

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TOWN OF NEWTON

January 11, 2017

Our January meeting was held on January 11, 2017 pursuant to posted notices. Said meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Kevin Behnke who asked for verification of posting and was told by the clerk that a signed affidavit indicating said meeting was posted at the three official posting places in the Town and inserted on our Town of Newton web site is on file.

Present were: Kevin Behnke, Mark Knorr, Paulette Vogt, Barbara Pankratz, Mike Slattery, Dave Mueller, Ed Downing and Roger Busse.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance after which Mark Knorr made a motion to approve the previously submitted December minutes. Kevin Behnke seconded the motion which carried.

Mark Knorr made a motion to accept the submitted treasurer's report since there were no questions. Kevin Behnke seconded the motion which carried.

Since there was no public in-put said agenda item was closed.

Mike Slattery, Zoning Administrator submitted his report. There were no questions or discussion.

Treasurer, Paulette Vogt indicated that the collection of taxes is going well and the listing of dogs are due April 1, 2017 with a two week grace period after which the parties involved will receive a letter from the Treasurer and if no payment is received after seven days the list will be given to Dave Mueller, Road Supervisor/Law Enforcement Officer and the parties will receive a citation

The next item of business was the appointment of a member to the Plan Commission Board. Kevin Behnke made a motion that Roger Sieben be re-appointed for another term (2017-2020) on the Plan Commission Board. Said motion was seconded by Mark Knorr and passed.

A motion was made by Kevin Behnke to re-appoint Scott Konik, Dan Stock and Michael Waack to the Board of Appeals Board for another term (2017-2020) which motion was seconded by Mark Knorr and passed.

The zone change for Justin McCabe, 5424 Brunner Road, Manitowoc, WI, which was approved by the Plan Commission on January 8, 2017, came before the Town Board for their approval. The request was for a zone change from A-3 Farmland Preservation District to A-2 General Agricultural District on property he is purchasing from Fred Gorte. The property is located in the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 18, T18N, R23E, Town of Newton, Manitowoc County, WI. The zone change was approved by the Town Board by motion made by Supervisor Mark Knorr and seconded by Chairman Kevin Behnke. Motion carried.

Ed Downing, present Road Supervisor, discussed with the Board how he will be helping our newly hired Road Supervisor, Dave Mueller and also indicated that there is a lot of signage that has to be taken care of. Chairman Behnke requested that the Shop office be cleaned and painted and that the work bench along the North wall be cleaned up as well. There was a discussion about how the jug trailer at the Recycling Center will be repaired. It was felt that the axles can be reused and there is nothing wrong with the cage but the rest needs to be fixed. It was decided that this matter would be addressed in April.

A telephone conference was held during the meeting with Thomas Ward who is the Invasive Species Coordinator for the County Lakes Association regarding two Grant applications that the Lake Shore Natural Resource Partnership is submitting to control phragmites and other invasives on right-of-ways and private properties. He indicated that a consortium of organizations is pooling a DNR Grant application to control the invasive species phragmites in all townships bordering Lake Michigan to also include the Town of Mishicot and Manitowoc Rapids. The second Federal grant is being applied for the remaining townships in Manitowoc and Kewaunee counties. The Grant would treat first time all sites eligible in the grant application in their township, public and private properties. A twenty-five per cent match is required for the grant application and he is requesting the townships assist with follow up control in the second and third year with in-kind match (time and materials). Several townships have contributed \$2,000. - \$2,500. The primary goal at this time is to demonstrate a commitment of the townships. Generally there are three year grants as they probably would not get all of the sites the first year but the second and third year it would be taken care of which would cost \$2,000. - \$2,500. This grant would target phragmites but other weeds would be included.

Chairman Behnke indicated that this item was not on the agenda for this meeting and as a result the Board would not be able to pass a Resolution until our next meeting which will be February 8, 2017. Mr. Ward indicated that the town could send a letter of support stating our support for the project and state that at our next meeting date we will enact a Resolution. February 1, 2017 is when the grant application is due and as a result he requested that townships submit a letter of approval submitted by January 15, 2017 approving a fiscal commitment or match. Chairman Behnke also asked if the Town of Newton's commitment of funding would be for the Town of Newton road right-of-ways. Mr. Ward indicated that it would be directed to the Town of Newton right-of-ways.

After discussion it was decided to submit a letter supporting the project and stating that we will be passing a Resolution at our February 8, 2017 meeting. A copy of this letter is on file with the clerk.

Mark Knorr made a motion that the statement report that was submitted previously to the Board be signed. Said motion was seconded by Kevin Behnke and passed.

Mark Knorr made a motion to adjourn our February meeting which motion was seconded by Kevin Behnke.

Barbara Pankratz, Clerk