

Board Meeting
February 11, 2020

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

Flag Salute

Eau Claire County Planning & Development Land Use manager, Jared Grande, to share ongoing updates to the County's Comprehensive Zoning Code:

Comp Plan:

A. Country Jam: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) supplemental application for proposed Campground in phases and Jam Ground site overview updates: John Lynch from Country Jam was in attendance to help answer any questions regarding the CUP. Mr. Lynch mentioned that at the Town of Union Comp Plan some concerns were brought up and those changes have been made to the CUP. One of the changes made was the camping that was going to be constructed in the parking lot at the end of Paulina Street. That has been changed to begin phase 1 in 2021. Phase 1 and Phase 2 will both begin in 2021, which will be the campsites in the parking lot area at the end of Paulina Street and using the large parking lot also as camping, both these phases will be approximately 400 camp sites. The other concern addressed was that residents that live in the area around Country Jam grounds be given the access to drive to and from the residence, they will need some sort of pass to show to Sheriff's department that they can drive to their residence. Country Jam will also provide a clearly marked walkway for pedestrians down Paulina Street. Campground at the end of Paulina Street and main parking lot will have fencing around them so that campers are not walking through and entering resident's property. Country Jam will clean up all garbage left on Paulina Street during Country Jam. See list of residents at the meeting that voiced their concerns regarding the noise and pollution that will come from having the camping at the end of Paulina Street. Country Jam will attend Town of Union Board meetings to go over any issues that happened during Country Jam. Phase 3 will happen in 2022 when additional camping will be constructed across the road from the main parking lot/campground. This campground will have approximately and additional 600 campsites. Any generators used at the campsites will have to shut off during the hours of 2am and 7am and no music is allowed in the campgrounds after 2am. Chairman Jennifer Meyer also brought up the fact that Paulina Street is already a street that has structure issues and it will not be able to handle the additional traffic from all the campers being pulled in. Town is wondering if Country Jam would be willing to help pay for any construction or maintenance that has to be done to Paulina Street due to the traffic from campers? Larry Wright from Country Jam stated that Country Jam would help contribute to any work/maintenance that has to be done on Paulina Street. Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve the Country Jam CUP with concerns listed and any stipulations that Eau Claire County also has. Concerns listed above are: Fencing around campgrounds being constructed at end of Paulina St., and the large parking lot. No music or generators running in the campgrounds after 2am. Residents in the area are to be given car passes so that they are able to drive to and from their homes. Country Jam will also provide a clearly marked walking path for pedestrians down Paulina Street. All garbage left on Paulina Street will be picked up by Country Jam. Country Jam will also help with funding any issues on Paulina Street that occur due to the traffic from campers coming in and out. Supervisor Paul Travis seconded the motion.

Chairman Jennifer Meyer called for a roll call vote.

Supervisor Mona Mathews, Yes; Supervisor Jeff Whyte, Yes; Supervisor Jeff Bechard, No; Supervisor Paul Travis, Yes; and Chairman Jennifer Meyer, Yes.

Motion passes with a majority vote.

Eau Claire County Highway Commissioner Jon Jonson to address proposed Town road

Driveway access permit application process: Jon Johnson wanted to talk to the Union Board to go over the driveway access permit application process if the Town of Union would like Eau Claire County to take it over for them. Town of Union can issue the permit and have the resident fill it out and send back or have everything filled out online on Eau Claire County site. Jon Johnson also mentioned that all fees should be looked at and changed accordingly. Eau Claire County fee schedule is available on line. Town will receive any funds that are submitted to the county. Supervisors Jeff Whyte and Jeff Bechard both feel that if Eau Claire County takes this over it will help with the issues they are seeing with culverts being put in that are too small. Chairman Jennifer Meyer asked if this needs to be approved at this time or if the Town could go over fees and decide how on how to proceed. Jon Johnson mentioned that the Town of Union would have to update their ordinance to allow Eau Claire County to handle drive way permits.

Chairman Jennifer Meyer recommends that the Town tables this discussion to decide on how to proceed.

Jared Grande from Eau Claire County was also in attendance to go over Eau Claire Comp Plan

Zoning update: In 19998 the Town of Union opted out of Title 18. Town of Union will have 1 year in which to adopt Title 18 or opt out. Title 18 works with developers and contractors to work within Eau Claire County Code on any land use changes. Eau Claire County is going over their comp plan and zoning code and hired a company in 2018 to help address and issues in the code.

Jared Grande did address the question on Interstate 94 exchange to Cameron St? Mr. Grande stated that this discussion does come up every couple years and in the comp plan will show it maybe in 10 years. Mr. Grande also noted that a new zoning district will be in place and will be ACR. ACR zoning will help to replace AR, this will allow residential development in agricultural areas. ACR zoning will also help with division of sites: an example would be 3 parcels into 3 building sites with 5 acres. ACR will also help with sites on 1-5 acres that is not on prime soil and not good for farming but could be developed. Jared Grande mentioned to all Town Board members and residence in attendance that his office is always open for them to come talk to him regarding any issues that they might have.

Mr. Grande left a stack of his business cards for any residents to take.

Mr Grande also mentioned that zoning will be changing to Industrial I1 and I2. I2 will be have sewer and I1 will not, this is to help modify light industrial and heavy industrial. Mr. Grande mentioned to all in attendance that this is all just a draft and that Eau Claire County is looking for feedback from all residents.

Roads:

A. Chayne Road. Reconstruct: Spring 2020 Action: Waiting to hear back if any funds will be available. Any grant money given for Chayne Road will have to be listed on the bid.

