be taking some time to resolve. Mary has been very cooperative, polite, courteous and is trying. Brad will follow up.

There are two ordinance amendments coming up in January for Planning and Zoning. One is identifying an Agri Business Zone District governed by a CUP. Currently, we don't have this category. The Litchy business falls into this category as does a business that already exists. The other ordinance has to do with Solar Energy Systems.

Brad also brought up that Amanda our Planning Commission Administrator who works at the townhall on Wednesdays from 1-3 pm and the need for a better, more proper scanner/copier and the need for internet. Brad mentioned that Sourcewell has small funds available for use that might cover some costs. It was brought up that the internet might have to be via a modem. Hot spots don't work. Brad will follow up with Sourcewell. Doug will follow up with Region 5.

Public Comment: David brought up a matter with grading on 40<sup>th</sup> and Doug had already dealt with the matter. Randy expressed thanks for the potholes being filled with the Class 5 and road were greatly improved. Gerry asked about the status of the stop sign at Wild Rice Depot. Doug is working on that and just received permission and the area will be marked out and stop sign will be put in as soon as it possible.

Payroll was reviewed and approved. The Treasurer's report and claim #1655 to #1683 were reviewed and approved. It was noted that the first half of the property taxes approximately \$163,000 were received. With that, the money market at Wings is over the \$250,000 maximum and funds needed to be transferred to Mid Minnesota and Crow Wing Power Credit Union. Doug made the motion to transfer the necessary funds. Tucker seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Diane stated that at her Treasurer MAT training they had suggested she have a map/list of the roads so our vendors could mark off which roads were taken care of as far as ditch mowing and snow plowing work. Tucker will email her a digital file.

Road Report: Doug has followed up on the resident who has a political flag on a township sign several times. They said they would remove it. He will check on it again. He has talked with Brad Gorrion about adding Lone Oak Circle to the list. Brad will take care of it going forward. Doug said he hooked up the plow on to the truck and moved everything around in the garage. Doug said there was a complaint about an access on Robin Street, but it was pointed out that there is an access on the other end.

Cemetery Report: Doug reported that two head stones were placed, and a baby was buried in an urn. He stated 2 oak trees may need to come down near the flagpole. Two other plots were sold, and he will be bringing the paperwork at the next meeting and checks will be cashed.

Fire Administration: Paul reported the budget looks good and they have a good cash reserved built up. They had delivered the new engine and are saving for the next one.

Administrative Business: Sue and Tucker signed resolution for Lone Oak Circle and it will be recorded at the County Recorder's office. It was noted that the developer had not made a \$2000 deposit to cover the road but that he did the maintenance himself. There is no refund to be made.

There was a resolution needed for designation of the polling place for the annual election. Doug made the motion. Tucker seconded. No Discussion. Motion passed 3-0. This will need to be done again in March due to redistricting. There was an email regarding the TNT and it was reviewed. No action was necessary. Mail was reviewed.

Announcements: The notice for filing for the annual election has been published in the Dispatch and posted on the townhall door and at Wild Rice Depot bulletin board.

Approve Minutes: The minutes for November 9, 2021, were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve. Paul seconded. No discussion. Motion pass 3-0.

Tucker made a motion to adjourn. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0 at 7:35 pm.