

Town of Otter Creek – December 8, 2020
Otter Creek Town Hall
Regular Town Board Meeting

Attendees:

Chairman Mark Warner*
Supervisor 1 Cecil Hayes*
Supervisor 2 LeAnn Ralph* (attended via phone)
Clerk/Treasurer Bev Bernier*
Patrolman Gary Anderson
Guests, Bob Bernier, Dylan Derringer, Lori Sudbrink

*Board Members

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Warner at 7:16 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. Meeting minutes from the 11/10/2020 Budget Hearing, Special Town Meeting and Regular Town Board Meeting were not read by Bev Bernier as Warner, Ralph and Hayes reviewed the minutes prior to tonight's meeting and agreed that the minutes did not need to be read. **Hayes motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Warner seconded. Motion carried.**

COMPLAINT - Warner shared there was a complaint of an informal shooting range on Newell point road. Neighbors complained, Warner talked to Tom Goodell to have it stop.

CAUCUS - Set date for Caucus 1/12/2021. Warner, Hayes and Ralph LeAnn agreed to that date.

LICENSE - No action taken on either a Class B Beer or Class C Wine license for WoodWind Park. They can purchase a Class B Beer license, or the full liquor license (and the beer license). We will wait to hear what they wish to pursue. No one attended this meeting on behalf of WoodWind Park.

OPERATORS - Tabled any action on the number of unlicensed bartenders to serve under licensed operator, to be reviewed at a later date.

STATUS OF 1090th AVENUE - "road closed" signs were stolen. The Town can purchase additional signs from Farrell Equipment or Dunn County. Warner reported to the Sheriff's Department the theft of the signs. After discussion, it was decided to have Anderson grade the road and not place additional signage, as they would most likely be stolen.

OBJECTIONS – Lori Sudbrink sent an objection, dated 12/2/2020, to the potential road closure of 1090th Avenue to the Town Board. On 12/8/2020, Sudbrink provided the board a Petition objecting to the same, signed by 1 resident and 2 non-resident Otter Creek landowners. Sudbrink provided a second petition objecting to the same, signed by 5 non-resident Otter Creek landowners. Any further discussion is tabled until the January 12, 2021 Hearing.

SW&R - Possible action on purchase of solid waste and recycling equipment – table to the January meeting. Everything is being done per capita. Possible action on 2021 per capita payment to the Colfax Responsible Unit – table until the January meeting, we have until February 15, 2021 to pay for the equipment from Dunn County. The equipment from Nedlund is being rebuilt and will be cost less than

\$10,000. Possible action on intergovernmental agreement between the Town of Otter Creek and the Village of Colfax Responsible Unit, we do not have the final copy yet. It will be good for 5 years, starting 1/1/2021 and will automatically renew unless a municipality withdraws. This requires Chairman Warner's signature. Motion by Ralph to authorize Warner to sign the agreement, seconded by Hayes, Motion carried. The DNR is waiting on this agreement, so Warner will sign soon. Clerk will send two permits per household, we will have a few extra.

WEBER INSPECTION CONTRACT – 2021 professional services contract to be signed by Warner. Motion by Ralph to agree to contact, seconded by Hayes, motion carried. Bernier will ask for an updated fee list from Weber.

WEBER INSPECTIONS – November report – Warner passed insulation, rough HVAC, rough plumbing.

CEMETERY LAWN MAINTENANCE - Cecil Hayes and family has been doing the lawn maintenance for 15 years. The fee has been \$100/mowing for at least 15 years. Hayes is asking that we check to see what fair and equitable compensation is for lawn maintenance or perhaps consider an outside service. Per Hayes, the cemetery could use one day worth of labor working around the stones. Takes 4 hours to mow. Warner will check around to see what others charge. 48" to 50" zero turn works per Hayes.

VOTING EQUIPMENT – the Town purchase is scheduled for 2021 – cost of \$8,000.

BGR LETTER – letter mistakenly sent by Bye, Goff and Rhode to the Town of Otter Creek regarding a vehicle hitting an abandoned electric pole. This was for the Otter Creek in Eau Claire County. Anderson will phone Xcel regarding some remaining items in the ditch in Otter Creek – Dunn County.

2021 WIS TOWN ADVOCACY COUNCIL – decide whether to join or not. After discussion it was decided not to join the council.

ATV UTV ORDINANCE SIGNAGE - Dunn County Board approved an amendment to allow operation of all-terrain and utility-terrain vehicles all year-round unless otherwise posted. – No action needed by the Town of Otter Creek at this time, our Ordinance stands as is.

RURAL INSURANCE – Terrorism Risk Ins Act of 2019 – update to policy.

MFL DESIGNATIONS –

- SLTS LLC – 5 acres withdrawn from MFL
- Jeffrey Schendel – 40 acres from open to closed
- Schendel Revoc Trust – 120 acres from open to closed
- William Cutting – transfer remaining 25 yrs of MFL to Gary Cutting
- Steven Schendel – 42 acres from open to closed
- Beverly Schendel Trust – 200 acres from open to closed

ROAD DAMAGE – sent bill to Kauffman for \$1128.50 in road damage with skidder coming off of trailer.

PATROLMAN REPORT ON ROAD WORK/EQUIPMENT - all the roads were graded before deer season. 765th by Lentz's and worked way to S – brushing project. Ready for snow, ready with salt/sand

SPECIAL CLOSED MEETING – At 7:40 p.m. Warner announced that the “special-closed” meeting was per Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85 (1)(c) considering the employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction - patrolman compensation and job performance. Warner asked if everyone was ready to go into closed session, Motion by Ralph, seconded by Hayes. Warner – aye; Hayes – aye; Ralph – aye; Bernier – aye. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the performance evaluation form completed by Warner and completed by Anderson. After discussion, it was determined that Anderson remain at \$24.00/hour since we implemented Anderson’s request to receive road mileage for using his personal vehicle (rather than the town truck) for road patrol, motion passed at the 9/8/2020 board meeting. No other changes to his benefit package.

OPEN SESSION - At 8:00 p.m. Motion by Ralph, seconded by Hayes to move to open session. Motion carried. The Board then reconvened into open session according to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85 (2), to possibly take action on patrolman compensation and job performance. Motion by Hayes to maintain Anderson’s compensation at \$24.00 per hour, seconded by Ralph, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none.

AUDITING OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT – bills circulated and signed by Warner & Hayes. Bernier will follow-up with Ralph.

Clerk reviewed the finances.	Equipment Account -	\$31,302.70
	Tax Account -	\$61,588.49
	Checking Account -	\$51,743.37

TREASURER’S REPORT - Motion to accept the treasurers report made by Warner, seconded by Hayes. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENT – discussion held to balance the 2020 budget at the January meeting. Bernier will include this in the agenda for the meeting notice for the January 2021 meeting and prepare the balanced budget.

ADJOURN - Warner moved to adjourn the monthly meeting, seconded by Hayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Bev Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS IN ORDER OF CALLING:

Gary Anderson – 715-658-1483;	Bob Bernier – 715-577-6310;
Mark Warner – 715-658-1602, 715-556-6083 (cell);	Cecil Hayes – 715-577-6634 (cell);
LeAnn Ralph – 715-308-6336;	Town Shop - 715-658-1319;
Bev Bernier - 715-658-0131;	Chuck Boyer – 715-600-4149