

Town of Mercer
Meeting Minutes: Dec. 5, 2019 (approved)

Call to order

Chairman John Sendra called meeting to order at 5:30pm at the Haines Bldg.

Roll call

Town Clerk Amber Thompson conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Supervisors Chuck Schroepfer, Eric Snow, Opal Roberts, Mike Lambert, Chairman John Sendra and Attorney Fritz Schellgell. Absent was Treasurer Lin Miller.

Approval of prior meeting minutes:

Motion to accept prior minutes with correction made by Opal, seconded by Chuck. Carried.

Items for Discussion/Possible Action

Appoint Library Trustees: John nominated the following individuals for three-year terms, Jim Wahner, Judi Bugni, Deanna Pierpont and Sue Guenard for the Mercer School Representative; she was recommended by Interim Administrator Sheri Kopka.

Chuck made a motion to support the nominations, seconded by Opal. Carried.

Act 67: John discussed with the board how Act 67 affects the Tourist Rooming House permitting processes and how it has no bearing on covenants or deed restrictions. Those are private party issues, not for Town or County. Discussion only; no action taken.

Conditional Use Application-Martin & Wendy Frosch-TRH-2716W Oestreich Rd: Martin and Wendy were both in attendance. Kathy from the Planning Commission stated the application was complete and recommended approval.

Eric made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Mike. Carried.

Conditional Use Application-Brian Osborne-TRH-3434 N Tutts Rd: Kathy from Planning Commission stated there is a discrepancy in the application. The home is advertised as a five bedroom and the septic is rated for a four bedroom. Kathy stated they recommended to post-pone this until an amended application is received.

Chuck made a motion to post-pone, seconded by Opal. carried.

Final Sign/Billboard Ordinance: Bonnie from Planning Commission discussed the verbiage added and amended. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Chuck made a motion to approve the amendments and changes in the attached Sign/Billboard Ordinance, seconded by Opal. There were 3 ayes and one nay. Motion Carried.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Town of Sherman: Fritz discussed the updated agreement with the Board. Chuck made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike. Carried.

Request for street light at 5380N Lake Shore Drive (owner Rich Roelse): John asked if anyone was here to discuss the issue. No one was in attendance. John stated Mike will look into the cost of installation at this site and bring it back to the board with a recommendation.

Mike made a motion to post-pone until he looks into this, seconded by Eric. Carried.

Employee Plaques to recognize their years of service with Fire Dept.: Eric stated he met with ranking members of fifty-plus years of service. He would like to get plaques and invite them to a meeting to have the Town Board recognize them for their years of service. Chuck asked about past members receiving plaques as well.

A motion was made by Eric for him to research and report back to the board, seconded by Mike. Carried.

Legal: Fritz had nothing to report.

Approvals

Vouchers: The Clerk presented checks 39901 to 39927 and 1000528 totaling \$21,281.10. A Motion to approve vouchers and issue checks, made by Chuck, seconded by Opal. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Clerk stated that the general account ending total was \$109,401.17 and our total amount of funds were \$1,243,319.91. Motion to approve as read made by Eric, seconded by Opal. Carried.

Bartender's License: None

Liquor License: The Clerk presented an application for a Temporary Beer License for Mercer Area Snogoe's for the Winter Blast on Jan. 18th, 2020. Mike made a motion to approve, seconded by Chuck. Carried.

Cemetery Deeds: None

Operations Reports:

Chair's Report: Chairman John Sendra reported and discussed the following items: Deb Schubitz called about the available lots in Business Park. There are two adjacent lots available to their liking with a little over four acres.

There will be a preliminary meeting at the Community Center with the DNR regarding the jobs moving to Ashland.

Kein Road- There is a plowing dispute with a resident and a letter was sent stating plowing into a Town road is a violation. Fritz stated we have an ordinance indicating this. A couple of residents said there are more than one land owner on the easement and they give permission for the Town trucks to use their driveways to turn around. Fritz will look into this.

Lake Shore Drive- Developments have occurred and it will continue to be used as a snowmobile route this year. The Town Foreman is working on the MLS grant to expand the road. If the grant goes through this road will be raised and widened for a Bike/Hike Path. Eric clarified the Town will stop plowing the shoulder, and plow just the road for the snowmobile season.

Town of Oma-spoke to Steve Finco, the Chairman, about exchanging two roads near Fisher Lake. It will be on the next agenda to discuss.

Snow-blowing from School to Library- John discussed the arrangement with Adam the arrangement, Adam stated he will take care of the sidewalk from school to Library and School to Grand Portage Road as it is School property and their responsibility.

The Christmas decorations were put up by the Town Crew.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer had nothing to report.

Supervisor Eric Snow reported on Tom Laventure's article in the Daily Globe from the last meeting. He felt it reflected poorly on the Town regarding a School issue that was discussed, and the Town doesn't need to get into things it isn't involved in.

Supervisor Opal Roberts had nothing to report.

Supervisor Mike Lambert reported on the following: The Town trucks really stand out with the new Green and yellow lights.

The article in The Daily Globe about all the work being done at the Cemetery was very nice. Good job, Opal.

Clerk's Correspondence: None

Public Comment:

Kathy Tutt from Planning Commission stated they met and discussed the Dwelling Ordinance regarding square footage. They want to adjust the ordinance to match the county so there is not confusion. Would like to have it on the next agenda. They also discussed the Gilbert Tourist Rooming House. It was already approved pending the neighboring properties to be informed. This will not need to go back before Planning Commission, they still recommend approval.

The Lake of the Falls Association discussed the condition of the public boat landing. Town of Mercer is the owner. Fritz verified and stated the Town doesn't have to do anything with it. They are required to maintain it but do not have to improve it. Fritz will contact the DNR to find out what is allowed and bring it to the Board for discussion.

A resident asked about a blight building. John stated they send letters. He also stated the Town knocked down a few mailboxes while plowing. Mike stated if the snow knocks it down then it is considered an act of God?

Multiple residents brought their concerns and complaints regarding snowplowing to the Board. Chuck stated the Road Crew is doing the best they can, They run eight hour routes and watch the weather and wait until the storm is on the descent before they go out.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Opal, seconded by Chuck. Carried. John adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Town Clerk, Amber Thompson

Approved: December 19, 2019