Town of Barton

Minutes from the Town Board Meeting

Barton Town Hall, 3482 Town Hall Rd, Kewaskum, WI 53040

June 18, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Kris Turner, Supervisors, Dan Mueller, Bill Russell, Mike Dricken, Clay Eggie, Clerk Sherry Eckert, Zoning Administrator Steve Wendelborn, Treasurer, and Jen Lenzendorf. Members of the public: fifteen

Chairman Turner called meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Turner asked those in attendance to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Affidavit of Posting Turner read the affidavit of posting that the June 13, 2024, Town Board Meeting was properly posted on the Town Bulletin Board, the transfer station bulletin board, the Town’s official website and was also sent to the Daily News. Dricken made notice that State Bank of Newburg was misspelled as State Bank of Newbury. Corrected and Washington County Daily News corrected to Daily News.

From the Floor. None.

Approve Town Board Meeting Minutes: Dricken moved to approve the Town Board minutes of May 21, 2024, with name change correction of Daily News. Seconded by Mueller. Motion carried 5-0.

Approve the Treasurer’s Report: Lenzendorf sent reports via email. Lenzendorf stated work will be done to clean up the Chart of Accounts and direct deposit. Eggie moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report for May 2024. Russell seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of bills: Mueller moved to pay bills. Dricken seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Washington County Sheriff’s Office Liaison report. Deputy Paweleski was present and reported on incidents in the Town of Barton.

Fire calls April: Fire Chief Les Noran and Deputy Chief Charles Beistle of West Bend Fire Department were present. Noran introduced himself and informed of what was happening in the near future, land purchase and consolidation with Kewaskum. Beistle reported on the software and reports hoping to have available in July.

Supervisor Reports Wendelborn reported that the Foyse property will be managed through a SUP this provides for more flexibility and an annual review. Dee Farms are looking to rezone to LM. Norman Dr property is looking to build a house closer to the road. Turner to review plat. Wendelborn is reviewing plans of accessory structure on Kettle View and Beaver Dam Road.

Eggie reported that the freight liner should be ready on Friday.

Dricken reported on home by Wallace Lake lift station possibly in need of ditching.

Mueller reported there was quite a bit of washout on Forest View and should be filled with recycled asphalt.

Mueller made a motion to approve the “Class B” Combination Liquor License for the following: The West Bend Columbian Corp., Shlufty’s Inn, Eddies Lake House, and the West Bend/Barton Sportsman’s Club. Russell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dricken made a motion to approve the “Class A” Combination Liquor License for Timber Trail Campground. Russell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Russell made a motion to approve the Class “B” Liquor License for fermented malt beverages for Union Rod and Gun Club. Mueller seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Dricken made a motion to approve the Operator Licenses for: Jonathan Kempka, Laurene Lamping, Melissa Dickmann, and Zachary Fischer. Motion carried 5-0.

Special Use Permit #24-002 Mueller moved to approve the Special Use Permit # 24-002 for Patrick and Diana Paquin for the issuance to erect an accessory causing an excess of the allowed square footage on property described as Part of the Northeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 1 of Town 11 North, Range 19 East, Lot 4 of Certified Survey Map 2915 Document 1388740 and Highway Document 1277013 more commonly known as Tax Key Number T2000100G, 7245 State Highway 144 N. Dricken seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

State Bank of Newburg: Representatives Judy Larsen, Margaret Rizk and Lauren Brooks presented to board. Dricken moved with Mueller, seconding to the addition of a second depository at the Barton Branch. Motion carried 5-0.

Summer Community Planning and Zoning webinar series. Dricken moved to reimburse participants for any educational webinar the Plan Commission, Board of Appeals or Town Board member attends. Russell seconded. Motion Carried. 5-0

Salt Shed concrete, brush cutting areas. Mueller moved to approve the bid for concrete replacement in front of Salt Shed, to verify that coated or fiberglass rods be used in the construction. Dricken seconded. Motion carried. 5-0

Turner to check with county regarding their equipment for removal of trees on ­Highview sun could get penetrate and would help with icing.

Woodford Steel Bridge: During the May meeting, Mr. Naylor gave a speech and comments from the community were allowed. Turner wanted her comments on that speech, which were mailed to attendees of the May Town Board meeting to become part of the June 2024 minutes. When the bridge was accepted it was unanimous. It would take 3 board members for it to be a majority.

An additional question about annexation was asked. Turner stated that annexation never starts with the board it starts with the property owner.

