

Town of Mercer  
Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2018  
(unapproved)

- Chairman John Sendra called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Haines Building.
- **Roll Call:** Chairman John Sendra, Supervisors Mike Lambert, Chuck Schroepfer, Jeff Stenberg, Clerk Christan Brandt, Treasurer Lin Miller and Attorney Fritz Schellgell came in at 5:39pm. Absent was Supervisor Tom Thompson.
- **Public Comment:** Adam Miller from the Mercer School wanted to thank the Park Board for all the work at the park for the ball fields. It is a tremendous benefit for everyone. Kathy Tutt stated that issue came up at the Planning Commission meeting last night regarding banners that are along the fence at the ball park. They thought that it was not allowed on public property. Bill Brundage stated that the signs were in support of the football team. He also asked why they were no longer allowed to water the fields at the park. He was told by Mr. Thompson that he needed to stop. As Park Board Members we take pride in making the park better, and this is part of it. The Board stated that he could keep watering as long as it is in the budget.
- **PRAT Tax:** Chairman Sendra stated that he had sent a statement into the Globe regarding the Premier Area Resort Tax (PRAT) that was approved in a vote of 3 to 2 at the last meeting. This is a tax that would generate money to help maintain our roads and since 65% of our economy is tourism, the tax can help maintain our roads. He spoke with Beth Meyer who will start the ball rolling to try to get this for Mercer.
- **Conditional use permit to operate a tourist rooming house at 2184 Pine Forest Rd owned by William Buhmann:** Kathy Tutt from the Planning Commission stated that they recommended approval. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Conditional use permit to operate a tourist rooming house at 5281N Goettsche Road owned by Lisa Collins and Amy Cox:** Kathy stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Approval/denial of design application for Lake Country Storage Solutions at Hwy 51 parcel 1009-0000 for Mark Tushar:** Planning Commission recommended approval. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Sign permit for a 4' x8' sign at Hwy 51 for Lake Country Storage owner Mark Tushar:** Planning Commission recommended approval. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried.
- **Town Shop #2:** Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer stated that Monday the company started asbestos removal, and it is a little rougher than what he thought. Yesterday there was a DNR inspector there, He dug down a foot, and now we must dig down a foot and remove debris from that area. We cannot place the debris in a dumpster; it will have to be put in bags. We also have permission to take down the little furnace room. We will schedule demolition for the second or third week in October.
- **Shea Dam:** We have the letter from the DNR regarding the follow up visit to the dam. The Clerk is updating the names and fixing minor errors in the action plan and operations manual for the dam that were done for the down in 2013. Supervisor Schroepfer has ordered signs that we were told we had to have in place. He also spoke to Jeff Corullo about the railings as we also have to have them where a child cannot fall through. We do have a problem with figuring out a device with which we can raise and lower the stop logs if this is necessary. They have done this in the past to help rid Fisher Lake from weeds. But we are told that it did not work. Jeff Rodman the President of the Fisher Lake Association stated that it did help with weed removal if

we do not get a heavy snow before it freezes. Then it does kill some. Supervisor Schroepfer stated that we are placing a line in the budget for next year, so that we can work on this.

