

September 13th, 2018 TB Minutes

The regular meeting of the Town Board was held on Thursday September 13th, 2018 with the following members present: Daniel Pemrick, Supervisor; Daniel Cochran, MaryAnn Johnson, Rick Capasso and Kevin Veitch, Councilpersons. Also present were Walter Barss, Superintendent of Highways; Duane Wright, Deputy Superintendent of Highways; Mark Schachner, Town Counsel and approx. 19 residents.

At 7:00 PM, the meeting was called to order with a pledge to the flag.

On a motion by Capasso, C. and seconded by Veitch, C., the minutes from August 9th, 2018 Were approved as submitted by all members present.

Unsafe Building- 67 Lincoln Mt. Road- Tax Map # 100.-1-64

Supervisor Pemrick states that a demolition permit was issued. No action taken by the Town Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

Town Clerk states the Greenfield Fire District has submitted to the Town their 2017 audit report.

COMMUNITY CENTER USE- CUB SCOUT PACK #4018- Town Clerk states that there is a request for use of the Community Center by Cub Scout Pack # 4018 for every Monday night when available.

RESOLUTION # 120- GRANT USE OF COMMUNITY CENTER TO CUB SCOUT PACK #4018

Motion: Johnson, C.

Seconded: Veitch, C.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board hereby approves use of the Community Center to Cub Scout Pack #4018 on Monday nights until June 2019, when available, and that the dates be written on their application.

VOTE: Ayes: Pemrick, Cochran, Johnson, Capasso, Veitch

Noes: None

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER- Supervisor Pemrick has had two refusals for this position. He will contact the Public Health Officer for the Town of Corinth and see if that person would be willing to be the Health Officer for Greenfield.

UPDATE – CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTION – Supervisor Pemrick states that this is the first Job Description that we are looking at along with reviewing Town Policies. Our goal is to have these in place by January 1, 2019. Veitch, C. states he has reached out to other Towns for their description of Code Enforcement Officer. He asks the Board to review what we have and add any

September 13th, 2018 continued

ideas they may have. He would like to include responding to the Greenfield Fire District's Fire Chief, working with the Fire Dept. when there is a fire and the home may not be safe or habitable.

TABITHA ORTHWEIN- She is with the Greenfield Neighborhood Association and would like to speak about Ethics reform. After the April 12th Town Board meeting, they had questions on procedure and found the Town of Greenfield has a minimal structure as compared to other local governments. The Ethics Board is not in compliance. There are three members, but there are vacancies. She questions if they will be filled and do we have any members serving. Supervisor Pemrick states Mr. Wright is a member. T. Orthwein states that the Town Board as overseers of that Board neglected to fill the positions. This initiative comes from wanting greater accountability and transparency in our Local Government and mechanisms to make sure if citizens or Town Employees feel that is not happening there is an empowered board to help sort that out for our current leader and leaders of the future.

KAREN WADSWORTH- K. Wadsworth reads a letter to the Town Board. (Letter is on File) She feels the April 12th meeting was disturbing. She feels the elected officials offended her values. She realized there is not a mechanism in the Town Code to address her concerns and in the spirit of greater transparency and accountability it would be a great service to have a Board of Ethics where citizens could file complaints or concerns with an empowered Ethics Board. She asks if there are meetings where all the Boards talk about what is working or not, what may need to be changed. K. Wadsworth submits a signature list that goes with the letter.

TABITHA ORTHWEIN asks for if each Town Board member would like to give their thoughts on Ethic Board Reform:

Daniel Pemrick, Supervisor- Last month we began a review of all of our policies. One is the Code Enforcement Officer, and will be adding more. We will accept this recommendation and will consider the information that has been provided to the Board tonight when we review the Town's Ethics Policy. Our Town Counsel will provide the policies of other Towns which we will review and have a policy that is appropriate for our Town.

Rick Capasso, Councilman- Ethics is important wherever you work. We are going to work diligently to get this correct.

MaryAnn Johnson, Councilwoman- We have several policies that are obsolete. Ethics is one that needs to be worked on and it will be done.

Daniel Cochran, Councilman- We need to work on the Town Language Code. The purpose of the Ethics Board was to investigate wrongdoing. There is good information and we are listening.

Kevin Veitch, Councilman- It's hard to keep up with State and Federal regulations that we need to do, but should be able to this with our own Community. This should be a priority and is looking forward to getting this done and hopefully this will be a better place to live.

