

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
July 15, 2021

Members Present: Micheal Peterson, Andrea Kott, Jane Mueller, Robert Solberg, Karen Tomesh

Staff Present: Janelle Henning, Jackie Vold

Members/Staff Absent: None

A quorum being present, Chrm. Peterson called to order the monthly Town Board meeting of the Washington Town Board at 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at the Town Municipal Building, 5750 Old Town Hall Road.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

Supv. Solberg moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 17, 2021 TOWN BOARD MEETING. The motion was seconded by Supv. Kott.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Supv. Tomesh arrived at the meeting.

Public Hearing & Board Consideration for a Conditional Use Permit from Alexander & Brianna Nichols for a Cumulative Area of Accessory Structures Greater than 1,200 sq. ft. at 4840 Hobbs Road, Fall Creek:

Ben Bublitz, Eau Claire County Planning & Development Land Use Technician introduced the application with a PowerPoint presentation. The request is to build a 64' x 64' heated workshop. The property is currently undeveloped; County Code allows for an accessory structure to be built first as long as a primary family dwelling would need to be built within two years, the use of the accessory structure is for personal storage, and sanitary and building permits have been issued.

Staff recommends approval with conditions outlined in their Staff Report.

Chrm. Peterson opened the public hearing.

Kim Wilson, 4896 Hobbs Road – lives next to the request; spoke to the applicant regarding trees being cut down but was told that would not be happening.

Bob Sloan, 6464 Otter Creek Road – asked questions about commercial use.

Larry Heagle, 4896 Hobbs Road – asked about the parcel being subdivided.

Chrm. Peterson closed the public hearing.

Supv. Kott moved TO APPROVE THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE GREATER THAN 1,200 SQ. FT. AT 4840 HOBBS ROAD, FALL CREEK. The motion was seconded by Supv. Solberg.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Public Hearing & Board Consideration for a Conditional Use Permit from Max Henning to Operate a Cottage Industry – Automotive Repair Shop at 7351 Mueller Road, Fall Creek:

Ben Bublitz, Eau Claire County Planning & Development Land Use Technician introduced the application with a PowerPoint presentation. The property is zoned A3. The request is for an automotive repair business. The home onsite is postframe construction and the right side is the living area and the left side would be the business. The home/business is not visible from the road. There is ample room for parking; customer vehicles would be limited to three. Staff recommends approval with conditions outlined in their report.

Chrm. Peterson would like no outside storage of materials related to the business added to condition #9. Staff recommends approval with the conditions outlined in their Staff Report. Max Henning is in agreement to no outside storage of materials. A small sign would be placed near the road.

Chrm. Peterson opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition.

Chrm. Peterson closed the public hearing.

Supv. Mueller indicated that Max is a good neighbor.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A COTTAGE INDUSTRY – AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP AT 7351 MUELLER ROAD, FALL CREEK WITH CONDITIONS OUTLINED BY COUNTY STAFF AND ADDING NO OUTSIDE STORAGE OF AUTO PARTS AND ALLOWING A SIGN AS APPROVED BY THE COUNTY. The motion was seconded by Supv. Mueller.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Public Hearing & Board Consideration for a Conditional Use Permit from Suzanne Anderson for the Accumulative Area of all Accessory Structures Greater than 1,200 sq. ft. at 210 S. Beach Drive, Altoona:

Ben Bublitz, Eau Claire County Planning & Development Land Use Technician introduced the application with a PowerPoint presentation. The applicant currently has a 14' x 24' detached garage and a 192 sq. ft. shed. The request is for a 32' x 32' building with an accumulative sq. ft. of 1,452. The building would be for personal storage and matching the colors of the home. The site is well screened. Staff recommends approval with the conditions outlined in their Staff Report.

Chrm. Peterson opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition.

Chrm. Peterson closed the public hearing.

Supv. Mueller moved TO APPROVE THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR THE ACCUMULATIVE AREA OF ALL ACCESSORY STRUCTURES GREATER THAN 1,200 SQ. FT. AT 210 S. BEACH DRIVE, ALTOONA. The motion was seconded by Supv. Solberg.

Aye 5 Nye 0

The June 2021 Financial Statement was reviewed.

Checks:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE CHECKS 029253 THROUGH #029303 FOR \$103,780.25. The motion was seconded by Supv. Solberg.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Licenses:

Supv. Solberg moved TO APPROVE THE BARTENDER LICENSES FOR LAUREN F. ISCHE, KALEY E. MCINTYRE, NIINA A. SJOGREN, MATTHEW T. HUBBARD, AMELIA A. BARRETO, DAVID A. WATHKE, AND LOREN L. WESTPHAL. The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.

