

S6911 State Road 113
P.O. Box 115
Merrimac, WI 53561



Telephone: (608) 493-2588
Fax: (608) 493-2238
Website: TownOfMerrimac.net

MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING Thursday, September 1, 2021

Present were Chairman Charlie Hall, Supervisor Tim Healy and Supervisor John Gaedke. Also in attendance was Tim McCumber, Town Administrator & Clerk – Treasurer and Jeremy Bowers, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.

Chairman Hall called to order a Public Hearing regarding proposed ordinance #2021-40 related to Emergency and Service Vehicles Access. The purpose of the ordinance is to assure that all residential and commercial structures are accessible to emergency vehicles and town service equipment for properties accessible by easement and for access emergency access to larger commercial structures. McCumber reported that the ordinance was introduced to us by the town's legal advisor Dick Cross and that the ordinance will prevent any problems with all easements throughout the community. Speaking in favor the ordinance were property owners Paul and Cheryl Malin, Steve Hupp, and Peggy Jones all who live on Walleye Lane. Allen and Lisa Van Landuyt along with Bill Brickl spoke in opposition of the ordinance. Tim Healy made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded John Gaedke. Motion passed.

Chairman Hall called to order another Public Hearing regarding proposed ordinance #2021-41 amending Town of Merrimac Ordinance #2011-06 Posting Speed Limits on Town roads. The purpose of the ordinance is to reduce the speed limit on Ruthe Badger Lane and to establish speed limits on Lucille Lane when it becomes a town road. McCumber explained the circumstances behind why the speed limit may need to be reduced. No one appeared. Hall made a motion to close public hearing, seconded by Healy. Motion passed.

Chairman Hall called the **TOWN BOARD MEETING** to order. McCumber confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed. The board considered approval of minutes of the town board meeting for August 5, 2021. Motion by Gaedke to approve the minutes, seconded by Hall. Motion passed. The board reviewed the financial reports and approval of bills. Motion by Gaedke to approve, second by Hall. Motion passed. Under **PUBLIC COMMENT**, no one appeared. Under **CORRESPONDENCE**, the town received a letter from Sauk County regarding the annual order for sand which was forwarded to Denny Beich. Under **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES** McCumber reported the board has a preliminary budget for review at the next meeting. McCumber reported the Fall yard waste collection is scheduled for October 23, 2021. Hall reported some garbage was illegally dumped on Camp Lake Wisconsin Road. McCumber also reported that Peterson's Sanitation had accident in August with a garbage truck on Devils Delight Road and will be submitting bills for repairs to the damage caused. There was no **OLD BUSINESS**, the board first considered proposed Ordinance #2021-40 relating to Emergency and Service Vehicle Access for private easements and commercial structures throughout the town. McCumber noted that the 14-foot clearance is to allow for snow removal and noted a couple of amendments to the proposed ordinance after input from Peterson Sanitation. Hall made motion to approve the amended ordinance, second by Healy. Motion adopted unanimously in a roll call vote. The board then considered Resolution #2021-06, a notice to remove gate & relocate boulders from a private easement on Walleye Lane. Hall made a motion to approve Healy second by Gaedke. Motion adopted unanimously in a roll call vote. The board also considered Resolution #2021-07 to initiate process for laying out a town highway to replace the Walleye Lane private easement with a 66' public right-of-way. Gaedke made motion to table the resolution, Hall seconded. Motion

passed. Next the board considered proposed Ordinance #2021-41 amending town ordinance #2011-06 posting speed limits on Ruthe Badger Lane and Lucille Lane. Hall made motion to approve, Healy seconded. Motion adopted unanimously in a roll call vote. The board also considered a Municipal population estimate challenge form contesting the Department of Administration's (DOA) estimate of 1,023 town residents as compared to the US Census which reports 1,247 town residents. Gaedke made a motion to approve allowing the Administrator to challenge DOA estimate, Hall seconded. Motion passed. The board also considered a prepay contract with Hohl's Propane to purchase 850 gallons of propane fuel at \$1.829 per gallon. Gaedke made motion to approve purchasing 850 gallons of propane at \$1.829 per gallon. Hall seconded. Motion passed. The then took up a resolution amending the 2020 budget for ARPA expenditures. McCumber reported that the funds allow for neighborhood improvements and as a rural town this would be a reasonable use of the funds. Hall made a motion to approve, seconded by Gaedke. Motion passed. The board then considered moving to convene in **CLOSED SESSION** per Wis. Stat. 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Gaedke moved to go into closed session. Seconded by Hall. Motion adopted unanimously in a roll call vote.

The board reconvened to open session. Gaedke made a motion to approve hiring Jeremy Bowers fulltime effective September 13th. Seconded by Hall. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn by Gaedke, seconded by Hall. Motion passed.