

TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF NEWTON
FEBRUARY 8, 2017

Our February meeting was held on February 8, 2017 pursuant to posted notices. Said meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Kevin Behnke. A verification of posting as well as an affidavit is on record with the clerk. The notice was also posted on our Town of Newton web site.

Present were: Kevin Behnke, Denise Thomas, Mark Knorr, Paulette Vogt, Barbara Pankratz, Mike Slattery, Dave Mueller, Ed Downing, Joe Denor, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Klein, Charlie Bauer, and Roger Busse.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by everyone present. Mark Knorr made a motion to approve the previously submitted January minutes and Kevin Behnke seconded the motion which carried.

Since there were no questions about the treasurer's report, Mark Knorr made a motion to accept the submitted treasurer's report. Denise Thomas seconded the motion which carried.

Public in-put was opened. Mr. & Mrs. Ken Klein of 4803 Center Road indicated there is a dead tree located at the end of their driveway that needs to be taken down. After a short discussion Kevin Behnke, Chairman told the Kleins that the tree would be taken down in the Spring as soon as weather permits. Since there was no other public in-put said agenda item was closed.

Ed Downing indicated that the transition of the position of Road Superintendent to Dave Mueller is going well. Dave told the Board what he has been doing in the shop; indicated the gutters on the front of the Fire House are leaking , which he will take care of, and also talked about a dog issue and was told that if the matter persists a citation should be issued. He also mentioned about ice accumulating at the English Lake access.

Supervisor Mark Knorr stated that this was Ed Downing's last meeting as Road Superintendent. Chairman Behnke and others present thanked Ed for the fine job he has done for many years. Ed started working for the Town of Newton on June 1, 1977. He is retiring March 1st, 2017.

Supervisor Denise Thomas received a complaint from a resident in reference to Schieks Camping Center located on County Road CR. Schieks have lights in their parking lot that are shining onto the houses on County Road CR. Chairman Behnke will stop in the Schieks Camping Center and ask that they adjust their lights in the parking lot.

Treasurer, Paulette Vogt indicated that the tax collection of two million five hundred thousand dollars has been completed and she will settle with the County tomorrow for the January tax settlement.

She also indicated she had cashed in the certificate of deposit as the Board had requested netting \$319.79 of interest. The total of the certificate was \$41,819.57. She stated that the interest has gone up now and she was advised to not do anything else with the money at this time.

She also stated that about one hundred dogs are not registered at this time. She will be sending out post cards indicating that the owners have until April 1st to obtain a license after which she will turn them over to the law enforcement officer who will issue citations.

The Manitowoc County Phragmite Control Initiative Authorizing Resolution was the next item on the agenda. This Resolution partners the Town of Newton with the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership to treat invasive phragmite. The Town of Newton, by submitting this Resolution, agrees to donate \$1,000.00 one year and another \$1,000.00 the next year for the treatment of phragmite. This resolution matter was put into a motion by Denise Thomas. Said motion was seconded by Mark Knorr and passed.

Chairman Behnke presented an Agreement For Professional Services that was received from the firm of Martenson & Eisele, Inc. for a project entitled Zoning Ordinance and Code Updates which is a project for 2017 which will develop and revise zoning or stand alone ordinances for the Town and will be started on or about February 6, 2017. This contract is a time and material contract which will be signed tonight. Chairman Behnke indicated that the Plan Commission will do as much as they can prior to Ken Jaworski coming. Supervisor Denise Thomas made a motion to sign the contract with Martenson & Eisele. Said motion was seconded by Mark Knorr and passed.

Mike Slattery, Building Inspector has been informed by the State that henceforth decks have to be inspected. He felt that it would be necessary to inspect decks twice. Each inspection would cost \$50. and there would be an additional charge of \$10. for a building permit for a total of \$110. Mark Knorr put this charge into a motion which motion was seconded by Denise Thomas and carried.

Our Assessor, Joe Denor of Fair Market Assessment appeared before the Board in reference to the CNC matter. There was a discussion between the Board and Joe about a letter delivered to the clerk by Laura Stecker of CNC Links. We have ninety days to respond. Joe will put together a letter to Ms. Stecker and the Board will make a decision at the March meeting on March 29, 2017. Joe informed the Board that the Open Book will be held on May 1st from 5:30 to 7:30 pm and the Board of Review will be held on Thursday, May 25th from 5:00 to 7:00.

The next matter to come before the Board was a matter of three property owners in the Pine River Conservancy. There are three properties and one of the property owners wants to sell his parcel to the people that own the other two parcels. The Town is the grantee of the conservation easement . If the owner of lot one would sell his lot to the owners of lot two and three said owners would own one and a half lots. There was further discussion on this matter

Supervisor Mark Knorr made a motion to pay the previously approved statements submitted by the clerk. Denise Thomas seconded the motion which carried.

There being no further business to come before the meeting we adjourned by motion made by Denise Thomas and seconded by Kevin Behnke.

Barbara Pankratz, Clerk