

**TOWN OF RIDGEVILLE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
May 11, 2015**

Board Members in attendance: Chairman, Mike Luethe; 1st Supervisor, Ron Luethe; 2nd Supervisor, Keith Giraud; also in attendance was Clerk, Rita Williams and Treasurer, Kathy Cale.

The Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order by Chairman Luethe starting at 7:30 P.M.

1. Pledge to the American Flag

The pledge to the American Flag was recited.

Ron Luethe noted that we would be recording the meetings from now on to help the clerk with the minutes. It was asked how much the recorder cost. It was noted \$85.00. Clerk Williams also noted that she also needed this for the BOR and the recorder we have previously is not working properly and only works part time.

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Carrol Wallerman – Did not think it was a good idea to classify the road as Class B.

Greg Brandau – It would not be feasible for him to take another route and go around. It would cost a lot of money.

Fernell Becher - Wondered why we are buying a trailer. Feels our budget is in the hole. Thinks we are spending way too much money when our roads are in bad shape.

Rob Larson – Asked if the Class B Roads would applied to everyone.

3. Approval of Minutes for the April 21, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting

The minutes of the April 21, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Keith Giraud and seconded by Ron Luethe. Motion Carried.

4. Road Patrolman Report

Patrolman Kaleb Bach reported:

He has been doing general maintenance work on vehicles.

The Peterbilt Truck is at Universal. Someone asked what the deal was with the Peterbilt. Kaleb explained that he was in the process of winging back snow and hit a pile of frozen ice/snow. The frame was bent.

He noted that clean up days are done and noted that we had quite a bit of scrap metal but the price is down for iron.

5. Discussion on Designating Certain Roads as Class B Highways

Mike noted that we had put quite a bit into Keats Ave and now the road is getting damaged very badly.

Kaleb Bach noted that he had talked to the Gerke drivers and they now have been instructed not to come across that road fully loaded, they should come across with empty loads. The only time they haul anything of any significant weight is when they move there plant and that is only about 5 times a year. Keith Giraud also noted that he had talked to the Paul and Chad Gerke and also noted that they were instructed not to use that road unless they are hauling product to people in this area. Keith noted that his concern was that Gerke's said that they had used 18" of rock on the road across (Lignite) and that seems to be holding up. Maybe we need to put more rock for heavily used roads. Mike noted that we would be sealing the road again this year with black rock. Mike noted that we need to get more Transportation Aid and Shared Revenue from the State to be able to fix the roads properly.

Ron Luethe noted he had driven the road. The alternatives to that road are not good. We need to prioritize the roads and beef up the roads that need it. We need to think of the residents of our town. Ron noted that the first thing we need to do is talk to our legislatures and let them know what is needed. It was noted that we should contact Lee Nerison. It would be good to have everyone calling and expressing our concern.

Maybe we can get some specs from the county to construct roads that are highly/heavy used roads.

Rob Larson noted that we need to plan ahead and space out the construction of the roads and do them correctly.

It was noted that Keats, Lignite and Kellogg have the most heavy traffic. It was also noted that Mercury is also well traveled now that County Hwy F cannot be used.

Mike Luethe noted that we have already used the money for roads this year. Scott Construction will be starting this week with the roads we had bid out earlier.

It was agreed not to designate the roads as “Class B” and start prioritizing roads and get specs for constructing those heavily used roads.

6. Discussion on Purchasing a Trailer

Kaleb Bach noted that the Village of Norwalk has purchased a Mini Excavator but do not have a trailer. In the past we have shared using equipment. He noted that if we were able to get a trailer it would be beneficial to both the Village and Ridgeville for different uses. Kaleb checked on 2 New Trailers, one costing \$4950.00 and the other costing \$4895.00. He noted that he found 2 used trailer, one costing \$1200.00 and the other \$1500.00 but both need quite a bit repair.

Kaleb noted that in the past he has rented an excavator and it cost about \$800 for one week. Kaleb was asked how many times a year that we would be using a trailer or excavator. Kaleb noted that he could use one once a week and two weeks every year. If we would go with Norwalk on this we would not have the rental fee and could break up the work and use it several times.

