

Town of Mercer
Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2017
(unapproved)

- Chairman John Sendra called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Haines Building.
- **Roll Call:** Chairman John Sendra, Supervisors Jeff Stenberg, Mike Lambert, Tom Thompson, Clerk Christian Brandt and Treasurer Lin Miller. Absent Attorney Schellgell.
- **Approval of meeting minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Public Comment:** Barb Scott and Martha Pierpont from the Mercer Health and Wellness Committee asked if the Board would postpone the vote to add 2 more members to their Board. Bruce Bacon stated that we have been accepted to be "Bird City" again. Others voiced concern regarding the agenda item regarding the rental fees for Community Center.
- **Discuss approval/denial of moving forward with Kanneburg Building:** Chairman Sendra asked if anyone had any more information regarding the possibility of a tank being behind the building? Supervisor Bonnie Banaszak stated that Fritz was looking into the matter of looking into the Phase II. Supervisor Mike Lambert stated that he had a few calls regarding this property. They were not sure why we needed this property or why we needed a parking lot when we have a municipal parking lot already. Kathy Tutt stated that where the building is would be a park and the back section would be a parking lot. Motion to postpone until they can review more information with the Attorney made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Cramer lake/Turtle River Bridge:** The bridge would be closed for approximately 7 weeks and Chairman Sendra stated that he contacted Kevin Meyer from CORRE who is in charge of the project. The project is an 80/20 split grant and there is a \$300,000 cap on the program. To place the temp bridge, it would cost more money, so we are looking into getting more funding. This is something that we are working on to make sure that we have access during the project. We will keep the residents informed as to the progress. He also wanted to go off the subject and should have mentioned this in public comment. He knows that Jim Kichak is not here this evening but the Town owes him a huge gratitude for 22 years of service.
- **Appoint two more board members to the Health and Wellness:** Since there are apparent internal issues within the committee, this item will be postponed until they are resolved. Motion to postpone made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Appointment of vacant Supervisor seat:** Chairman Sendra stated that three years ago Chairman Kichak appointed Sharon Lambert to finish out the term of her husband. Chairman Sendra stated he would like to make an appointment to have Charles Schroepfer fulfill his remaining term. He then asked to put this up for a motion. Motion made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Was no call for opposition, Charles was then sworn in.
- **Personnel and responsibilities for operating Shay Dam:** Both Joe Hammond and Joe Hahn expressed that they would no longer like this responsibility. Chairman Sendra stated that he would like to give Jake Saarnio this task and asked if anyone would like to name another individual. Mark Dierbeck was then chosen to assist. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Conditional use permit for a 60' x 104' accessory building at 2248W County Road J owned by Denise and Mark Ingeman:** Supervisor Jeff Stenberg stated that the planning commission

recommended approval with the normal stipulations that it not be used for commercial use or for human habitation and that is his motion, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.

- **Conditional use permit for a 30' x 40' accessory building at 3163 Rogers Lane owned by Robert Maas Living Trust:** Planning commission recommended approval with the normal stipulations that it not be used for commercial use or for human habitation. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Gogebic and Iron County Broadband Committee requesting funds and sponsorship for internet fair:** Motion to donate \$200 to the Committee made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried. Supervisor Mike Lambert asked where the funds would be taken from and the Clerk stated that we could use the Youth and Special Events fund.
- **Discuss Town and Cemetery Mowing:** Motion to postpone made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Friends of the Library to discuss approval/ denial of solar panel:** Hedda Patzke from the Friends of the Library stated that the solar panels would go behind the building on the ground and would be fenced in. The cheapest bid for the panels was \$22,445.85. With the solar panels, we would save \$1000.00 a year on energy costs. It was asked if they knew where the exact property lines were since the school owns most of the land. She stated that they were unable to find a survey map at the County Office. A survey will need to be done and Supervisor Schroepfer felt the town should pay for it. Motion made to postpone to have survey completed to find property lines by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Rental Fees for Community Center and Meeting Room:** Chairman Sendra stated that this was for consideration and discussion only. We placed this on there as it was something that we got on the subject of and was asked about the fees and who should be charged and not charged. The cost for upkeep on the building is over \$37,000.00. Rental fees were \$500.00. He stated that we just felt that it was a big expenditure. Everyone pays taxes and no one wants the taxes to go up. We are not changing the fees and just wanted to make note of this.
- **Grant Money from Gurney for path to Carow Park:** Chairman Sendra stated that Gurney had a grant for \$14,000 and did not end up using it. He will be going to the County to fill out paperwork so that we may be able to get half of those funds and he would like to earmark it to finish the path to Carow Park.
- **Reorganization of Board duties:** Chairman Sendra stated that he would be in charge of the roads, shop and supervision of garage employees and Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer would be his assistant. Chairman Sendra will also be in charge of Weeds and represent Mercer on the Iron County Development Council. Supervisor Schroepfer will be in charge of the Cemetery and liaison to Health and Wellness. Supervisor Mike Lambert is in charge of street lights and is liaison to the School, Fire Department and FEMA, Emergency Management. Supervisor Tom Thompson is the liaison to Sanitary, Park Board, Senior Center and in charge of Recycle/transfer site. Supervisor Jeff Stenberg will be liaison to the Library, Community Center and Planning Commission. Clerk Christan Brandt was appointed to town beautification. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Review applications/ appoint one member to the Planning Commission and appoint Chairman for Planning Commission:** Chairman Sendra appointed Jeff Stenberg to Chairman of the Planning Commission. Motion to appoint Bonnie Banaszak to the Planning Commission made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried. Supervisor Jeff Stenberg stated that we should have Dave McNutt be the alternate.

- **Vouchers:** Clerk Christan Brandt presented checks 36492 to 36519,100271-100272 totaling \$20,191.63 and the vouchers for checks 36520 to 36543 in the amount of \$46,695.57. Motion to approve the vouchers and issue the checks made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer stated the general account ending balance was \$284,165.69 and our total amount of funds were \$1,944,995.85. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Bartender's License:** We had applications for Anne Murrin, Robin Swanson, Emilie Johnston, Aimee Oberst, Susan Nachand, Blythe Richards. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Liquor License:** Temp beer application for the Friends of the Library; Mercer Area Connection at the Community Center on May 10. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Chair's Report:** He stated that he will have office hours on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 to 11. He also stated that he will be meeting with the DNR on May 17th regarding Wilson Lake.
- **Supervisor Jeff Stenberg:** He stated that he has had numerous complaints regarding the alley behind the Town hall. Concerns were also brought up about the Malone trailer park by the Business park having some blight issues as well as on the end of Midwest Timber property off of Margaret Street. Chairman Sendra stated he would get more information and would address the issues.
- **Supervisor Mike Lambert:** He stated that at the last park board meeting, the board members wanted to get some special soil brought in for the ball field and were wondering if the Town could go pick it up with one of the dump trucks. Can the crew also go down and clean up the pine needles at the park?
- **Closed Session pursuant WI State Statutes 19.85 (1) (c)** Road crew employee matters and compensation: Motion to move into closed session made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried. Roll call taken.
- **Return to open session:** Motion to return to open session made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried. Roll call taken. Motion to return Mike Tutt to work on the Road Crew tomorrow made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.