TOWN OF NEWTON BOARD MEETING

 JANUARY 8, 2019

The Town Board meeting of the Town of Newton was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at the Newton Town Hall, 6532 Carstens Lake Road, Manitowoc, WI 54220 at 6:00 pm. pursuant to posted notices and placement of the notice on the Town of Newton web site (townofnewton.org).

The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm by Chairman Roger Busse. Present: Roger Busse, Chairman; Denise Thomas, Supervisor #1; Mark Knorr, Supervisor #2; Paulette Vogt, Treasurer; Barbara Pankratz, Clerk; Mike Slattery, Zoning Administrator; Charlie Bauer and Kevin Behnke – residents.

All those present joined in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The clerk stated that the agenda was posted by Road Supervisor Dave Mueller on the official posting places and that the agenda had been posted on the Town of Newton web site.

Mark Knorr made a motion to approve the agenda as posted. Said motion was seconded by Denise Thomas and passed.

Roger Busse made a motion to approve the December board meeting minutes and said motion was seconded by Mark Knorr and passed.

Denise Thomas made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report which was submitted to the board members previous to the meeting. Mark Knorr seconded the motion which passed.

The first item on the agenda was public in-put. Kevin Behnke appeared before the Town Board stating that in the Newton Notes, a publication recently put on the web site and sent out to people that do not have computers, it was stated by Chairman Busse that “Large amounts of ground were donated to build up the shoulders on Newton Road between the hills near Willever Lane taking about three weeks to complete. This project was not on the agenda this year. The town is grateful for the donation”. Mr. Behnke stated that this statement implied that the cost of the Newton Road Project ($22,572.59) was donated when in fact this was not true and he felt that the information should be an addendum to the minutes.

Mr. Behnke, a member of the County Board, also gave the Newton Town Board information about the County sales tax indicating that the Finance Committee has not come up with a plan for the sales tax. It was suggested to have an Ad Hoc Committee to bring the matter to the County Board. He stated that Sheboygan County collects eleven million dollars. The County’s Corporation Counsel has given an opinion that this is not legal. Chapter 77 talks about distribution to local municipalities, towns and school districts. Sheboygan is not distributing anything to the school districts. Manitowoc County does not want to distribute to the school districts. Sales tax is being kept by every County but Sheboygan. Originally six million dollars was talked about. The money should be for cutting down the tax levy.

There being no further public in-put business to come before the meeting said agenda item was closed.

Dave Mueller, Road Superintendent gave his report. He stated that there is a problem with contaminated aluminum cans at the Recycling Center and thought that there should be a sign placed at the Recycling Center. He talked about the different items that are disposed of in the garbage that should not be put there. He indicated he is working on cutting trees and is waiting for parts for a trailer. Dave also indicated that the presence of Parsnip weeds continues to be a problem. He said he would talk to Tom Ward about this and have him attend the Annual Meeting in April to make the citizens aware of the problem. Supervisor Denise Thomas stated she thought it was a good idea for Mr. Ward to attend the Annual Meeting so that he could make people aware of what the weed looks like and how to get rid of it.

Dave Mueller handed out a right-of-way map for the Town that was very old. He was told he could contact Cathy DeLain at the County for help in obtaining an updated map. Supervisor Thomas questioned whether or not we could get a copy of the right of way map for certain sections of our town. It was noted that Dave will deliver dog tags to a person in the Town who has twelve dogs and does have a kennel license. The property has been inspected and all animals are treated humanely.

Supervisor Mark Knorr gave an update for the re-zoning project that the Plan Commission is working on with Martenson & Eisele for our zoning ordinance amendments.

Michael Slattery, Zoning Administrator submitted his report which was accepted as presented. He also questioned whether the office papers cluttering the office could be cleaned. Everyone indicated what could be done with many of the items so the problem will be solved.

The next items on the Chairman’s agenda were:

1. The appointment of DuWayne Hackmann and Jerald Weyer for the Board of Appeals. Their present tenure expired January 1, 2019 and since they accepted a new term now expires on January 1, 2022. Appointments for the Plan Commission were Charlie Bauer and Lee Glaeser whose terms also expired on January 1, 2019 and now expires on January 1, 2022. Mark Knorr, Chairman is a member of the Town Board and as such does not have a tenure term.

2) Acceptance and signing of the Agreement Between Manitowoc County Joint Dispatch Center and the Town of Newton.

3) Acceptance of the Recycling Contract with the Town of Centerville.

Since none of the above mentioned were put into a motion by the chairman or seconded they will be tabled until next month’s meeting.

The clerk noted that correspondence received from our Attorney Kate Reynolds of Michael Best and Friedrich Law Firm indicates that the new hourly rate will now be $255.

The clerk presented the statements which were submitted previously to the Board. They were accepted by motion made by Mark Knorr and seconded by Denise Thomas.

There being no further business to come before the meeting we adjourned by motion made by Chairman Busse and seconded by Supervisor Knorr. Motion carried.

 Barbara Pankratz, Clerk