

Town of Mercer
Meeting minutes for March 1, 2018
(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 Attorney Fritz Schellgell. Absent Treasurer Lin Miller.
- **Approval of Prior meeting minutes:** Motion to approve the February 15, 2018 meeting minutes as written made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Public Comment:** Beth Wetzler introduced herself to the Board as the new Executive Director of the Mercer Chamber and noted that she looks forward to working with everyone. Bonnie Banaszak stated that the Planning Commission is sanctioned under State Statute 62.23 and she gave the board members a copy of what the job of the Commission entails and what the responsibilities that they oversee.
- **4th of July Committee funds:** Attorney Schellgell stated that these 4th of July monies are town funds, and we cannot just hand them over. We would be able to pay bills that they would submit for purchases made for the 4th. He went on to say that we could enter into a contract for bill of service to run the 4th of July. If the Chamber wants to put a budget together as to how much they will need to cover the cost, we can place on the next agenda.
- **Furnaces for Community Center/Library and Town Hall:** Supervisor Schroepfer stated that we have been running into issues with both furnaces and he does not feel that we should wait to take care of them. Motion to move funds out of Contingency to cover the cost of the furnaces for the Community Center and Town Hall made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Discuss plans for reviewing Town buildings and putting a maintenance plan in place:** Supervisor Thompson stated that he would like to see the Board get together to review all the buildings that we own and put a plan into place to start maintaining them. He would like to schedule a date when everyone can get together to physically review each building. He also stated that the 24 section Fire Hall is probably the worst, and he would like to see if Steve Altman could go with them to discuss some of the issues. He will come up with a date that will work for everyone and let the Clerk know.
- **Focus on Energy for Garage:** Supervisor Schroepfer stated that he spoke with Focus on Energy regarding its incentive program for energy savings. \$3800 is needed for the replacement of the lamps only. Our energy cost for the garage last year was \$4209.00 and switching over would save us at least a 1/3 or more. Xcel also has a program that will come up with 50% match of the focus on energy program but has a \$4000 cap. He feels this is the way to go to save some money in the long run, and all we have to do is agree to make changes to LED fixtures. He has Great Lakes Electrical getting prices on retro fitting some of the fixtures and will get us a breakdown on cost.
- **Hours for Custodian and adding separate line item for custodian pay for Library:** Chairman Sendra stated that he wanted to keep everyone up to date on what is going on. We had cut the custodial wages from 120 to 96 hours a month and have now given the library 32 hours a month out of the 96 a month in which they have to clean the Hall, Community Center and Library. Teresa will then oversee what they do with that 32 hours a month. Supervisor Schroepfer stated that Jerry felt they would not be able to get things done in that time at the Library. Chairman Sendra stated that when he had a meeting with Teresa; she stated that those hours

would be plenty of time for them to get the cleaning done in the Library. Supervisor Thompson asked about what exactly needs to be done at each building and do we have a job description? Chairman Sendra stated that we do, and that the Clerk can make a copy for you.

- **Legal:** Attorney Schellgell stated that he was asked to attend the Planning Commission meeting and that he has given the Board Members and the Planning Commission Members in attendance a copy of the notes or suggestions for possible changing the verbiage. He also stated that we should place the Sign Ordinance as well as the Lotter BP sign back on the next agenda. He sent the survey back regarding Lameka Road but has not heard anything as of yet. He also stated that he still needed to meet with the Clerk to get the letters sent out regarding Stafford Point.
- **Vouchers:** The Clerk presented checks 37680 to 37705, 1000360-100361 totaling \$25,813.55 and the vouchers for checks 37706 to 37719 in the amount of \$8,301.77. Motion to approve the vouchers and issue the checks made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Clerk stated that the general account ending balance was \$28,106.16 and the total amount of funds was \$1,675,012.50. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Chair's Report:** Chairman Sendra stated that Dale White from Manitowish Waters contacted him and said that the bridge to join the two trails was approved and will be completed this year. This is wonderful news and now we will have joining trails from Mercer all the way to Boulder Junction. We will have a Room Tax Committee Meeting soon as Bill Zumbeck did accept the position that was available on the Committee. He stated that we had two calls in one day asking about absentee ballots and he wants to remind them that they need to fill out an application to register every year if they want absentee ballots.
- **Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer:** He stated that he spoke to the Sanitary District and if we take care of snow removal from hydrants for them, they will cut us a break with the water at the Cemetery. We did switch vendors for our Diesel and oil to South Shore. He is also in contact with the DNR regarding the monitoring of the wells. If we could eliminate the annual cost to do this monitoring, it would save us money in the long run. Right now, we are paying \$1,800.00 a year for this and he does not feel it is necessary anymore. The DNR would have a permit fee of \$1650 and the engineer fee might be around \$5500 to \$6000.
- **Supervisor Jeff Stenberg:** Asked if someone talks to the County Highway Commissioner could we have him check into the heave that is downtown. It is terrible and he has had many people complain to him regarding this.
- **Supervisor Mike Lambert:** Pete from Williams Electric had contacted him regarding some of the older street poles that are not working at this time. He stated that he is working on getting them taken care of, but they are getting harder and harder to find parts for. He is also working on trying to figure out a plan going forward and our options.
- **Supervisor Tom Thompson:** He stated that Eagle Waste had called the County and complained that the snow removal at the transfer site was not very good. He stated that he went to check it out and did not see any issues. He told them at the County meeting that if they have issues, they should contact the Town. Chairman Sendra asked if everyone reviewed Maryann Brown's letter regarding the pumper truck out at the 24 Section fire station, including the issues with the building. Supervisor Thompson stated that they are aware of these items, and the department has talked about either buying a different truck for there or adding on to the building to move one of the trucks from in town.

- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried. 6.22 pm

Approved:

Christan Brandt, Town Clerk