TOWN OF NEWTON BOARD MEETING

JULY 14, 2021 - Rough Draft

The Town Board meeting of the Town of Newton was held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at the Newton Town Hall, 6532 Carstens Lake Road, Manitowoc, WI 54220 at 6:00 pm. pursuant to posted notices.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Denise Thomas. Present: Denise Thomas, Chairman; Kevin Behnke, Supervisor #1; Mark Knorr, Supervisor #2; Paulette Vogt, Treasurer; Barbara Pankratz, Clerk; Mike Slattery, Zoning Administrator; Dave Mueller, Road Superintendent/Law Enforcement Officer; Larry Stock, Tom Klabunde, Charlie Bauer, Ron Ratajczak and Roger Busse.

All those present joined in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The clerk stated that the agendas were posted on the official posting places as well as on the Town of Newton web site. Said agenda was notarized. Kevin Behnke made a motion to approve the agenda. Said motion was seconded by Mark Knorr and passed.

The minutes of June, 2021 were approved by motion made by Kevin Behnke and seconded by Mark Knorr. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was submitted to the Board previous to the meeting and approved by motion made by Mark Knorr and seconded by Kevin Behnke.

The next item on the agenda was public in-put. Tom Klabunde questioned the Board about removing the “No Jake Breaking” signs in the town. The Board was instructed by the Sheriff’s Office to remove the signs. Denise Thomas and Mark Knorr tried to answer his questions indicating the rules which regulated posting the signs. Mr. Klabunde was not pleased with the answers about jake breaking but the Board is following the regulations set forth by law.

Dave Mueller, Road Supervisor gave his report indicating Sonnenburg Lane is done except for the shouldering. Culverts are being done. Bridge overlay is done except the for overlay at Silver Creek. Dave indicated that the water softener in the hall is not working properly. It softens but it won’t regenerate on its own automatically. It was installed by Hein on July 12, 2004. Dave called several plumbers and is waiting to hear from them. He is looking at prices to replace the softener. He will e-mail the information to the Board when he receives it.

Dave Mueller, Law Enforcement officer made a report on dog incidents he tended to as well as grass cutting on property foreclosed on. He also questioned about anyone dumping grass cuttings in ditches and to whether or not there was any rulings dealing with this.

Chairman Thomas questioned if anyone had any questions for Mike Slattery, Zoning Administrator, who submits his report to the Board before the meeting. There being none his report was accepted as presented.

Supervisor 1, Kevin Behnke gave a report on the electronics collection which was held Saturday, July 10th indicating it went very well as everything was full by 2:30 pm. since some one brought in thirteen televisions which were accepted but should be limited to two. Kevin sent the Board information on another entity involved in recycling products and the Board can take their time looking over proposals which he obtained. Kevin indicated the recycling workers are doing a good job keeping track of what is going into bags, what is going into the dumpster so he will put together a report for next month to show what we are collecting and where the Town is at moneywise with recycling.

Mark Knorr, Supervisor 2, indicated that the Plan Commission approved a rezone at their meeting on July 12, 2021 and he presented the same to the Town Board which was a request by Patrick Jawort and Michael Aprill to rezone a 3.00 acre parcel from R-2, Residential District, to A-2, General Agriculture District. The parcel is located in the NW1/4 of the SW1/4 and SE1/4 of the NW1/4, Section 26. The change was made to accommodate a small number of livestock on their property. Said rezone was approved by the Town Board by motion made by Supervisor Mark Knorr and seconded by Supervisor Kevin Behnke. Motion carried.

Chairman Thomas indicated that a certified letter was sent to the person on CR and the lawn had been cut. The person moved to the City of Manitowoc but Chairman Thomas she had not heard anything further about varmints running around but he was informed that the Health Department would be looking into the property situation.

Chairman Thomas asked Dave Mueller if he had spoke to the family on the corner of Custer Street and English Lake Road. He informed Chairman Thomas that he had dropped a copy of the Nuisance Ordinance off with the property owner and indicated he should clean up the property. Supervisor Behnke indicated that a timeline of thirty days which is in the Nuisance Ordinance should be adhered to so that appropriate action should be done by the property owner. Chairman Thomas will draft a letter to the property owner about the thirty day timeline and Dave Mueller will hand deliver it to the property owner.

A certified, return receipt requested letter was sent to Raul Bustomante Huerta which was signed for on July 2, 2021 indicating he has thirty days to address the accumulation of vehicles on his property. If the options he was presented are not adhered to action will be taken.

State Retirement participation deadline was the next item to be addressed. Paulette Vogt, Treasurer sent out an email that October 1st is the last time that she is going to renew or ask for an extension for the Town of Newton so if you are interested get in touch with Paulette asap.

The next item was the transfer of funds for the Certificate of Deposit within the FDIC regulations. Paulette called several banks and found that money markets are not doing anything. The best entity was Community First Credit Union. The reason funds have to be moved is that according to the FDIC anything over $250,000. Is not insured. Because we are above that amount Paulette brought it to the Board’s attention that money had to be moved. Kevin Behnke questioned if we put $250,000. in does that include the $193,000. we have in the Committed Fund. He was told that was part of the $250,000. Discussion ensued about other funds that will be received. Denise Thomas made a motion that the Town of Newton move $250,000. to a one year certificate of deposit at the Community First Credit Union for .75 per cent interest rate. Kevin Behnke seconded the motion which passed. Chairman Thomas asked Paulette Vogt to take care of setting the transfer up. Denise thanked Paulette for taking the time to set this up for the Town and bringing this to the Board’s attention.

The Board received an e-mail from the Town of Liberty for a meeting on July 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm in reference to the road agreement.

Kevin Behnke indicated the matter was not on the agenda but he informed the Board that the County Board is discussing ATV routes on rules and regulations about the same.

Denise Thomas made a motion to pay the bills. Kevin Behnke seconded the motion which passed.

Chairman Denise Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Said motion was seconded by Supervisor Mark Knorr and passed.

Barbara Pankratz, Clerk