Aye 5 Nye 0

2021 Budget Amendment and Fund Transfer – ARPA Funds:

Admin. Henning stated the approximately half of the total ARPA monies was received by the Town. We are increasing our revenue and expense accounts and transferring those funds to our LGIP #10 that was created to keep the funds segregated.

Supv. Solberg moved TO APPROVE THE 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT AND FUND TRANSFER – ARPA FUNDS. (SEE ATTACHED). The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.

Roll Call Vote: Supv. Kott – Aye
Supv. Tomesh – Aye

Chrm. Peterson – Aye
Supv. Mueller – Aye
Supv. Solberg – Aye

Ordinance 2021-07-15: Temporary Moratorium on Development of Wind Energy Systems:

Admin. Henning reviewed the materials that were supplied to the Board. Chrm. Peterson and Admin. Henning met with Rod Eslinger, Eau Claire County Planning & Development Director and the Chairman of the Town of Lincoln. Reviewed easements that have been secured and recorded with Eau Claire County in the Town of Lincoln and the Town of Clear Creek for wind energy systems. No easements in the Town of Washington have been recorded with Eau Claire County currently. PSC 128 and requirements of it were discussed. The Town of Lincoln also developed an ordinance to research and study the matter. The Town Plan Commission is charged with researching and study the issue and making a recommendation to the Town Board in relation to wind energy systems. PSC 128 is the State Code in relation to wind energy systems. The Town could adopt PSC 128 and regulate it based off this State Code. The Town cannot be more restrictive than PSC 128 or ban wind farms based on State law. Land owners who sign an easement allowing for wind energy systems prevent building, hunting, planting crops, etc. on the property.

Supv. Mueller moved TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2021-07-15: TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DEVELOPMENT OF WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS. The motion was seconded by Supv. Solberg.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Tax Deed – Purchase of Outlot 2, Hidden Valley:

Admin. Henning indicated that the parcel in question was part of the original plat in Hidden Valley. The owner is deceased and taxes have not been paid for five years. Eau Claire County asked the Town if we have an interest in securing this land. The parcel is wooded and would be left as natural.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF OUTLOT 2, HIDDEN VALLEY FOR \$301.00 WHICH INCLUDED THE BACK TAXES, SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, INTEREST, PENALTY AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEARS 2016-2020 AND THE \$30.00 FILING FEE TO THE EAU CLAIRE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS. The motion was seconded by Supv. Kott.

Aye 5 Nye 0

2022 Truck Replacement:

Admin. Henning indicated that the current state of inventory and delays our scheduled 2022 truck replacement would need to be secured much earlier than normal. Recommending approval of the order of a truck with outfitting and trading at \$148,958.00 and allowing for a contingency with a potential five year warranty instead of a two year warranty.

Chrm. Peterson moved TO APPROVE THE 2022 TRUCK REPLACEMENT AS PRESENTED (SEE ATTACHED). The motion was seconded by Supv. Solberg.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Administrator's Report:

Road Department has completed all culvert replacements on the roads that will be pulverized and paved; tentatively starting the last week in July or first week in August. Paving of: Schultz Road, Moss Road, S. Lowes Creek (I94 to Sindelar) and Sindelar Drive.

Ditch mowing continues; the tractor has been down for about a week due to a cracked rear tire. The eastern side of the Town is yet to be mowed.

1 letter sent for garbage bin left at curb at 1112 Cummings Court.

Chairman's Report:

Received a call regarding use of UTV/ATVs on Town roads. The Board decided previously this would not be allowed due to no connectivity with any County roads.

Calls regarding wind energy systems.

Supervisor's Report:

Supv. Mueller received a call regarding construction on Hwy. 53 and referred them to Eau Claire County to check on permits.

Supv. Tomesh received a call regarding horses in Nine Mile Creek Park.

Supv. Kott also received a call regarding horses in Nine Mile Creek Park; also received a call regarding having chickens.

Citizens Input:

None

Future Zoning Requests:

None

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

None

Adjournment:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO ADJOURN. The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

THE NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON AUGUST 19, 2021
AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
5750 OLD TOWN HALL ROAD, EAU CLAIRE

Jackie Vold

Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant

Attendance: Ben Bublitz, Shirley Brown, Brianna Nichols, Suzanne Anderson, Max Henning, Larry Heagle, Kim Wilson, Jan Sloan, Bob Sloan, and Barb Franko