



MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 21, 2021, 7:30 P.M.
Town Board Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Jim Pulvermacher called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Roll call shows Chair Pulvermacher and Supervisors Dave Laufenberg, Matt Wright, Art Meinholz, and Dan Dresen present.

Also present were Attorney Mark Hazelbaker, Road Patrolman Darin Ripp, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Doreen Jackson, and Clerk-Treasurer Fayas who arrived at 8:15 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. CONFIRMATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW

The Deputy-Clerk confirmed that the agenda was posted at town hall and on the Town website. The meeting is being recorded for use during the drafting of the meeting minutes.

3. INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT TIME – None.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Dec 6th IGA meeting w/Village and Dec 7th

Motion by Sup. Dresen, seconded by Sup. Laufenberg to approve the minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Pulvermacher had a meeting at the Village of Waunakee with members of the Acker family to talk about the proposed plat on Highway 19. The project will be on the Village's January work meeting agenda to discuss details. The current proposal's 18' wide emergency lane exit to Poelma drive, with a 66' road easement may not be acceptable to the Village; the Village may want them to have a full 22' wide road. Plan Commission Chair Jeff Endres didn't think Janice Faga's request for a joint meeting with the Town Board and Plan Commission was necessary at this time; the updated proposal will be on the Jan. 3rd plan commission agenda, with town supervisors invited to attend, and on the Jan. 4th town board agenda in the event the plan commission makes a recommendation to the Board at their Jan. 3rd meeting. Chairperson Pulvermacher asked a former plan commission member, Kate Hetzer if she would consider serving again; she will think about it and let the plan commission know. A tenant at JAR Storage that owns one of the trailers being stored in violation of zoning rules visited Chairperson Pulvermacher at his place of business to request an exemption so he can keep his trailer at the property a while longer. Chairperson Pulvermacher directed him to make his request in writing to the Town. Chairperson Pulvermacher was unable to attend the Dane County Towns Association meeting where they discussed whether to send a letter of support for the petition to the EPA regarding leaded aviation gas. This will be added to the DCTA January membership meeting agenda. The Waunakee Fire District did not meet due to the holidays.

Hearing no objection, Chairperson Pulvermacher moved item Old Business, a & d up on the agenda to discuss at this point in the meeting, so the attorney can be dismissed.

Sup. Laufenberg stepped off the board for this discussion.

- 11a. OLD BUSINESS - ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & SETBACK POLICIES: LIVESTOCK HARVEST FACILITIES
Chairperson Pulvermacher spoke with attorney Hazelbaker about amending the zoning ordinance with respect to livestock harvest facilities, so that each town in Dane Towns Zoning can set requirements appropriate for their individual communities, by adopting a policy for livestock harvest facility siting that specifies parameters for those types of facilities, such as setbacks, hours of operation, size limitations, etc., specific to each municipality. Those policies will be included in each facility's requisite conditional use permit, as required per the zoning ordinance. Supervisors discussed various setback distance options, whether to differentiate between setbacks from agricultural and non-agricultural lot lines, and whether to include an exemption for homes owned by an owner(s) of the livestock facility. As an agricultural town, this agricultural business makes sense in the community.

Motion by Chairperson Pulvermacher, seconded by Sup. Dresen to pass the ordinance amendment related to livestock facilities drafted for the 6 Towns, dated December 21, 2021. Motion carried, 4-0; Sup. Laufenberg abstained.

Motion by Chairperson Pulvermacher, seconded by Sup. Meinholz to have attorney Hazelbaker draft guideline document and have it on our next regular scheduled meeting for action. Motion carried, 4-0; Sup. Laufenberg abstained.

Sup. Laufenberg came back on the board.

Chairperson Pulvermacher reported that at the last Dane Towns Zoning (aka 6 Towns Zoning), participants discussed changes to the land division statute that would allow Towns more planning options and control by adjusting the number of lots that can be created by CSM (currently 4 lots) vs. plat (5 or more lots).

