

TOWN OF RIDGEVILLE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
June 8, 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 along with Six (6) residents.

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.

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Ron Luethe noted that he had a question and was confused on the public comments. Fernell Becher noted that she would like to see public comments be on anything not just the agenda items. Mike noted that on public comments we usually do not respond to those comments and later they can be addressed when the item comes up on the agenda. Mike explained that is the past we had public comments on any item and the comments would go on for an extended amount of time. Ron Luethe noted that maybe the place to put public comments on non-agenda items would be at the end of the meeting. There were no public comments on agenda items for the evening.

3. Approval of Minutes for the May 11, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting

The minutes of the May 11, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Keith Giraud and seconded by Ron Luethe. Motion Carried.

4. Discussion on Agreement between Village of Norwalk and Town of Ridgeville on Combined Use of Equipment/Supplies

No one from the Village Board was able to attend because of their BOR so this item will be moved to the July Meeting.

5. Further Discussion on Purchasing a Trailer

Mike noted that we had two trailers in mind. The highest priced one costing \$4950.00. Mike noted that Kaleb needed a trailer to haul culvert tubes and at the present time we do not have a trailer, and we have to find one to borrow. It was noted that the insurance would cost between \$125.00-\$175.00 yearly and the licensing of the trailer would be \$79.50 as a one-time cost. It was asked how often Kaleb needed to get culvert tubes. Kaleb noted usually only once a year. If the village would allow us to use their mini excavator we would need a trailer to haul that equipment. If we did not use that equipment and we continue to rent the excavator, we would still need a trailer to transport the equipment and do not have one at this time.

Ron Luethe noted that we do need to have something in writing as to the agreement between the village and town so we know who fixes the equipment if something happens. We need something writing so down the line when the same board members may not be in office, we would know what agreement was made. We do not need to have a long detailed agreement.

James Neumann noted that the Nelson Ag Center in Viroqua rents out excavators and trailers. It was decided that we would check into what the prices from Nelson Ag Center would be to rent and then table the matter until the next board meeting in July.

6. WTA Quarterly Meeting Report – Ron Luethe

Ron Luethe noted that he attended the quarterly meeting and there was a lot of discussion on roads. The government representatives that were present definitely got an ear full from the towns on what aid we are getting for our roads. We are not the only municipality hurting on the funds to repair roads. Legislature is going through the budget right now. For 2015 we will be getting \$2202 per mile to transportation aid. He noted that the recycling grants have been reduced. Joint Finance has changed the dollar amounts for bidding projects. Keith Giraud noted that he had talked to Nancy Vander Meer and Lee Nerison and they said that the proposed increased one half cent sales tax will most likely be put on a public referendum and if past it would be money put aside for roads for municipalities. Those dollars would be secured funding.

7. Further Discussion on Kennel Avenue

Ron Luethe noted that we have had three (3) instances of road damage in the past. One was a farmer, one was a timber truck, and one utility truck where a road was damaged and we did collect from them for the damages. There is a WI Statute 86.02 “Injury to highway” and the governing body does have the right to ask for reimbursement for damaged roads. We have collected in the past so we should continue to do so. At the last meeting it was noted that we would grade that area for the time being. After much discussion it was decided to draft a letter to farmers who have liquid manure and let them know that they need to talk to their haulers and note the WI Statue that states what will be done if the roads are damaged. There was a motion from Keith Giraud and seconded by Ron Luethe to draft a letter to Mr. Radke and Chad Powell letting those farmers know that they will be held responsible if damage is done to the road. Motion Carried.

It was also suggested that we document the conditions of the roads before and after the hauling to see if damage is being done.

It was then decided that we would send the letter to all farmers with liquid manure so as not to single out any one person. We will be sending letters to Brandau, Radke, Powell, Haldeman, Chapiewsky and Hericks.

8. Discussion on Laredo Road

Charlie Neumann asked why we were seal coating Laredo Road when there are so many main roads that need to be taken care of first. He felt that we seal coated that road for one person. Mike Luethe noted that he had a request from Glen Degenhardt for at least 3-4 years now to seal coat that road. It was put on the list to seal back in February with the previous board and it was approved at that time to do along with four (4) other roads. Mike Luethe read a list of 17 roads that have been seal coated with only one resident living back in those roads.

After much discussion Kaleb noted that next year we definitely need to look at doing something with Mercury Road and also Lantern Ave

Someone noted that maybe we could borrow a counter for the roads from the county and see how much traffic is going on some of the roads.

The roads are up to rate for this year, so maybe we can look at the roads and prioritize.

Fernell Becher noted that there are 2 signs covered up by brush by Zumbrunnen’s. One sign is a hill sign and the other a curve sign. Kaleb noted he would take care of those when he does his mowing.

9. Information on Cost of Bringing Keats Road Up to Code

Patrolman Bach gave some information on what it would cost to do Keats Road to bring it up to code for heavier traffic. It would cost around \$303,480.00 to seal Keats. Mike Luethe noted that it would be like spending that kind of money basically for one person in order to haul manure over to Lignite.

10. Road Patrolman Report

Patrolman Bach reported:

He has been getting the roads ready for seal coating.

He put new pins and bushing on the Mower Tractor.

He has been doing some patching.

He noted that he would like to have the board members look at Mercury and decide what would be the best thing to do with that road until it gets seal coating next summer.

It was noted that maybe we can use some cold mix on Lantern for this year to fix a few areas.

Kaleb asked about the signs that need to be replaced. Mike noted that we were going to start with the STOP signs. Kaleb said that the STOP signs are okay. We have a lot of hill, curve, dead end signs that no reflectivity. He would like to have someone go with him and decide what needs to be replaced.

The mower tractor needs two new front tires. Lars has two use tires for \$70 mounted. The board felt that was a good price so have them put on.

He checked on the Peterbilt that was at Universal. It is still is out. Mike noted that we need to have it beefed up and Universal will be doing that.

Mike wondered if we thought the wing was too heavy. Kaleb did not think it was too heavy but the factory pin on the arm did not break when the snow/ice was hit and that caused the problem. If the pin would have broken the frame would not have been bent. He again explained what happened to the truck for some of the residents.

11. Treasurer's Report for May 2015

The treasurer's report for May 2015 was presented by treasurer, Kathy Cale. She reported total current funds of \$77,650.04. She noted that we have \$9,324.59 in checking, \$2,939.95 in savings, and \$65,385.50 in the general and equipment accounts at Madison.

12. Approval of Bills Paid/To Be Paid

The bills paid/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 bills paid from 4/30/15 thru 6/8/15. Check # 11857 thru Check # 11884 plus 6 Auto payments all totaling \$14,748.73.

13. Set Date for Next Regular Monthly Meeting

The next meeting has been set for Monday, July 13, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.

14. Adjourn Meeting

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

Rita Williams
Clerk