

Board Meeting
September 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jennifer Meyer. People in attendance were Supervisors – Jeff Whyte, Paul Travis, Jennifer Meyer, Jeff Bechard, Clerk Beverly Christopherson, Treasurer John McLaughlin, and see attached list of visitors.

Flag Salute

Comp Plan:

A. CSM – Larry Gregory 2 lot consolidation Cameron St./RLS Pete Gartmann:

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve CSM for Larry Gregory.

Supervisor Paul Travis seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

B. Rezone 5 acres to A1 to A2/Briggs 7590 Crescent Ave: They have a 30 acre parcel and want to rezone 5 acres of that parcel to A1. A1 is more rural and A2 has more options for building. They would like to put up a pole shed if it gets rezoned. Chair Jennifer Meyer did not have any questions but would like to see the remaining 25 acres stay A1.

Supervisor Paul Travis made a motion to approve the rezoning for Briggs.

Supervisor Jeff Whyte seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

West Wisconsin Telcom/ARPA Grant Money Request: Jim from West Wisconsin was at the meeting to go over broadband needs in the Town. Jim handed out two maps that they did to show where the town may be lacking broadband services. West Wisconsin did send out 400 surveys to Town residents to get input on Broadband need. Response back from the surveys was about 5%, not great. Out of the 20 surveys returned, it showed 12 locations underserved or no service at all. Maps showed the areas from the survey's needing service. Estimate on what the cost would be to get broadband service to these areas is around \$1.75 million. Jim is not sure, which grants will be coming later to help with Broadband but did say that the State of Wisconsin has around 125 million dollars available for Broadband and should be available next year. West Wisconsin would do all the work on getting the grants. West Wisconsin would like to do a partnership with the Town of Union so that they can apply for these grants. Town would have to use some of the ARPA funds for the partnership. Town of Union should ask Eau Claire County if they will match funds. Supervisor Mona Mathews thanked West Wisconsin for doing the survey and getting this information to the Town Board. Supervisor Jeff Bechard asked where else the ARPA funds can be used? Chair Jennifer Meyer mentioned that new information from the Towns Association is coming out. It would be nice to use this grant money in other areas if the Town can.

Cedar Corp:

A. County Line Rd. Project Monthly Update: Dennis Mack from Cedar Corp was at the meeting to talk with the Board. Waiting to get survey from Surveyor.

Did get soil borings back and it was not good. County Line Rd. does not have a lot of structure underneath. The area has a clay layer, which is susceptible to frost and that is probably why it is breaking up. Dennis Mack thinks its best to look for grants to help pay for the project. Dennis Mack will be at Town's next meeting to go over design.

Park Commission

A. Approval new member Dean Kallenbach/replaces Kathy Rowland: Chair Jennifer Meyer welcomed Dean Kallenbach to the Board meeting to introduce him to the Board. Park Commission would like the Board to approve him for the Park Commission Board:

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve Dean Kallenbach as new member of Park Commission. Supervisor Jeff Whyte seconded. All voted yes, motion carried.

B. Chair Report: Fred Belay wanted to mention that the Park Commission has received Monetary donations, \$660.00, and would like a separate account to keep the donations until the Park Commission is ready to use. Treasurer John McLaughlin will take care of. Park Commission is waiting to get the cameras to get them set up. Next month the Park Commission will host a Native & Invasive Species event at the Conservancy.

West WI Telcom has been contacted about getting Wi-Fi for the Conservancy.

A large washout was reported at Sherman Creek Park. It was on the South Side. Culvert is bent in half and trees are down. Eau Claire School District will take care of the issue. Chair Jennifer Meyer ordered signs that say “Danger”, Sherman Creek School will put up the signs. Jon Johnson from Eau Claire County put together a project to fix the issue. Town of Union might have to pay Eau Claire County a small amount.

ATV Route:

A. Town Ordinance Update: Chair Jennifer Meyer reported that the application needs to be filled out and the update the ordinance.

B. CTH E Application: Chair Jennifer Meyer working on.

Visit Eau Claire: Dashboard was handed out. Benny Anderson was here from Visit Eau Claire. He mentioned that he has some information on ARPA money grant if the Town would like him to send to them. Town of Union website hits is still climbing. Room tax for the quarter is up compared to 2019.

