

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 18, 2023

Members Present: Jane Mueller, James Rolbiecki, Robert Solberg, Karen Tomesh,
Jeffrey White

Staff Present: Janelle Henning, Jackie Vold

Members/Staff Absent: None

A quorum being present, Chrm. Solberg called to order the monthly Town Board meeting of the Washington Town Board at 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at the Town Municipal Building, 5750 Old Town Hall Road.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 20, 2023 TOWN BOARD MEETING. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Public Hearing & Board Consideration from Coty Link for a Conditional Use Permit to Operate a Tourist Rooming House at 3701 US Highway 12, Eau Claire:

Ben Bublitz, Eau Claire Planning & Development Land Use Supervisor introduced the application. The parcel has an existing conditional use permit for a non-denomination day retreat. Future land use is urban mix. The existing parking is adequate. Health Department will determine if the existing septic system is adequate for the proposal. Staff recommends approval with the conditions outlined in their report.

The Board asked several questions regarding the septic system.

Coty Link stated that if the septic is not adequate for the amount of people they would like to have they would lower the number of people allowed to rent the property. They will be living in the residence next to the rental.

Chrm. Solberg opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or in opposition of the request.

Chrm. Solberg closed the public hearing.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM COTY LINK FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A TOURIST ROOMING HOUSE AT 3701 US HIGHWAY 12, EAU CLAIRE WITH THE ADDITION TO THE STAFF REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL ENSURE THE SANITARY PROVISIONS ARE ADEQUATE OR THE NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS ARE MADE THROUGH THE RENTAL LICENSING PROCESS. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Citizen's Input and Action Thereon:

None

April 2023 Financial Statement was reviewed.

Checks

Supv. Mueller moved TO APPROVE CHECKS 030495 THROUGH 030549 FOR \$149,421.59. The motion was seconded by Supv. White.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Proposal for Board Meeting Room Technology Enhancements:

Admin. Henning reviewed the quotes from Audio Architechts to outfit the meeting room with audio visual equipment.

Supv. Tomesh moved TO APPROVE THE WIRELESS SYSTEM AND PRESCRIBED SPEAKERS FROM AUDIO ARCHITECHTS FOR \$49,981.00 (SEE ATTACHED). The motion was seconded by Supv. Rolbiecki.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Fairfax Street Condition Review & Repair:

Admin. Henning stated Fairfax Street is shared with the City of Eau Claire. Typically maintenance is done by the City. The condition warrants some major repairs. The first option is to mill and overlay the entire section with a life span of 8 to 10 years. The second option is removing a portion of the asphalt and overlaying an 8 ft. section of the road with a 2 year life span. Admin. Henning recommend option 1. The Town’s portion is 34% of the project and the project would be led by the City with Monarch as the contractor.

Supv. White moved TO APPROVE OPTION 1 – MILL AND OVERLAY AT \$36,940.35 AND A 10% CONTINGENCY (SEE ATTACHED). The motion was seconded by Supv. Tomesh.

Aye 5 Nye 0

2023 Budget Amendment – Board Meeting Room Technology and Fairfax Street:

Admin. Henning indicated that the budget amendment is in relation to the Meeting Room AV and the improvements to Fairfax Street.

Supv. Mueller moved TO APPROVE THE 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT INCREASE OF \$69,500.00 AS PRESENTED (SEE ATTACHED). The motion was seconded by Chrm. Solberg.

Roll Call Vote: Supv. White – Aye
Supv. Mueller – Aye
Chrm. Solberg – Aye
Supv. Tomesh – Aye
Supv. Rolbiecki – Aye

Resolution 05-18-2023 Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Town of Washington and the City of Eau Claire for Design and Construction of E. Hamilton Avenue if Approved for STP-Urban Funds:

Admin. Henning reviewed the section of road that the City is looking to improve due to an increase in traffic. State Transportation funds would be applied for with an 80/20 split (20% paid by the municipalities at a 50/50 split). The pedestrian traffic increase is due to the City of Eau Claire development. The Town of Washington will participate in the road portion of the project only. Any trail and sidewalk installed in the Town’s portion will be at the expense of the City of Eau Claire and maintained by them. Construction is anticipated to take place in 2025.