B. Menomonie & Skyline Dr. City of Eau Claire water runoff analysis; Nothing new

C. Glory Lane; Spring 2020 action; review of water runoff. Need to find out if pond can hold any more runoff. If water is directed to run down the ditch line then the pond will not be an issue. Eau Claire County will get a cost to the Town on what it would be to have water directed to run down the ditch line and fix issues on residents' properties from erosion.

D. Losan Ave. Spring 2020 road improvement review. Patch work is working great

E. Grant Announcement Update – talked about with Jon Johnson

F. WisDOT 312/N Town Hall Road Intersection Construction. Supervisor Jennifer Meyer will construct a letter that will be sent out to all residents in that area to inform them of construction.

Park Commission

A. Chairman Fred Belay reported that the Park Commission did meet but did not have a quorum so no action was taken. Park Commission would like to recommend Barbara Kleist as new Park Commission member and need approval from Town Board.

Supervisor Paul Travis made a motion to approve Barbara Kleist as new Park Commission Member. Supervisor Jeff Whyte seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carries.

B. Snowshoe Hike in Sherman Creek Park 02/16/2020 12:00-5:00pm. Supervisor Mona Mathews will be in attendance to represent the Town.

Fire Station #3 Report

A. Battalion Chief Report. Dave Kleist was at meeting and reported that the station is keeping busy. No news on the new tender. Township fire also looking at charging for false fire alarm calls. This would have to be an ordinance put in place by each Town and fees would have to be discussed.

Building Inspector Report:

A. Report: Report was distributed.

Visit Eau Claire: Chair Jennifer Meyer mentioned that the last meeting was a finance meeting and the Visit Eau Claire is headed in the right direction after their audit. Town of Union does not have a contract with Visit Eau Claire at this time, last contract expired in 2018.

Town of Union Transfer Station bag fee discussion: Transfer Station will close at 5:30pm both nights. Town of Union pays \$0.35 cents for the green bags used at the Transfer Station. If you go to the Town of Union transfer station and don't have a green bag, they charge you \$3 and if you have the larger black bags the cost is \$5. Supervisor Jeff Bechard made a motion to have all bags the same cost at the transfer station for \$3. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carries.

Board Reports:

MPO: Working on rewriting the mission statement.

WTA District meeting 02/29/2020: Chair Jennifer Meyer and Supervisor Mona Mathews attending

Union Poll Worker Training 02/13/2020

Spring Primary Election 02/18/2020

Tourism: Nothing to report at this time

Lake District: 03/04/2020 7:30

TFD (02/24/2020) Already talked about

Chairman Jennifer Meyer wanted to let everyone know that she received an e-mail from Brian at Eau Claire County Highway. There was damage done to a Town of Union road sign in an accident. Town of Union has received a bill from Eau Claire County for repair. Chair Jennifer Meyer sent bill to Progressive Insurance as the person that caused the damage states, he has insurance to cover. Progressive states the person does not have insurance. Town will bill him for the damage.

Chairman Jennifer Meyer wanted to let the Board know that she has purchased new maps for the Town. Ms. Meyer also spoke with Liz Fagen about Land Conservation and wondered why the Town is not active in it? Sherman Creek is contributing PCB's to Chippewa River and the Town should look into this.

Chair Jennifer Meyer also wanted to let the Board now that Eau Claire County does not reimburse for broken mail boxes for plowing snow, unless the owner has proof it was broken by the plow.

Citizen Input & Questions

Review/Approve previous meetings minutes: Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve the motion with corrections. Chair Jennifer Meyer seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carries.

Approval Underground Cables – Chairman- None to report

Treasurers Report:

A. Report: Treasurer John McLaughlin handed out his report to the Board. At this time collected 4 million in taxes and have had two checks returned “Non-Sufficient Funds”.

Review/Approval Bills: Clerk presented list of Accounts Payables and mentioned that missing on the list is Settlement for Taxes that is due on 02/20/2020, Eau Claire County has not sent out list of monies due. Also, Treasurer John McLaughlin has a list of residents that have overpaid their taxes and need to be reimbursed.

Supervisor Jeff Whyte made a motion to approve paying all payables as presented to Board along with tax settlement that is due on 02/20/20 and the tax overpayments to residents. Supervisor Paul Travis seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carries.

Review/Approve: Licenses:

A: Operators – Supervisor Paul Travis made a motion to approve all operators licenses as presented to Board. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carries.

B: Hotel/Motel Permits: No approval needed, just updated Board.

C: Picnic License; Westgate Sportsman Club; WI Sport Show at Old Mill Plaza:

Supervisor Jeff Bechard made a motion to approve the Picnic License for Westgate as presented to Board. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carries.

Constables Report: No report to distribute.

Town Hall Properties:

- A. Transfer Station; In spring a second coat of paint will be applied.
- B. Parking Lot Light: Work to be done when frost is out of ground.
- C. Basement Flood Repairs: Will check this spring for any issues
- D. Exterior Window Update 2020 quote: Board would like Jeff Whyte to get a second quote.
- E. Message Boards: Supervisor Jeff Bechard will send a link to Clerk to get ordered.
- F: Order defibrillator and cabinet for Town Hall and install/amount budgeted? Quote for Defibrillator is \$2,500.00. Will table discussion till next meeting.
- G. Also need to talk about Town Hall Rental agreement at March meeting.

Set next meeting dates and agendas: Comp Plan March 5th, Board Meeting March 9th.

Supervisor Paul Travis made a motion to Adjourn at 10:15pm, Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion.