

Town Board Meeting  
Wednesday January 12,, 2022

Present: Chairman Iverson, Supervisor Ahlvin and Clerk Gunderson and 6 others. Absent Treasurer Mottram.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Iverson at 7:00 p.m. Minutes of December 8<sup>th</sup> read. Motion Ahlvin/Iverson to approve. Carried. Financial Report - Motion Ahlvin/Iverson. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Room Tax meeting set for December 15<sup>th</sup> was canceled. The idea to raise the room tax came out of a 4-towns meeting. Consider possibility of raising room tax from 4% to 8% after discussion at town board meetings. This discussion was based more on short-term rentals and not on the resorts. When the resorts heard about it they were not happy. The Chamber canceled the meeting and set a letter to all the towns.

Another issue from the 4-towns meeting was the increase in the Great Divide Ambulance subsidies. The transports were a place they received a lot of income from. They do not have as many of these out of Ashland anymore. Between this and the lawsuit for underpaying the employees they are in need of charging the Towns more. For us that meant an increase from \$18,000 to \$48,000 per year.

We are also covered by the Mason Ambulance Service (Keystone, Mason, Kelly, Lincoln, Village of Mason and Grand View). This contract went from \$9,000 to \$19,000 per year!

REPORTS: Fire Dept. responded to a fire out on Echo Point – the building is still standing but it was a huge loss.

Ross is retiring in April. We will need to hire someone to fill this position before April.

Last week the Fireman voted to cancel the Firehouse Fifty events!

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Appoint new interim Supervisor – per Wis., Stats. 17.25 this is done by the remaining Town Board and the Town Clerk. We received letters of interest from two people – Paul Gilbertson and Larry Nelson. Both seem well qualified. Motion Ahlvin/Gunderson to appoint Paul Gilbertson. Carried.

Building – plans have changed since we need State permits that we were not aware of. Dale has had a tough time – he approached Zoning and after that things started changing. We are dealing with these changes now. We will either need to approve changes or ask for our down payment back. Other towns have hired architects which we did not do in the interest of saving money! Will look at hiring architects in the future.

WTA District Meeting at Lakewoods is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup> (this was since changed to April 9<sup>th</sup>). This is the weekend of the Birkie. At least one board member will need to attend as we need to have Board of Review training prior to the BOR in May.

Motion Ahlvin/Iverson to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Carried. Next regular board meeting will be Wednesday February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Grand View Town Hall.

Teresa A Gunderson, Clerk