Question regarding when the board looked at bridge. April 2021 road tour was the first real discussion about the deterioration of the bridge and if it was feasible to fix. Turner stated that there is no funding to remove a bridge there is the possibility to repair a bridge if it was repairable. Washington County and Jewell (Bridge Inspector), state the bridge is irreparable and replacement, if necessary. If the state determines that the bridge needs to come down it will be the responsibility of the Town. The town went forward with the application and was awarded 100 % funding. What the Town has is an agreement, an award letter and the SMA, which is an agreement between the State and Town. Because it is federally funded, we are included in the discussion but have no responsibility. Once the design agreement comes forth. Mead & Hunt was chosen for the design. Once an agreement is sent it will be looked over. There will be a traffic study. Once the agreement is signed to goes to the Governor for his signature. Mead & Hunt will do the traffic study, Utility Study, DNR, Borings and will look at Right of Way. The design contract is the next step. The Woodford Steel Bridge is set for construction in 2027 due to all the work and will simultaneously do both the Woodford Steel Bridge and Lighthouse Lane Bridge.

Turner stated this bridge is included in the State Statute roadwork chapters for responsibility of the Town Board. Turner took the speech from last month and put her comments on it and sent it to those she knew were at the meeting. If anyone was missed, she apologized. But wanted this response to become part of the minutes.

The question was asked when the last time is to stop the bridge. When the town signed the SMA, Statement Municipality Agreement. She was unaware of any time that it could be stopped. And at what cost to the Town for work already performed. Turner sent an email received to Scott at the County to better answer the questions asked. Scott is the Highway Commissioner, a surveyor and inspector. His response will become part of these minutes.

One of the last questions was for the board to give their input and where they stand: Dricken stated that the ordinances state that the Town would never allow a subdivision with a dead end longer than 750’. This exceeds that. There is no exit. The wooden bridge could not be considered an exit for rescue trucks. It would be irresponsible for the board not to consider this project. The State could request at any time for the Town to remove and it would the Town’s responsibility for the cost. This would be 400K – 500K not reimbursable.

Mueller agreed that we should go forward. With the fire representatives in attendance, we plan and train for things that hopefully never happen. He feels it would be very irresponsible to not go forward with the bridge, especially at 100% funding.

Russell stated they agreed at 80%. It is costing us nothing. And felt there was a lot of misunderstanding about the project and what is going to happen. There are no intentions of widening the roads or putting sidewalks in. The speed limit will remain at 25. This will be performed with federal guidelines in place.

Eggie reported that the state has been going after deficient bridges since 1983. Only recently the bi-partisan infrastructure law did a significant amount of money come to the local bridge program which gave funds to small communities. So small towns were previously unable to improve bridges. The Woodford Steel Bridge has been categorized as critically deficient or condemned. With this program, fortunately this bridge is a candidate for this funding. The board took their fiduciary responsibility very seriously and with significant consideration as to what is best for the town. He feels to be able to open an avenue of access to Young America with minimal budget impact is the correct action to take on behalf residents and taxpayers. To forgo the 100% funding of the replacement bridge would be irresponsible on the fiduciary side. He feels the replacement bridge will provide the critical path or the evolution creating better access for residents and emergency services. It remains incumbent on the board to take thoughtful positive actions to allow for growth in the town’s social, economic and community impact. The serviceable life of this bridge will go into the next century and will serve many generations. This not a here and now thing it will have a long-term positive impact on the town.

Russell stated that it has been looked at for over 1 ½ years. It is not a new thing.

Turner stated it was important for the Town to voice their opinions. ‘We have done that and looked into what is the best thing to do.’

Dicken wanted to state that he does resent the emails and suggestions that things were done behind closed doors and with secrecy. “This could not be further from the truth. Everything has always been posted. We do not talk about anything that is not on the agenda which is posted on the Town Website and posting boards. This is nasty stuff that should not be said. “

Mueller made a motion to continue forward with the Woodford Steel Bridge as agreed on before. Dricken seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Lighthouse Lane bridge: Per Turner, we have the application and the approval, and we are awaiting the SMA.

The state is allowing us to proceed with the request for design. Kunkel is working on this and will be ready in July.

Updates and Announcements: Kettle Moraine drive being pulverized tomorrow and then Schuster work will be done.

Dricken moved to adjourn the June Town Board meeting at 8:53 PM, seconded by Mueller. Motion carried. 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Eckert

Sherry Eckert, Clerk

Subject to approval: These minutes will be considered for final approval by the Town Board at the July 16, 2024, Town Board Meeting.