

Board Meeting
September 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Fred Belay, Chair, at 6:30 pm at the Town of Union town hall. People in attendance were: Supervisors – Jeff Bechard, Jeff Whyte, Deb Smith, Gloria Bloom, Clerk Beverly Christopherson, Deputy Clerk Kala Eslinger and see attached list of visitors.

Flag Salute

Eau Claire County Circuit Court Judge – Branch I – Brian Wright: Eau Claire County Circuit Court Judge – Branch I – Brian Wright wanted to introduce himself to the Town of Union Board. He is replacing Judge Bourget and his first full day was September 8, 2015.

Storm Water Agreement – Kelly Jacobs: This agreement is for Eau Claire County – The Town has three options: 1) Opt to go with the country Agreement 2) Go to the DNR and create our own and 3) Apply for permits like others do. We are exempt from MS4, County is MS4 but Town of Union is not. The county has certain requirements that they must meet as MS4; they must address storm water management, document how things are going, and make sure in agreement with DNR. The of Ludington has their own ordinance if we choose to do our own this would be good reference, if we go with the country agreement we are stating we understand and are willing to work with them, If we choose to do neither we will have to apply for permit. The Board wants to go over the draft of the ordinance before a decision is made. Kelly Jacobs stated that as long as we are working with the county about the agreement no deadline is set for when the agreement has to be done this year.

Plan Commission – Dokkestuhl and Eau Claire Co-op Oil: On Dokkestuhl CUP the county has already approved this, well and septic are ok. Planning commission did not have documents to do at their meeting; Deb Smith made a motion to approve Dokkestuhl CUP with county stipulations. Jeff Bechard seconded the motion, all approve, and motion carries.

Eau Claire Co-op Oil CUP – They are asking the Town of Union to re-zone where the Gemini Drive-in is to II. Eau Claire Co-op Oil wants to purchase the land the drive in is on but it has to be re-zoned as they plan to put a storage and warehouse facility on the land to house salt and fertilizer. Everything will be under one roof with DNR approval. Owners of the Gemini were not present at the meeting but Eau Claire Co-op Oil has an agreement depending on re-zoning. Railroad is a done deal, they agreed to all parameters – nothing in writing was brought to the meeting. Town will not re-zone if railroad is not a done deal. Fred Belay made a motion to approve re-zoning on the condition they purchase the property, Deb Smith added also to approve with any conditions that the county may impose. Jeff Bechard seconded the motion. Roll call vote was asked; Fred Belay – Yes, Gloria Bloom – Abstain, Jeff Bechard – Yes, Jeff Whyte – Yes, and Deb Smith – Abstain.

Roads – Updates – Decisions: Jeff Whyte reported that Folsom Street will be worked on the end of this week. Crack seals are all done and Star Ridge will need grading.

Youth Forest Land: Fred Belay said that he roped off the area with yellow tape and sprayed the trees that need to be cut down. The Town has a quote of \$10,000 to cut the trees down, County said that they would charge \$2,000 a day and it will probably take 5 days. The County does not have time to do this at this time but they would have time later, will tell them by Oct. 30. Jeff Whyte and Jeff Bechard will work on getting another bid. The Town also needs to get a quote on what the logs will be worth, Jeff Bechard will also look into this. Logs will be left in driveway after they are cut. Jeff Whyte made

a motion to get more bids on cutting the trees down and hauling the logs. Gloria Bloom seconded the motion. We will talk about at next meeting when we have more bids.

Delmore Road Management System: This Company rates roads, surveys culverts, and ditches. They have a computer system that does all this for them and they are wondering if the Town of Union would like more information. Ball Park cost for this is \$16,000 to \$17,000 initial investment and then \$3,000 a year. Jeff Bechard questioned if there is a problem with the way it is done now. The county takes care of our roads. The board decided that they don't need any more information and Fred Belay will call and let them know Town is not interested.

New Kennels and Dog Day Care: On August 9, Happy Pooch opened a dog day care center in the Town of Union. Was not aware they needed any type of license as when they were in the city of Eau Claire no license was needed. They have done some remodeling in the building to make it compatible for them. They offer all day dog care and grooming. Dogs are not left in crates at this facility they run and are watched 24 hours a day if necessary. They have an indoor/outdoor area for them to run. Under our ordinance we have at this time grooming and boarding is covered, the only part is the day care. We need to look at changing the ordinance for the business to operate in the Town of Union. The Town board advised her that her first step is to go to the county to check on zoning and have someone from the county come out and inspect the facility that it is up to code for a business. Town will give a temporary license in order for her to get with the county and make sure everything is fine. Jeff Bechard made a motion to grant a license for the kennel and grooming for 60 days in order for town to create the ordinance and for the county to approve the zoning and inspect the building. Fred Belay seconded the motion. All approve except Deb Smith opposed. Motion carries and she needs to fill out the application tonight and pay the fees. Fred Belay will stop by and speak with the dog grooming shop run from the house on Folsom St.; they also need to comply with the Town.

New Ordinances: The Town of Washington is considering banning tunneling under Town roads. This is because once the roads are tunneled under they sink. Town of Union might want to consider also looking into this.

Second would be a large group ordinance – we had 3 music festivals in the Town this year – They all filed for a one year contingency and then after that it is permanent. The Town would have to look into if the Town did pass a large group ordinance would it work with the county's conditional use permit. We will put this on the agenda for next month to look at this a little deeper. Town needs to get more information in regards to the festivals and the decibel levels they produce. The Eaux festival was extremely loud and the Town needs to look after the residents.

Town Clerk Training Report: Town Clerk reported that the Town needs to make some changes on how the Agenda is done for monthly meetings. Explained that the Agenda has to have more information to inform Town Residents what is going to be talked about.

Fire Station Report: Dave Kliest was not at the meeting, no report given.

Building Inspector: Town was given the Report that was left by Al Balsiger listing building permits given.

Board Reports – MPO – Nothing to report –**Town Association –** next meeting is October 29th and that is the picnic.

Tourism – Visit Eau Claire nothing to report, ski hill will be holding another event – Did not get the beep baseball. **Fire Board** – Still working on tower – will cost less – looking to hire help for the mechanic **Trails Committee** – Nothing New

Citizens Input & Questions – No questions or comments at the meeting.

Review/approval Previous meeting's minutes: Deb Smith made a motion to approve with changes as listed: Double check spelling of Pat Germain's name, Town Assoc. next meeting is in Oct., change Folsom St. to Folsom St. on page 2, and next board meeting is September 8th. Gloria Bloom seconded the motion, all voted yes, motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: Polly Jensen was not at the meeting and no report was given to the board at the meeting.

Fred will send a letter letting Polly Jensen know that we need the report at every meeting.

Fred Belay and Deb Smith will be on the committee to review all appointed employees.

Review/Approval of bills: All the Fire and Room Tax bills are caught up as of this month. Jeff Whyte made a motion to approve bills for the month, Deb Smith seconded it. Board members and it was unanimous, motion carries.

Licenses – Operators, etc.: Operators licenses – Board approved Brooke Devine but did not approve Jill Krumenauer. **Underground cable permits** – Gloria Bloom made motion to approve for Luther Grohn and Jeff White seconded, motion carries. **Driveway permits** – Menard Inc., Jeff Bechard made motion to approve and Fred Belay seconded, motion carries. **Fireworks Permit** – Ken Schroeder for wedding reception at Westgate –Permit Approved, Jeff Bechard made motion to approve with the stipulation he has approval from the fire department, Deb Smith seconded, motion carries.

Constables Report: Russ Johnson was not at the meeting but the Board did go over the new day care and the dog grooming business in Town of Union. Will have Russ check in on these businesses to make sure they are compliant.

Fire Number Markers: Notes were read by the clerk regarding discussions on fire number markers. Fred Belay made a motion that the 1st Fire Number Marker is free and the Township will pay for it. Any additional Markers are the current property owner's responsibility. The cost for these will be a minimum of \$25 or the current cost. Gloria Bloom seconded the motion. The board voted and it was unanimous, motion carries.

Town Properties Updates: Town received nothing from Anderson Bridge. Fred will get a quote on Painting and fixing the doors on the Town Hall.

Set next meeting dates, agendas: Next Board Meeting will be October 13th. Budget Workshop will be October 19th at 4:30pm.

Gloria Bloom made a motion to adjourn. Fred Belay seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
Adjourn 9:30pm