Township Fire Station #3 Report

A. Battalion Chief Report: Battalion Chief Dave Kleist reported that Township Fire is purchasing an ROV – Underwater Drone. Cost is \$45,000 to \$50,000. Having this drone will mean that Township Fire will not have to use divers as much for water rescues. There was a Fire at Dana’s Bar And Grill and Township fire has lots of mutual aid and it was very much appreciated.

Township Fire is still looking for volunteers and Town of Union Fire Station is sending out a mailer explaining what the Town Fire Station does for the Town in hopes of getting volunteers. Town of Union Fire Station is wondering if the Town will pay for the mailers going out.

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion approving the Town of Union paying for the mailer. Supervisor Jeff Bechard seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Roads

A. Chayne Dr./Follow-up final payment to Stout Construction: Dennis Mack from Cedar Corp is waiting on additional tickets from Stout.

B. Xiong Blvd./Shouldering Complete 09/09/2021: Need to work on Grant

C. Losan Rd./Improvements; Eau Claire City will take care of.

D. CTH T Corridor Mapping updates/Public meeting: September 30, 2021, 29 Pines, CTH T & 29: this is information for anyone that wants to attend.

E. Eau Claire County Highway Driveway Permit off Texaco, timber storage:

Chair Jennifer Meyer mentioned that Eau Claire County contacted her to make sure it would be ok if they stored big logs and trees on the property. Supervisor Jeff Whyte said it would be nice to know how long they plan to keep them stored.

Town Board feels there is no issue with them storing them on their property.

F. Any other Road business: Town Clerk handed out an e-mail from Resident Ruth Oas. Ruth Oas had some concerns regarding Gregerson Drive and having it swept.

Summer Events:

A. Blue Ox at Music in the Pines: This event was August 19 – 21: No complaints were given to Board members or the Clerk. Supervisor Mona Mathews commented that traffic was good. Dave Kleist mentioned that a lot of people attended the event.

B. Rescued and Redeemed: Their event was September 11th. No complaints or concerns were given to any Board members or Clerk.

Town of Union Redistricting discussion:

A. Set date for special meeting: After census was done last year population changed for Town of Union. Population in 2020 was 2,854 and in 2010 2,663 and there are 1,103 housing units. Town of Union will change from 4 wards to 5 wards. These wards are set for elections. We are waiting for a map and more information from Eau Claire County. Board will need a special Meeting to approve, this meeting will have to be before the October 12th meeting.

Constable Report: Constable not at meeting and no report to hand out.

Building Inspector's Report: Report handed out to Board.

Citizen Input & Questions

Review/Approve August 10, 2021, minutes: Chair Jennifer Meyer made the motion to approve Minutes from August 10, 2021, meeting as presented to the Board. Supervisor Mona Mathews Seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Review/Approval Bills: Chair Jennifer Meyer made a motion to approve payables as presented to Board and to add paying 2% Fire Dues to Township Fire and to pay Bob Mathews for hours worked at Transfer Station. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Treasurer Report – Handed out to Board.

A. ARPA grant allocations update: Board would like Treasurer to do the calculation to see how much revenue was lost during covid.

Approval Underground Cables: None this month.

Review/Approve: Licenses: Operators: None to approve.

Town Hall Properties:

A. Conservancy Pavilion Electric: Supervisor Paul Travis meeting with Fred Belay at Conservancy on Wednesday.

B. West Wisconsin Telcom Conduit between buildings for phone line:

Supervisor Paul Travis meeting with Fred Belay at Conservancy on Wednesday.

C. West Wisconsin Telcom Wi-Fi Router install at Transfer Station for Conservancy Security: Supervisor Paul Travis meeting with Fred Belay at Conservancy on Wednesday.

D. Message Boards are finished! Just need to paint certain areas.

Next Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 6:30pm

Comp Plan Meeting: Thursday, October 7, 2021, 6:30pm

Park Commission: Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 6:30pm

This Board meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm. Chair Jennifer Meyer made motion to adjourn, and Supervisor Paul Travis seconded the motion.