

Town of Mercer
Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2019
(unapproved)

- Informational meeting regarding PRAT Tax started at 5:00 pm in the Haines Building. Chairman Sendra stated the following regarding PRAT TAX: **What is PRAT?**

PRAT stands for Premier Resort Area Tax. Pursuant to ss. 66.113 Wis. Stats., it's a retail sales tax authorized by Wisconsin State Legislature and administered by the Department of Revenue. It requires certain retailers, related to the tourist industry, to collect an additional sales tax.

Adoption of PRAT allows our town to share the expense of maintaining our local road infrastructure. The rate of the PRAT Tax is one half cent on the dollar (0.5%) and the revenue from this is shared by all who utilize our roads not just tax payers.

Example: on a \$50.00 purchase the PRAT Tax would total .25 cents (twenty-five cents).

PRAT Tax would be collected from the retailers at the same time as the rest of the State and County taxes are collected and paid to the Department of Revenue. Once Paid to the DOR the funds would be turned over to the town.

What can PRAT Tax be used for?

PRAT Tax can ONLY be used for Infrastructure-related projects.

Examples are: Road Construction, maintenance, culverts, curbs, sidewalks, street lighting etc.

- The Regular Town Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm in the Haines Building.
- **Roll Call:** Chairman John Sendra, Supervisors Tom Thompson, Mike Lambert, Jeff Stenberg, Chuck Schroepfer, Clerk Christan Brandt and Attorney Schellgell arrived at 5:44 pm. Absent: Treasurer Lin Miller.
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes as written made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Bird City Resolution 2019-01:** Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Forest Rd:** Legal counsel was not here at the time to discuss
- **Cemetery duties and wages:** There were some other matters that needed to be ironed out, so the Chairman asked to postpone. Motion to postpone made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Vouchers:** The Clerk presented checks 38793 to 38806, 1000451 – 1000453 totaling \$1,605,212.16 and the vouchers for checks 38807 to 38853 in the amount of \$51,094.28. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Bartender's License:** An application for Sydney Schmitz. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Mike Lambert, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried.
- **Temp Beer License:** A application for a temp beer license for the Mercer Lions Fishing Jamboree at Carow Park on February 9, 2019. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried. An application for the Mercer VFW building fundraiser at the Mercer Senior Center on February 23,2019. Motion to approve made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Tom Thompson. Carried.
- **Chair's Report:** He stated that he had an Iron County Zoning meeting and the issue of Blight came up. He stated that we have two in town that need to be addressed. We have sent letters and one has responded and the other has not. If you have been out on Turtle Rapids Lane, you would see how horrible this property is. It was stated that the proper procedure is to send a letter. If no response is received by the town, to send a second letter by certified mail. If no

response is received, then the file gets sent to Zoning where they do the same thing. Then if there is still no reply from the property owner, the issue would get turned over to the Sheriff's Department.

- **Supervisor Mike Lambert:** None
- **Supervisor Tom Thompson:** Iron County Recycle had a few extra grant dollars and gave all the guys money for clothing.
- **Supervisor Jeff Stenberg:** None
- **Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer:** Some questions with the extra parking for snowmobiles and clearing off a section of Midwest Timber. The Sno-Goers already had cleared it off for the Winter Blast this weekend. He suggested just leaving this be for this year. He also stated that he had investigated public restrooms, and that he found there are 80/20 grants available if they are near an ATV/ Snowmobile trail. This would have to go through our Planning Commission.
- **Legal:** Supervisor Schroepfer asked if we were obligated to have a turn around for the school bus? Attorney Schellgell stated that if it was an existing roadway, he did not believe so, but if it is a new road then the answer would be yes. Attorney Schellgell went on to state that the concerns with Forest Road are with the access to the land on the other side of the ditch, which would be lots 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Todd Maki did start a survey and stated that the road there that is being used is correctly platted and most of it is correct from 1927. We need to get an easement from the leg that comes out, and then the problem will be solved. Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer stated that the crew did not want another intersection to come off Hwy FF because it is too dangerous. He stated that he would have Todd Maki complete a survey of that specific area. We could resolve this come spring after we can walk the area. Lameka Road: He sent letters to the Hayes family and has not heard anything back. He spoke with Mindy, and she is all set. We will meet out there on the 31st of the month and get an agreement completed and signed by the impacted property owners.
- **Public Comment:** Opal stated that the Health and Wellness has now become its own entity and is now a 501(c3).
- **Closed Session per WI State Statute 19.85 (1) (c):** Motion to go into closed session at 6:06 pm made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer. Carried. Roll Call taken.
- **Return to open session to report any action taken if necessary:** Motion to return to open session at 6:27 pm made by Supervisor Tom Thompson, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Roll call taken. Motion to make Jerry Huffmaster supervisor of the transfer station made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. 3 yes 2 no carried. Motion to give an additional \$1.00 an hour for supervisor duties which will be reported separately, and he will be given no more than 8 hours a month to do said duties made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Jeff Stenberg. Carried.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Chuck Schroepfer, seconded by Supervisor Mike Lambert. Carried. 6:31 pm.