

Town of Mercer  
Meeting Minutes for September 7, 2017  
(unapproved)

- Chairman John Sendra called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Haines Building.
- **Roll Call:** Chairman John Sendra, Supervisors Tom Thompson, Mike Lambert, Chuck Schroepfer, Jeff Stenberg, Clerk Christan Brandt and Treasurer Lin Miller. Absent Attorney Schellgell.
- **Approval of prior meeting minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes as written made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuk Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Signage on Lakeshore Drive:** Bill Brundage stated that the road is a speedway for all vehicles. There was a stop sign for ATV and Cars and they were both taken down. The Board had stated that they were not put up by the town hence they were up illegally. Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer stated that it would be more of a law enforcement issue due to not obeying the speed limit that is posted on that road. They also do not know how they would place another stop sign when there is one going onto County J. Supervisor Tom Thompson stated that the County has a law enforcement meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> and that someone from the Town should attend. Supervisor Thompson will bring this up at the meeting and then go from there as to what to do on the section of road.
- **Signage on intersection of Mercer Lake Circle and Fierick Road:** Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer stated that this was brought to the attention of the board a week ago by Avery Brandt. Chairman Sendra stated that Christan had spoken to him explaining the issue and asked her to explain it to the Board. Christan Brandt stated that Avery and a few others, including herself, have been to that intersection with near misses since when you are stopped at either stop sign, it is difficult to see the traffic coming from the other side of Mercer Lake Circle since they do not have to stop. Now that there is more truck traffic in that area, it has been even more dangerous. We would like to see this intersection become a three-way stop. Motion to have that intersection become a three-way stop made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Amend Budget to move \$50,000 from expense line item Hwy Building fund to expense line item Garage Operations:** Motion to move the funds made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Business Park Lot #2 Mercer Industries:** John Cassiani from Mercer Industries was here and stated they did have quotes for the new building back in May and due to some circumstances, are asking for an extension. Motion to give an extension until June 30, 2018, made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Chamber agreement regarding the \$50,000 allotment:** Chairman John Sendra stated that the amendment was in Section 14 of the agreement and it states: "The parties have discussed the timing of the repairs and have agreed to extend a portion of the work until after December 31, 2017." John Jagodzinski from the Chamber stated that the chamber will be paying for the items such as the heating and air conditioning and running natural gas to the building. The materials for siding and installing were around \$15,000. The windows and doors and other materials only were \$4399.00. We had one bid to install them and it would be around \$10,000.00. Supervisor Mike Lambert asked about this new plan for the building remodeling. John Jagodzinski said that the building committee will be meeting to decide on Mr. McNutt's remodeling addition on September 12<sup>th</sup>, which has a price tag of \$75,000. The Chamber did get back the money from the incident of the theft of funds and they can use that for the difference in cost. Supervisor Tom Thompson stated that we also have other buildings that need to be addressed. They stated that this would need to be looked at during budget time.

- **Candy Cane Committee to request time frame on placing of decorations:** Betty was unable to attend but the Clerk stated she had asked if to have this item placed on the agenda to get a date set so that the decorations could be put in a reasonable time frame. Motion to place the Christmas decorations up the first week of November made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Approval/denial for purchase of Parcel #4 Cramer Lake Rd:** This is one of the parcels near the bridge and needs to be purchased to move forward. Basically, the seller wants \$500 for the property which was initially offered at \$350.00. If we turn this down, then an appraisal needs to be done and we would have to pay for it. Motion to approve the purchase of #4 for \$500 made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried.
- **Hook up septic or sewer connection for transfer or possibly move facility:** Chairman Sendra stated that this has come up due to the issue of the odor that comes from the compactor from time to time. As a solution to moving, we have been talking about placing some type of holding tank to help with the liquid that seems to cause the odor. There are still too many questions with this. We do not want to hook this to the sanitary district, we would have to do some form of holding tank, but this would need to be emptied. They will consider how to move forward with getting the odor contained.
- **Change of hours for recycle/transfer site:** It was decided that the winter hours would be as follows Monday and Tuesday 10am to 4pm Wednesday and Saturday 7:30 to 1:30. This will start by next Monday. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Cell phone compensation:** Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer stated that we had two town phones that we were paying \$70 a month for. He would like to take the cost from those phones and split it between the road and shop foreman. Supervisor Mike Lambert stated that the county highway department has only one phone for the commissioner. The Clerk stated that she was looking into this for other options. Out of the 10 towns she spoke with, none of them gave the employees money for their personal plan and a few had town cell phones for them to use. Boulder Junction has gotten rid of almost all their land lines with Centurylink and saved decent money by doing so. They also stated that Verizon gave a discount to the town employees. She has a call into the agent at Verizon and would like to look into this more before a decision is made. Motion to postpone made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Vouchers:** The clerk presented checks 36989 to 37039 and 1000312- 1000315 in the amount of \$51,141.77 and the vouchers for checks 37040 to 37066 totaling \$41,139.07. Motion to approve the vouchers and issue the checks made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer stated that the general account had an ending balance of \$424,585.16 and our total amount of funds was \$1,601,161.22. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Chair's Report:** Chairman Sendra stated that our request for a buffer zone South of town on Hwy 51 was denied but he is going to keep trying. The Cramer Lake Bridge project is moving along since our request for a temporary bridge is going in front of the DOT business department and we will then find out if we get it and be postponed until 2019 or if we are denied and things move forward next year. He received a letter from Mr. Mirkas regarding the removal of trees on Stafford Point Road. Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer stated that we have a cul-de-sac on the end of that road with way too many driveways as well as a fire hydrant. In the winter, there is no place to push the snow and since the trees were on the town-right-of-way there are no issues on legalities. This had to be done to maintain the road.

- **Supervisor Mike Lambert:** The white house by the school is now gone. He also asked about the panels and fencing going up at the Library. If these are actually going behind the Community Center and not the Library.
- **Supervisor Tom Thompson:** The Recycle guys have done a good job at cleaning up the area and the glass is also cleaned up.
- **Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer:** The Crew finished up the salt/sand mix, they will be working on the culvert on Popko Circle West next Tuesday, so the road will be closed there. Flyers have been put out with that information on it as well as a notice in the paper. Paving is done on Echo Lane, Kimmear and Grand Portage Roads. They are prepping Klick Road and will move to Mercer Lake Circle. The firm will be here Monday to remove the asbestos from the old Garage and recycling will be open as usual since it should not be an issue.
- **Closed session** Pursuant WI State Statute 19.85(1) (c) Discuss employee compensation and 19.85 (1) (e) deliberating or negotiation of purchasing insurance, 19.85 (1) (b) Considering discipline of any public employee: Motion to move into closed session made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Roll Call taken. Carried.
- **Return to open session to report any action taken in closed session if necessary:** Motion to return to open session made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Roll call taken. Carried. Motion to go with Hedlund Insurance Company and to change over to the Security Health Plan along with a \$500 maximum employee out of pocket deductible and.\$35 raise across the board for road crew for next year made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.

**Approved:**

Christan Brandt, Town Clerk