

2022 Regular Meeting MINUTES
May 9, 2022

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Susan Storms	Councilman
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Mickey Dietrich	RACOG
Marlene Norfolk	Assessor
James Burrows	Counsel
Perry Golden	Sheriff Candidate
Cathy Golden	Wife

Excused: Michael O'Shaughnessy and Terry McKeever

Supervisor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Storms to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on April 11, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Jefferson County Sheriff Candidate Perry Golden spoke about his candidacy and what his goals are and accomplishments to date.

Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider noted that the next RACOG meeting is to be determined. It will be the last meeting for the summer. The Summit meeting had 38 people and RACOG will compile the information gathered therein. There is a Historic Preservation Grant being applied for to highlight the historic sites along the Black River. There is a promotional regional video being worked on along with a banner program. The LED lighting punchlist is being worked on and the Shared Service Fund paperwork for Jefferson County was submitted electronically, but needs to be sent in hard copies. RACOG decided to stay with Brian Phelps as maintainer of the various websites, and the cost for this will come out of the RACOG dues for each municipality.

Communications: A request for funds was received from Fairview Cemetery.

RESOLUTION #8-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms authorizing Supervisor Smith to spend up to \$1,000 to aid in the Fairview Cemetery money woes. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

A request for funding was received from Carthage Area Rescue Squad to aid in the purchase of a ventilator.

RESOLUTION #9-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to authorize Supervisor Smith to spend \$4600 to the CARS to aid in the purchase of a ventilator with the funds coming from the ARPA Fund. The Council wants to see a proof of purchase after obtaining the ventilator.

A request has been received from Scott Burto, Mayor of West Carthage, for partnering with the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage and the Towns of Wilna and Champion for a Downtown Study, and aid in the cost of that.

RESOLUTION #10-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to authorize \$5000 to be spent to aid in the funding of a Downtown Study with the funds coming from the ARPA Fund. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Community Development Director Report: No report

Highway Report: Michael O’Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent was excused but submitted a written report. It was noted that a new flag was installed at Fairview Cemetery, sand barn roof panel was replaced, plowing and trees picked up; roadside trash pickup was done, roads swept, cemeteries and town properties all cleaned up, hole patching is ongoing; equipment serviced, etc. along with general activities. It was further noted that Mr. O’Shaughnessy has hired Kyle Bellinger with a start date of May 2, 2022 at the six month probationary rate of pay of \$20.30/hr.

RESOLUTION #11-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to acknowledge hiring Kyle Bellinger at the above noted rate and start date. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Dog Control Officer: No report

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for April, 2022 were \$16,344.91. The Town Clerk fees for April, 2022 were \$1960.36. The Transfer Site Funds collected for April, 2022 were \$3457.00.

Code Enforcement: No Report

Assessor Report: Marlene Norfolk, the Interim Assessor, gave a detailed report of her activities in the last month. Board of Assessment Review will meet on May 24 from 4-8 p.m. 63 Change of assessment notices have been mailed out. Sales have been reviewed and exemptions removed. All exemptions have been reviewed again in preparation for the final roll being established. The Town’s equalization rate is finalized at 100%. The new tax maps have been printed and are now available.

Attorney Report: Mr. Burrows noted that there was a FOIL request for a 2020 dog bite in the hamlet of Herrings. He noted that he does not have any fears for the Town as to liability, etc., Pierce vs Town, et al is a late notice of claim having been over 1 year since the claimed items occurred. He does not think that the Court will allow this. He is happy to report that there is full defense coverage for the Town along with the Code Officer. Regarding the Sugar Maple Solar Project, the application is not yet complete, and after the application is complete, there is up to one year for a permit to be issued. Section 575B pertains to the valuation on renewable energy projects, which could estimate a value less than desired; Regarding Carthage Energy assessment challenge, some late coming information was received today. He has requested an adjournment of this meeting to discuss the latest information with the Board. A meeting as scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Town Board Committees: No report

Town Supervisor’s Financial Statements: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the Financial Statements as provided by the CPA’s. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Britton, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #5 in the amount of \$73,082.29. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Supervisor Smith announced that David Arnold, the overseer for Herrings matters and sewer, is moving from the area and will be done on May 27, 2022. He is looking to Joe Cook, who has a mowing business in Deferiet, to quote a price for the mowing of the areas in Herrings, to include the Crown Cleaners site, the playground and the sewer treatment plant. Currently, it takes about 10 hours per week at the 2021 cost of \$2400. He further noted that Daniel Locy, who fills in for David Arnold, is also resigning effective the end of May. Mr. Smith is looking for quotes from Pearson and Timmerman and from DANC for the cost to oversee the sewer matters. The 2021 cost for this was about \$9600.

There was a sewer leakage matter that Gleason Septic has taken care of and we will be receiving a bill for that service.

Cummins, Inc. has submitted a quote for the annual maintenance at WD#2 in Natural Bridge for materials and labor amounting to \$347.05.

RESOLUTION #12-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to accept the quote of \$347.05 and to have Mr. Smith sign the agreement. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Borland, Town Clerk