

Town of Mercer
Meeting minutes for January 19, 2017
(unapproved)

- Chairman Jim Kichak called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Haines Building.
- **Roll Call:** Chairman Jim Kichak, Supervisors Bonnie Banaszak, Mike Lambert, John Sendra, Jeff Stenberg, Clerk Christan Brandt, Treasurer Lin Miller and Attorney Fritz Schellgell.
- **Public Comment:** John Jagodzinski asked if anyone heard anything from CenturyTel regarding the internet. A letter was sent but no response was returned and phone calls were made. Chairman Kichak stated that he would speak to the committee at the County.
- **Trailhead Lease Agreement:** Mike Lambert spoke on behalf of the Park Board stating that they wanted to know why the trailhead could not be down at the park where it is then on Town property and everything is already there. Now that the town will be finishing the path from Scheels Road to the park there is a trail all the way through town. Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak stated that it only makes sense to have it where the actual trail is and it is more visible on Hwy 51. Members of the Lupine Committee were present and voiced their opinions and concerns with where they felt the trail head should be. The Committee said they raised funds to help with the bike path and to have a trail head at Snows. Banaszak noted that there can be more than one trailhead, and Atty. Schellgell agreed. The Park Board needs to meet to decide so this will be placed on the next agenda. Motion made to postpone made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.
- **Sign Ordinance and Mercer Chamber Sign:** John Jagodzinski President of the Mercer Chamber stated that the new Chamber sign was erected on November 14 but was not up and running for about a week after. On November 16th, they had an issue with an individual who had someone photo shop the Chamber sign with an advertisement of his business on the chamber sign and placed it on Facebook. The Chamber has strict rules regarding using this sign for events only and not advertising businesses. They had sent a letter and phone calls to the individual with no response. They then we got Attorney Schellgell involved. Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak asked if the Town would have to amend our Ordinance. Attorney Schellgell stated that, that would be up to the Town but that The Chamber just wanted the Town Board to be aware what was going on, and that they did not allow this. It has been finally taken off the website as of two days ago. They asked if the town could send a message regarding this. Attorney Schellgell stated that he could get a colleague, Dan Johns in Manitowish Waters, to take care of this matter. He will contact him and have him get in touch with Christan.
- **County J sidewalk extension:** Supervisor Jeff Stenberg stated that he wanted to make sure we are all behind this project, and he would also like to get prices on concrete. Chairman Kichak stated he agreed with getting concrete prices since it does last longer than black top. Once spring hits, we should start getting bids.
- **Bird City Resolution 2017.01:** Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak stated that this resolution just must be renewed every year. Motion to approve that Resolution 2017.01 be passed for another year for National Bird Day made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Camper Violation on Crystal Lake West owned by Michael McMullin:** Attorney Schellgell stated that this was placed on the agenda because the Zoning Administrator had questions as to how we would like to proceed to have him remove the trailer that is in violation. The board stated that they would allow him to wait until spring to remove the camper after road limits have come off.

- **Candy Cane Committee requesting funds:** Betty Snyder was requesting more funds. It was stated that we currently give them \$200 a year and that they are now requesting \$500. Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak asked if we could take some out of room tax. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak. Carried.
- **Sign Permit application for Carl Stier and Smarty Pants Deli located at 5226 Hwy 51:** The planning commission met and approved this pending the location of the sign. We are not sure where it is going to be placed. Motion to postpone until they can get more information made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.
- **Donation of Property:** Attorney Schellgell stated that a business in town wants to donate real estate to the Town. Remax would like to donate plots one and two of the building across from the post office and Remax. The board stated that they want to do homework on this, such as tearing it down, asbestos removal. Attorney Schellgell stated that to move forward we should do a phase one and go from there. We would also need to speak to our insurance carried to see if we need additional coverage or a rider for removal. The board would also like to see a map (plat) of the property as well before moving forward. Motion to postpone made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.
- **Legal:** Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak asked about an issue with the Mercer Community Planning Committee. They sound like they are sponsored by the town and they are not. The survey is being put out by the library with other organizations involved. This is very confusing because we have a Planning Commission. Attorney Schellgell stated that there are the two issues; one is the name and the other concern is that he does not know that the Library statutorily has the right to do that. These are both concerns, and he will check into this and send a letter to Christian as he will not be at the next meeting.
- **Vouchers:** The Clerk presented checks 36074 to 36172, 100244 to 10252 in the amount of \$1,594,474.81 and the vouchers for checks 36173 to 36199 totaling \$25,5463.21. Motion to approve the vouchers and issue the checks made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer stated that the general account ending balance was \$403,639.46 and our total amount of funds was \$1,918,215.52. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.
- **Bartender's License:** An application for Andrew Brunell. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.
- **Liquor Licenses:** A temp beer license for the Mercer Lions Ice Fishing Jamboree at Carow Park on February 18. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried. A temp beer license for a VFW Spaghetti feed at the Senior Center on February 11. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. A temp beer license for the Justin Donner Memorial Fisheree at Donner's Bay on January 28. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Chair's Report:** The crew was out scraping down the roads. The loggers out on Shay Mill should be done soon, and then we will not have to plow to the end of the road. The signs are all up and look good. The bridge on Bambi Land will get done next year, so when the time comes we must get in contact with our Fire and Ambulance as well as Oma's Fire Department to work out emergency service when the bridge is out.
- **Supervisor John Sendra:** He mentioned that he had a resident ask him to let the board know that he shoveled his driveway and got snow onto the street. The driver got out of shape and

proceeded to plow the snow back into his driveway and words were exchanged. He also went on to state that the ATV signs came up regarding signage. The issue remains unresolved and who is responsible for the signage and the cost. Chairman Kichak stated that it would probably end up being us.

- **Supervisor Jeff Stenberg:** Community Center has more ice over there than we have before. We need to get some insulation blown up there to help with the heat loss. We should see if we can find a place that maybe we can rent the machine and do it ourselves. He also stated that the guys did a great job of getting things done when the Clerk or myself called about an issue while the Chairman was out of town.
- **Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak:** She asked if we could get some “No Snowmobile” signs on the bike path as snowmobiles are running on it. Chairman Kichak stated that he will have the guys go down and place snow fencing on the bridges so that they do not wreck them. She also stated that we have received signs from the DNR to be placed out on the Trailhead Kiosk(s) for recognition of the Stewardship Grant that we received. She also wanted to know if we have ever received an annual report from the Fire Department as we will be audited this year. Could we get in contact with them to have one prepared for last year.
- **Supervisor Mike Lambert:** He stated that the Fire Department’s 1978 brush truck has seen better days and that the department would like to get a new one this April. They did not place this item in the budget and the monies that were put away went to the purchase of the prior fire truck. The fire chief needs to plan this and place this in the budget. The Chairman agrees they need one, but it needs to be budgeted for. He will sit down and speak to Steve regarding this matter.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Closed Session pursuant Statute 19.85 (1) (c) Personnel Compensation:** Motion to move to closed session at 6:39pm made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried. Roll Call taken.
- **Return to open session:** Motion to return to open session at 6:50 pm made by Supervisor John Sendra, seconded by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak. Carried. Roll Call taken. Motion to increase the treasurer’s pay to \$11,000 made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak. Carried.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:51 pm made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor John Sendra. Carried.

Approved:

Christan Brandt, Town Clerk