

TOWN OF APPLE RIVER
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Monday, March 14, 2022

The March Regular Board Meeting of the Town was called to order at 7:04 pm by Chair Bryan.

All present: Chair Bryan, Supervisor Johnson, Supervisor King, Treasurer Carlson, Clerk Agne, Fire Chief Alec Lloyd-Adams, Planning Commission Chair Steve Arduser, and Justin Duncan.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Chair Bryan inquired if everyone had reviewed this evening's agenda. Hearing no comments, Chair Bryan asked for a motion to approve the agenda as provided. Motion by Supervisor Johnson to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion to approve was seconded by Supervisor King. A voice vote was called. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes: The draft minutes from the Regular February Board Meeting were reviewed. Chair noted that the minutes should be completed by the Clerk in more timely fashion. Clerk noted Chair request and agreed to complete the minutes earlier. Chair asked for approval of the minutes. Motion by Supervisor King to approve the minutes of the February meeting as submitted. The motion to approve was seconded by Supervisor Johnson. It was also suggested that the audio files be downloaded or people to have access to the discussion.

Public Input: Justin Duncan expressed concern regarding the County plowing on a Sunday when little snow was on the ground. Complaints were made to the County Board Chairman, the County Highway Commissioner and the Committee Chairman.

Clerk's Report: Upcoming meetings and events include Spring Election is April 5th, Open Book on April 6th 1-3 pm, Board of Review on April 23 at 1-3 pm and the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 19 at 6 pm. An application for a rezone from A10 to B3 will come before the Planning Commission to increase the density of rental units at 1871 County Road I at the north end of the Town.

Report by Treasurer: The Treasurer's February Report was presented by Treasurer Carlson. She noted that the payroll taxes have not been caught up with. Clerk should complete and catch up these taxes this week. A motion by Supervisor King was made to accept the Treasurer's Report as given. Motion seconded by Supervisor Johnson. A voice vote was called. The motion carried.

ARPA: No new information, been quiet regarding the program.

BIL – Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill recently passed Congress. Geared to promote high speed internet in rural areas but is also an option for other infrastructure proposals. Projects proposed may include 165th Ave resurfacing, and guard rails for the bridge; 120th Street rebuild, dirt roads – paved; Mains Crossing Bridge to County H; 180th west is in poor shape.

Amery School Referendum vote is coming up on April 5th. Look for brochures sent in the mail.

Apple River Solar: No new update.

County Report: None.

Vouchers: Vouchers were reviewed. Chair Brian inquired about the Workman's Comp adjustment due to the 2021 Audit. Following the discussion, the Chair called for a motion for the approval the vouchers as presented. Motion by Supervisor Johnson to approve the vouchers as proposed. Motion to approve, seconded by Supervisor King. A voice vote was called. The motion carried.

Supervisor Reports: Supervisor Bryan reported that the Bid Package for Seasonal Road Maintenance has been completed for review and publication. He will get copies to the Board tomorrow for approval. Road restrictions came up and discussion followed. It was estimated that road restrictions have not been posted for 15 years. Supervisor

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Johnson moved to have the County post road restrictions on limited roads to protect them. Supervisor King seconded the motion to approve road restriction postings. A voice vote was called. Supervisors Johnson and King voiced ayes. Chair Bryan voted nay. Motion carried. Chair will contact Josh at the Highway Department to post our roads.

Supervisor King stated that the Ambulance Director reported that new funding currently on Governor Evers desk to be signed, are onetime grants for emergency services.

Fire Chief Adams reported 9 Fire Calls for February. Seven (7) medical calls in Apple River; and one (1) shed fire; one (1) car accident in Georgetown. Polk County is using some of their ARPA Funds for a \$10,000.00 donation to local Fire Departments and Ambulance Districts. Once funds are received it will go to the Truck Fund.

Lincoln Township is considering turning approximately 20 sections over to Apple River to cover for \$1600 to \$1700 per Section, same as Georgetown pays. Fire Chief estimated that 40-50 calls annually would be generated from this area. EMS are required to do more reporting with additional education of staff because of changes in laws to address staffing issues of rural forces.

Fire Hall need industrial doors to be repaired and less secure doors to be replaced and a fob safety system to track access to equipment and medical supplies. Contractor will review the scope of the work in the Fire Hall this Friday.

Town Planning Commission Chairman Steve Arducer will convene a meeting on Tuesday, March 23 at 7 pm to discuss a Rezone Request for 1787 County Road I from A10 to B3, Commercial.

Chair Bryan discussed conversations with Archie Serwe, Serwe Implement, Brownville, WI. For 6 weeks we can rent a new John Deere tractor with a 25-foot boom with a rotary head mower for \$15,000 to \$16,000 for 6 weeks. Tractor was supposed to be in today but has not arrived, hope to be in next week. If does not come in, a low hour demo will be rented to us. Discussion to coordinate this followed. Pay biweekly from a designated pool of funds. Supervisor Johnson made it clear he did not support renting and favored an outright purchase instead. Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor King seconded motion, to approve the proposed brush equipment rental. A voice vote was called. Supervisors Bryan and King voted yeas. Supervisor Johnson voted nay. Motion carried 2 to 1.

Neighboring property purchase – preliminary investigative work did not reveal conclusive detail. Supervisor King will contact a firm to conduct a Phase I assessment for the purchase.

Next Regular scheduled Board Meeting will be held Monday, April 11, 2022, Work Session 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM.

Other upcoming events- Election April 5th, Open Book April 6th 1-3 pm.

Citing no further business, the Chair entertained a Motion to Adjourn the meeting. Supervisor King made the motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Johnson. All ayes. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 PM.

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