Supv. Tomesh moved to APPROVE RESOLUTION 05-18-2023 APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON AND THE CITY OF EAU CLAIRE FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF E. HAMILTON AVENUNE IS APPROVED FOR STP-URBAN FUNDS. The motion was seconded by Supv. Rolbiecki.

Aye 5 Nye 0

Administrator’s Report:

The MPO Policy Council met on May 3 in regards to the SSA request by the City of Eau Claire. Building construction – two change orders for a poured beam for adequate support and a data and floor outlet was added to the new section and adjust the two floor outlets in the old section.

By-weekly construction meetings with the contractor and subs. Brick work will begin next week and the floor will be ripped up. The June Board meeting will be held in the Fire Station.

Attended the WI Municipal Treasurer's Conference on April 27-28.

Attended the ECC Planning & Development meeting on May 9, which was a public hearing on Title 18: Zoning Code. Some issues came up regarding subdivision lot size and septic systems. Some changes have been made and another public hearing will be held on May 22 and then will go to the County Board for approval. Once it is approved, it is published to all the towns and the towns have a year to consider staying under the existing County zoning or approve the new Zoning Code.

Attended the WI Towns Association meeting on May 10 with Chrm. Solberg and Supv. White.

Attended the City of Altoona Council public hearing on May 11th regarding the Planert/Lippert annexation petition and spoke on the matter. The annexation ordinance passed 6-1.

Participated in a meeting with the WI Towns Association regarding town development.

Legislation has been introduced and approved by the WI Assembly today to increase local government aid.

Sweeping of Town roads is complete, tree cleanup continues, shoulder repairs due to heavy rains, and pothole repairs.

Spring cemetery and grounds activities are in full swing and preparing for Memorial Day weekend.

Parking issues on Horlacher Lane due to the Lowes Creek Little League. Briggs Tent Rental next door is having trouble getting their trucks in and out with people parking on both sides. The street is under the jurisdiction of the City of Eau Claire; working with them on getting some no parking signs.

Mailbox damage on Allemande Court over the winter. The mailbox was not hit by our plow.

Chairman's Report:

Attended first Fire Board meeting.

Presented at the MPO Policy meeting. The SSA request was denied on a 8-3 vote. The DNR has 30 days from yesterday to respond.

Supervisor's Report:

Supv. Rolbiecki received a call from CJ Turner regarding the Lippert/Planert annexation.

Supv. Tomesh suggested the ARPA balance be applied to roads.

Supv. Mueller attended the WTA workshop for town officials.

Supv. White attended the WTA meeting on May 10th.

Future Zoning Requests:

Rezone request from Sivertson on S. Elco Road at the June meeting.

Discuss/Consider Convening in Closed Session for Purposes of Conferring with Legal Counsel About Strategy Regarding Current or Likely Litigation Pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85(1)(g):

Supv. White moved TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION. The motion was seconded by Supv. Mueller.

Roll Call Vote: Supv. Rolbiecki – Aye

Supv. Tomesh – Aye

Chrm. Solberg – Aye

Supv. Mueller – Aye

Supv. White – Aye

Motion to Reconvene to Open Session for the Purpose of Discussion and Possible Consideration on the Matter Entertained in Closed Session:

Supv. White moved TO RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION. The motion was seconded by Chrm. Solberg.

Roll Call Vote: Supv. White – Aye

Supv. Mueller – Aye

Chrm. Solberg – Aye

Supv. Tomesh – Aye

Supv. Rolbiecki – Aye

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

None

Adjournment:

Supv. Tomesh moved TO ADJOURN. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JUNE 15, 2023
AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
5750 OLD TOWN HALL ROAD, EAU CLAIRE

Jackie Vold
Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant

Attendance: Coty Link, Caitlin Nichols, Ben Bublitz