- **Stop sign at Lakeshore Drive and County J:** Supervisor Schroepfer stated that they jumped the gun on this one and already put the sign up.
- **Chamber Sidewalk:** Beth Wetzler from the Chamber stated that the sidewalk in front of the Chamber needs repair before someone gets injured. They have gone ahead and received two bids for the job. Attorney Schellgell stated that if it is under the \$5000.00 bid limit we are fine and that whoever you contract to do the work will do so through the Town. Supervisor Schroepfer stated that even though this is not in the budget, we do need to have this done as this is Town property. Motion to have Scott Tomek repair the sidewalk at the Chamber made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Roadway agreement between Chippewa and Flambeau Improvement Company:** Attorney Schellgell stated that the agreement had some issues and had a phone conference regarding our concerns. There are still a few issues such as the bidding process. As a Town, we must put items out for bid over the \$25000.00 bid limit. We are contracting with this group to reconstruct the Flambeau Dam. He would like to have the board postpone this item until he gets more information. It was mentioned that we are meeting with the insurance company next week. Could we place it on that agenda? Motion to postpone and place on the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **ATV Trail on Hwy for 700 feet from Murray Landing Rd to Manitowish Road:** This is the section that Six and the ATV Club came in and requested that we try to get opened for ATV's. Chairman Sendra stated that he made calls and sent letters to Mark Ratty with the DOT and as a result here is the response as to what we can do. They gave us two options and they would prefer that we go with the second option and place a trail on the North side of the Hwy. We need to see if there are any grant monies available for this project and speak to the club to see if they are willing to pay for this.
- **Changes to Employee Handbook:** At the prior meeting it was requested that the following the policy be added to the handbook: "The Mercer Town Board has the right to require a mandatory drug test for individuals where an incident/accident has occurred on the job." Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried.
- **Legal:** Attorney Schellgell stated that we received the letter from Mindy's Attorney today. He sent letters with two alternatives for turnarounds. The Hayes family contacted him, and they agreed to the square turnaround that abuts Mindy's property. He called Mindy's Attorney and stated that we received your letter, and we are not going to pass a resolution as we have stated for the past four years. You never answered the question as to which turnaround are you are in favor of. He stated that they want the square one as well. Then her Attorney proceeded to state that we need to make this a town road. Attorney Schellgell noted that we can, but that they probably would not want that as the large garage would then be in our right of way and would have to be moved. In the conversation, her Attorney then asked why can't the town extend the edge of the right of way to their parking area. Attorney Schellgell stated that we could do this if all parties agreed, and if Jake would be alright with this, and it would not affect maintaining the road in the winter. So, this should be finally resolved. He also filed the action against McCann today regarding the Business Park. Kathy Tutt asked about the banners at the park. Attorney Schellgell stated that if they got permission from the Park Board and it is a thank you for sponsoring us for the Football team there is not an issue. Governmental entities are exempt from this as well. The school and the park board are such. The board would like to see them place a banner above those that states thank you for your support so that people would know what they are for.
- **Vouchers:** The Clerk presented the checks for 38257 to 38268, 1000412-1000415 totaling \$18,157.50 and the vouchers for checks 38268 to 38301 in the amount of \$441449.21. Motion

to approve the vouchers and issue the checks made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.

- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer stated that the general account had an ending balance of \$53,795.23 and our total amount of funds was \$1,7221,443.74. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried.
- **Temp Beer:** The Clerk stated that we have a temp beer application for the Friends of the Library Fall Celebration on September 22 at the Community Center. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Chair's Report:** He stated that 3 years ago we had a complaint regarding a camper that was on a property, and a letter was sent. We have received another complaint since nothing was done. Denise from the Health Department is now involved and went out with me to take a look at the property in question. The owner did contact the Zoning office today and stated that he would have the camper removed in the next 30 days.
- **Supervisor Jeff Stenberg:** He asked if there was anything that we could do about this company that is in town working with the cable as there are areas that they should have a flagman present.
- **Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer:** The Mac truck was towed down to Zentara in Wausau the other day, and the mechanic did not have a chance to look at it yet. The section of Wilson Lake that we will be paving is graveled and ready to go. With a truck down and the other road that needs to be prepped, he spoke with the County and they will be helping us haul for a few days. We also we be receiving about \$23,000 from FEMA from the storm damage this year, but we are not sure when we will be getting it. Lake Construction did some damage on Mercer Lake Circle but said that they would take care of it. He attended the meeting for the Cramer Lake bridge and it is behind schedule.
- **Closed session per WI State Statute 19.85 (1) (b) Employee Matters:** Motion to move into closed session made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried. Roll Call Taken. 6:34pm
- **Return to open session to report any action taken if necessary:** Motion to return to open session made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried. No action taken but will place closed session on the next agenda.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.