Mike Luethe noted that in the past the Village gets sand and salt from us and we can use their equipment in return. This has been done for some time.

The trailer would probably be stored down by the sewage plant where some of our plows are stored. It was asked about licensing and insurance.

It was suggested that we need to talk to the Village and have a written agreement with them since they have new board members and we need to know that it is still okay to use their equipment. We need to have things down on paper.

Clerk Williams will check on the insurance and licensing information for the next meeting.

7. Discussion on Condition of Kennel Avenue

The road was used by Doug Fries at one time who used dry fertilizer, this year it is being used by Bob Radke who hauled manure down there. There was damage done to two areas of the road. Bob Radke noted that we are making a mountain out of a mole hill. Someone noted that we would need 15 loads of rock. Bob noted why would we want to put that kind of money into a road that is not a locally used road? We need to just level the road off. If they want to hunt that area they need to walk back. The road is a low maintenance road. It was decided that we need to fix the drainage first (with grader) and then put some rock down there. We will try grading, ditching, and breaker rock.

8. Discussion and Possible Approval of Ordinance for Board of Review-Approval of Using Telephone or Written Sworn Statements or Denial of Using Telephone or Written Sworn Statements

Ron Luethe noted that after we attended a training meeting on May 5th for Board of Review it was noted that the laws have changed now which would allow sworn telephone testimony and written testimony at a Board of Review. It was suggested that each municipality pass an ordinance that would show our procedure and gives the criteria for requesting telephone or written testimony to be submitted.

There was a motion by Ron Luethe and seconded by Mike Luethe to accept and approve the ordinance named “Ordinance to Establish Procedures and Criteria for Allowing Alternative Forms of Sworn Testimony at Board of Review (BOR) Hearings” as written. Motion Carried.

9. Further Discussion on Action to Clear Former Treasurer as she goes out of the position and New Treasurer as she takes over the position.

It was noted that we had previously made arrangement with Clifton, Larson and Allen to do an “Agreed Upon Procedure” to clear the treasurer as of April 21st, 2015. The letter received from Clifton, Larson and Allen stated that they would not issue a report that would clear anybody of anything. Mary noted that she thought this would be a waste of time, effort and cost. Mary presented the board, clerk and new treasurer with an statement to sign stating that “the Town of Ridgeville Town Board accepts the outgoing Treasurer Mary Fries reports displaying the financial position as of 31 March 2015, and the related statements of activity and cash flows through the transition period (01 through 20 April 2015) as accurate and complete” and further states “As of 21 April 2015, based on the a above criteria, Mary Fries is relieved of any disagreement, controversy, dispute, or claim that may occur in the future concerning the outgoing Treasurer’s position duties or financial records.” It was also noted that, “Ms Kathy Cale assumes the Treasurer’s duties as of 21 April 2015. She and the Township of Ridgeville assumes responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial accounts, records and statements, and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements”.

There was a motion by Keith Giraud and seconded by Ron Luethe to accept the agreed stated release presented by Mary Fries. Motion Carried. (A copy of the signed statement will be attached to the original copy of these minutes.)

10. Treasurer’s Report for April 2015

The treasurer’s report for April 2015 was presented by the new treasurer, Kathy Cale. She reported total current operating funds of \$103,879.25. She noted that we have \$35,586.66 in checking, \$2,914.28 in savings, and \$65,378.31 in the general and equipment accounts at Madison.

11. Approval of Bills Paid/To Be Paid

The bills paid and to be paid were reviewed. Payment of these bills were approved with a motion from Ron Luethe and seconded by Keith Giraud. Motion Carried. This includes Check # 11830, dated 4/20/2015 thru Check # 11856, dated 5/11/2015 totaling \$24,959.19.

12. Set Date for Next Regular Monthly Meeting

The next meeting has been set for Monday, June 8, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.

13. Adjourn Meeting

There was a motion from Ron Luethe and seconded by Mike Luethe to adjourn the regular monthly meeting. Motion Carried.

Rita Williams
Clerk