- 11d. OLD BUSINESS - BLIGHT
Old, seemingly inoperable vehicles on properties in the Town is difficult to control; property owners will often register the vehicles with collector plates so they are registered and deemed legal, and "operable" is difficult to define concisely, i.e. if it needs a jump start, is it operable? Attorney Hazelbaker explained even after adopting standards, it is difficult and expensive to enforce compliance. The Town can pursue legal remedy in Circuit Court which is timely and expensive, and may have limited success, or could work with other municipalities to participate in a joint municipal court, which is typically less costly, with quicker results. A municipal judge can suspend motor vehicle registrations and driver's licenses and impose fines.

6. AIRPORT SURVEY RESULTS

Three hundred, forty-six (346) of the 1,030 surveys that were sent out were returned timely; 6 were returned after the due date. The 33% response rate was phenomenal and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Doreen Jackson put a lot of work into compiling the results.

Motion by Sup. Dresen, seconded by Sup. Laufenberg to share the results of the survey with all of the parties that have a stake in this*. Motion carried, 5-0.

*Discussion directed staff to send to City of Middleton mayor, common council, administrator, airport commission, and Town of Middleton Chair.

7. ANNUAL LICENSES: SALVAGE YARD AND MOBILE HOME PARK

Motion by Sup. Laufenberg, seconded by Sup. Meinholz to approve the licenses for the mobile home park and salvage yard. Motion carried, 5-0.

8. NOVEMBER FINANCIALS

No changes of significance were noted from year end estimates provided during budget workshops.

9. BUDGET AMENDMENT

A conservative estimate by staff anticipates a fund balance increase of \$94,816 at year end.

Motion by Sup. Laufenberg, seconded by Sup. Dresen to move \$94,816 to Major Roads savings account.

Motion carried, 5-0.

10. STAFF BONUSES

Due to economic uncertainty as a result of the pandemic, staff received a 1.5% wage increase in 2021, with a potential end of year bonus depending on the Town's financial outlook at the time and the effects of the pandemic on employment and working conditions. Supervisors discussed various amounts and emphasized that this would not become an annual bonus, but was due in part to the challenges staff faced maintaining government services during the pandemic.

Motion by Chairperson Pulvermacher, seconded by Sup. Dresen to grant a three-thousand-dollar bonus each for the three full-time town employees to be paid in 2021. Motion carried, 4-1.

11. OLD BUSINESS

a. ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & SETBACK POLICIES: LIVESTOCK HARVEST FACILITIES

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

b. MIDDLETON MOREY AIRPORT UPDATE

c. JAR STORAGE ZONING VIOLATION

A tenant at J.A.R. Storage requested an extension of time for removal of a trailer from the board. The board is not in favor of extending J.A.R.s timeline for zoning compliance. The request will have to be determined by J.A.R. Storage management, with the knowledge that the trailer is in violation of current zoning restrictions.

d. BLIGHT

See above.

e. MOREY AIRPORT SURVEY

f. OUTDOOR STORAGE VIOLATIONS

Staff will direct GEC to perform an inspection of the non-compliant property and make a recommendation to the board.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sup. Dresen: The Middleton Fire District's air masks, valued at \$75,000 failed and were replaced under warranty.

Sup. Meinholz: Sup. Meinholz was not able to attend the Waunakee EMS meeting.

Sup. Wright: Nothing to report.

Sup. Laufenberg: No report.

Chairman Pulvermacher: The Waunakee fire district meeting was cancelled.

13. ROAD PATROLMAN'S REPORT

The road tour was Saturday. Chip sealing and paving costs are expected to rise 35-40% this year, so the Town will focus on ditching roads to keep them dry and prepared for future improvements.

14. CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The City of Middleton would like the Ackers on Pheasant Branch to replace the road easement to the Town with a dedication of their right of way to the Town instead. Chairperson Pulvermacher directed this be added to the next agenda; he will speak to Mayor Brar and City engineers before the next meeting.

The Town's community sheriff's deputy would like to know how often the board would like a deputy to attend meetings to provide reports. The board decided twice a year is sufficient for regular reports, with attendance as needed or requested throughout the year.

15. APPROVAL OF BILLS AS PRESENTED

Motion by Chairperson Pulvermacher, seconded by Sup. Meinholz to pay the bills. Motion carried, 5-0.

16. ADJOURN

Motion by Chairperson Pulvermacher, seconded by Sup. Laufenberg to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.