T. Orthwein asks if there is a time frame to get this done. Supervisor Pemrick states we are working on several items. We need to gather data. Discussion takes place on time frame and commitment. Veitch, C. feels we should have committee and asks if it is an ordinance or policy. Supervisor Pemrick, states that it is a Board decision and Board policy. Johnson, C. explains if we have people from the community on this committee they could bring ideas, Town Counsel can provide policies from other Towns and we could put together a new Ethics Policy that we would adopt and the new Ethics Board members would work from the bylaws and policy that we set. There would be guidelines to do the job correctly. The

September 13th, 2018 continued

Town Board is the one that ultimately sets the policy. We would be looking for other input from the community, not just ours, it would be more open and transparent. Wendy Stein asks the Board to keep in mind community involvement. It would be helpful to everybody. Veitch, C. states you there has been involvement just by looking at Milton's policy and we should look at others also. Discussion takes place on agenda items placement. Susan Celia feels that PUD language should be updated and would be of interest to her group. James Van Dyk would like the Board to do what is best for Greenfield. Tom Mina he has heard that applicants can call on Monday and be on the TB agenda for Thursday. Supervisor Pemrick says people can ask to be on the agenda, we are quite liberal with placing people on the agenda. Johnson, C states we have a section for other business for anyone that walks in and wants to speak. T. Mina feels there should be a minimum amount of days to be posted on the website so people will know if someone will or won't be on the agenda Johnson, C. asks if it is Planning or Zoning Board. The Planning Board has a time frame. With the PUD, it is a local law that would be passed, so there has to be a public hearing scheduled, public notices posted. We allow residents to walk in at a Board meeting and speak, but if it requires a change in the law it would be on more than one agenda and meeting.

MULLEYVILLE LANDOWNER PERMISSION- Supervisor Pemrick states this is an annual approval from the Town to cross a piece of Town property in their trail system.

RESOLUTION #121- MULLEYVILLE SNOWMOBILE CLUB LANDOWNER PERMISSION

Motion: Johnson, C.

Seconded: Capasso, C.

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be authorized to sign the 2018-2019 Snowmobile Trail Landowner Permission Agreement with Mulleyville Snowmobile Club.

VOTE: Ayes: Pemrick, Cochran, Johnson, Capasso, Veitch

Noes: None

PURPLE HEART TRAIL SYSTEM- Supervisor Pemrick states that the purpose of the Purple Heart Trail is to create an honorary system of road, highways, bridges and monuments that give tribute to men and women that have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal. The Purple Heart Trail would create a visual reminder to those who use the road system that others have paid a high price for their freedom to travel. Signs would be placed at various locations where legislation has been passed to designate parts of the National Road System as the Purple Heart Trail. This would create a continuous system of roadways that honor Purple Heart Recipients. Supervisor Pemrick asks the Town Clerk to draft a Resolution and bring it to the next meeting.

REVISION OF TOWN POLICIES- Supervisor Pemrick explains we have policies we would like to update in addition to Ethics Policy we heard tonight, that have been discussed. We want to look at the Travel Policy, Town Credit Card Policy and Snow Days.

RESOLUTION #122-TRANSFER OF FUNDS-

Motion: Johnson, C.

Seconded: Cochran, C.

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be authorized to make the following Transfers of Funds as presented:

\$1170.92

From: A8015.4

To: A8020.4

\$1148.29

From: CR1990.4

To: CR7110.43

September 13th, 2018 continued

\$ 1.51 From: CR7180.46 To: CR7180.43
VOTE: Ayes: Pemrick, Cochran, Johnson, Capasso, Veitch
 Noes: None

RESOLUTION #123- GENERAL BILLS

Motion: Cochran, C.
Seconded: Capasso, C.

RESOLVED, That the General Bills from #585-647 in the amount of \$34,973.81 be paid.

VOTE: Ayes: Pemrick, Cochran, Johnson, Capasso, Veitch
 Noes: None

RESOLUTION #124- HIGHWAY BILLS

Motion: Capasso, C.
Seconded: Johnson, C.

RESOLVED, That the Highway Bills from #193-218 in the amount of \$168,823.17 be paid.

VOTE: Ayes: Pemrick, Cochran, Johnson, Capasso, Veitch
 Noes: None

RESOLUTION #125- PARKS BILLS

Motion: Veitch, C.
Seconded: Cochran, C.

RESOLVED, That the Parks Bills from #231-251 in the amount of \$13,806.46 be paid.

VOTE: Ayes: Pemrick, Cochran, Johnson, Capasso, Veitch
 Noes: None

WHISPERING PINES CAMPSITE-Scott and Kimberly Foro, asked to speak to the Board. Mrs. Foro states they own and operate Whispering Pines Campsites on Sand Hill Road. She feels that the lack of a noise ordinance in the Town has negatively hurt their business and themselves as residents. Directly across the road from them, fill is being delivered with DPW trucks, banging, etc. at 6:45 in the morning. On vacant property close to them there's a logging operation, chainsaws and skidders starting as early as 7AM. There are loud parties and discharge of firearms on other close properties. They have received negative reviews because it is too noisy. They would like the Town Board to consider a noise ordinance. Supervisor Pemrick asks the Foro's if they have a copy of their concerns to give to the Board. Mrs. Foro says she does not. Supervisor Pemrick asks they write their concerns and give to him. He will give that to the Code Enforcement Officer and see what can be done with the Codes that we have in place. Mr. Foro asks if there is a logging permit in place. Supervisor Pemrick states yes. We are a logging community and we welcome that in our community. Johnson, C. states there is a Commercial Timber Harvesting Code. There are specific guidelines. Butch Duffney states it does not have hours. Supervisor Pemrick asks that the concerns be sent to him and he will speak with the Code Enforcement Officer. On a motion from Cochran, C. and seconded by Veitch, C. the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Town Clerk

September 13th, 2018 continued

September 13th, 2018 continued

