

TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022, 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. Paul wanted a discussion added about the old streetlights on 70th and CR21. Tucker made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

New Business: Notice of Annual Election of Township Officers/Annual Town Meeting: Was reviewed. **Contract Between Crow Wing County/CWT for March Elections:** The contract was reviewed. Paul made a motion to approve the contract. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. **Speed Study on Arielle Drive:** The speed study was reviewed. It was recommended the speed limit be 40 MPH because it is residential. Doug will put up a sign. **Sign at the Town Hall:** Paul noted that the town hall does not have a sign and some people complained they had trouble finding the building on election day. The sign will be bold enough to be seen from the road and be on the building. Doug made a motion to buy a sign for the town hall. Tucker seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0. **Streetlights:** Paul stated there are 4 new lights put up and the 2 old ones are still there but don't put out much light and we pay more for them than we pay for the new lights. One light on #21 doesn't work. Doug made the motion for Paul to check into the matter and shut the two lights off and to check into if they old ones were to be removed but just haven't been. Tucker thought it might be part of the contract for them to remove them so there would be no cost. At any rate the old lights could be shut off, so we aren't paying for that each month anymore. Tucker seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Unfinished Business: Alarm: Brad stated that the cameras are a separate item to the security of the town hall and garage. Paul suggested that a keypad be put on the garage. It was noted that prices have come down for security systems. Doug made the motion that Paul check with a security company for a new or improved security system. Tucker seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Public Comments: Bob Laflex from Estate Circle wants to rent the Town Hall every 2nd Wednesday for the 2023 year for the Estate Circle meetings from 6:30-8:30 pm. He paid with one check in advance for the full year along with the deposit. He will be refunded the deposit at the end of the year. Randy brought up a sign that is blocked by trees by snow mobile trail. Doug will trim the are back.

Planning and Zoning Report: Brad stated Crow Wing County is reviewing their **Short-Term Rental** rules and stated we should follow through with that as well when the time comes. **Jackson complaint:** The owners received the letter from the attorney and Billy Jillson called Brad. Mr. Jillson is cutting wood and has his fish house on the property. Other units are gone. He has been seen hauling wood. He is not staying there. Brad will follow up as needed. **Meeting Dates:** The Planning and Zoning meeting dates will be moved to the first Monday of the month except for holidays. A schedule will be posted at the town hall, Wild Rice Depot, and the township website. **Wetherbee** property rezone is complete. **Hoop structures** do require permits depending on parameters. The **Land Ordinance with Amendments** is fully implemented and will be on the website. Brad and Scott will do a follow up site inspection on the **Deason** property where they had to replant trees along the river and Brad will give Scott a brief tour of the township. **Logging/tree extraction:** The county is doing a tree thinning project in the forest along 80th and Wetherbee. Brad has been talking with Tom Strack. The county had plans on making a parking area in the woods so people could park and go bird watching. The matter was thoroughly discussed and it was decided that due to the poorly constructed culvert/ditch that can cause backing up of the normal water flow, the lack of the 15" steel aprons which is a dangerous setting for snowmobilers, the poorly constructed approach and the fact that possible campers, squatters and the like could take over the proposed parking area and cause dumping of garbage, that the Clerk should send a letter to Tom Strack making the P&Z Commission and

the Town Board thoughts known to him. It had been suggested to Mr. Strack that 2-3 parking spots could be constructed along the road. There are no motorized vehicles permitted. The last time a similar project was done the ditch drainage never was repaired and the berm that was placed only was effective for about 6 months and then the area became a dumping ground. The drainage ditches are critical to the entire region. Doug stated that with his conversations with Mr. Strack that he said it would be temporary, but he hadn't gotten permission for the entry permit. Mr. Strack was told that we could waive the permit fee as they were the County, to work together with them, and attempt to have them take care of the ditches properly. Brad has asked them to use the other entrance and improve that entrance. The instructions on how to put in a culvert had been given to Tom. Aprons are required whether it is temporary or not. Ditch law is determined by the State. The Planning Commission is requesting the Board of Supervisors send a letter as soon as possible addressing the drainage in the ditches, the internal camping and parking, the road approach and keep it posted as nonmotorized. Tucker made a motion for the Clerk to send a letter to Tom Strack with a draft being sent to Brad to approve first. Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. **Logelin property:** Mr. Logelin is wanting to make his single house into a duplex and a second entrance will be needed and probably a new septic or improved septic. The matter was discussed, and it appears the requirements for a 2nd entrance will approve but Doug will have to walk the area to determine that. A second entrance requires Board approval at a higher rate than the usual \$50. The owner will follow up with Doug after other permits with septic are resolved.

Secured Storage of Planning and Zoning records with Scott Saeher, Planning and Zoning Administrator, was discussed. He is requesting a \$60/month fee with an outside company to be paid by the Township to secure records. Options were discussed. Brad will follow up.

Treasurers Report: Payroll was reviewed and approved. Claims #1928 to #1953 were reviewed and approved.

Road Report: Doug continues clearing trees in the ditch from the June storm. Doug continues to work on the Fema reports for the June storm. The initial reports are due December 17th. Not all the work is done with the trees, and he has requested an extension. He will need to determine what it will take to complete the work. The commodities have been ordered. Doug has filled potholes with cold mix which he heated with a blow torch. The **Barrows Road** project was discussed. Three bids have not come in to date. The specs will need to be published and go out for BID.

Cemetery Report: There were 3 burials and 2 stone placements.

Fire Administration: None.

Administrative Business: None.

Communications: Miscellaneous mail was reviewed.

Announcements: Filing for town offices of Treasurer (2-year term) and Supervisor (3-year term) were announced. Applicants are to contact the Clerk and file between January 3rd – 17th.

Approve Minutes: The minutes from the November 15, 2022, were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Adjourn Meeting: Tucker made a motion to adjourn. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.