

Regular Town Board Meeting
MINUTES
Town of Armstrong Creek
Armstrong Creek, WI 54103
February 15, 2021

Chairperson Barbara Barker called to order the Regular Monthly Board Meeting
at 5:00 p.m. on February 15, 2021.

Present

Chairperson Barbara Barker, Supervisor Don Chitko, Supervisor Bonnie Pycrz were in attendance.

1) Approval of Agenda

- Chairperson Barker asked for a motion to approve the February 15, 2021 agenda. Don Chitko made that motion and Bonnie Pycrz seconded. Motion was carried.

2) Approval of Minutes

- Don Chitko made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2021 Regular Town Board Meeting and Bonnie Pycrz seconded that motion after corrections were noted and made (under Agenda item “Other” it should read Ben Castelic not Steve Kircher regarding donation of money to the Fire Department/Rescue Squad in lieu of paying the town for work done.) Minutes were approved.

3) Citizens Input

- Wally Leja reported on the progress of broadband in our area. This is located on the tower just east of our pavilion. During that discussion it was also reported that the tower on Fatla road is for AT&T and T-Mobile. White Construction has also been doing work in the area and concerns were expressed. It was reported that work has recently been completed. Wally suggested someone post information regarding the new broadband services to our Facebook page and on our Website. Don Chitko reported that Northwoods Connect will provide free internet service to the Community Center.
- Chairperson Barker reported on her findings regarding restrictions for opening the Community Center and Pavilion for events. She reported after contacting the County Health Department and the WTA that the decision would be left up to each township. The decision could change depending if new rules or restrictions would be imposed by our Governor in the future. A representative from the Citizens For Armstrong Creek group inquired about how this would affect Polish Heritage Days to be held the weekend of July 23rd to July 25th. A vote on this will be done under agenda item #9.
- Sam Pycrz asked for permission to brush out areas on the town right of way where he will be doing logging jobs on Wall and Wozniak Roads. Concerns regarding damage to town roads and how exception to road limit restrictions will be handled. Permission to deck wood on the opposite side of the road was asked for but discouraged by Road Boss James Kowalkowski due to the potential of damage to the road. Issues pertaining to other jobs and questions about private property lines involving those jobs was discussed. Don suggested Sam come to another meeting to discuss this further.

4) Communications

In the absence of Treasurer/Clerk Chris Frydrych, Chairperson Barker handled the correspondence.

- The contract to hire WIPFLI to do our year-end financial statements was signed and Don Chitko made a motion and Bonnie Pycrz seconded that motion to approve the hire of WIPFLI again this year.
- A letter regarding this year’s LRIP was presented but no action taken.

5) Treasurer's Report

- In the absence of the treasurer Chairperson Barker read the January treasurer's report. It was reported that January receipts were \$60,301.16 and January disbursements were \$289,523.93 leaving a balance in the General Fund of \$346,001.12. This amount included any tax collections and remaining tax settlements to be made. Don Chitko made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Bonnie Pycz seconded that motion. Treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

6) Profit & Loss Report

- Chris is continuing to work on bringing the Profit and Loss Budget Reports up to date. Don suggested that if there were any problems doing that, an auditor might be hired to look over the books. That will be discussed if the need arises and will be added as a March agenda item.

7) Truck Purchase

- Road Boss James Kowalkowski explained all issues relating to the repairs required to get the new truck purchased from Oneida County up and running. The repairs could amount to approximately \$8,500. The dealer from which the truck was purchased, Quality Truck Care Center agreed to absorb the first \$5,500 of repairs and the town would be responsible for the remaining \$3,000. James suggested in the future we stay away from purchasing older used equipment due to potential problems, and more time be spent "shopping around" before purchasing. Don made a motion that we accept the \$5,500 offer from Quality Truck Care Center and the \$3,000 replacement of the injectors come out of the General Fund. Barbara Barker seconded that motion. Motion carried.

8) Property Purchase

- After discussing the facts regarding the property in question near Hilbert Lake which is of interest to Robert Laurence, Don Chitko suggested a description of the property be posted in April to request bids, and the issue be further discussed at the June meeting and a decision made then.

9) Resuming Rentals of Community Center and Pavilion

- As discussed earlier in the meeting, Chairperson Barker stated that after doing research on the safety and requirements for opening the Community Center and Pavilion for rentals she suggests we resume rentals immediately with the reminder that the decision is subject to change if necessary. Bonnie Pycz made a motion to that effect and Don Chitko seconded that motion. Motion was carried.
- Don Chitko suggested that someone take inventory of all equipment and tools to make sure everything is operational and that all supplies needed are available. He will make arrangements for that.
- Other possible rentals were discussed and it will be put on our website that the Community Center and Pavilion are available.

10) Raise for Dump Attendant

- Discussion was held at the January meeting that the wage for the dump attendant be raised and this was tabled for the February meeting. Don suggested the wage equal that of other part-time employees which is \$15/hr. Discussion as to whether the increase would fit into the budget was held and it was again suggested that this be tabled and will be opened again at the March meeting.

11) Handling of Bill from Ben Castelic

- Ben Castelic did some work for the town and in lieu of payment suggested we donate the amount we would have paid him to the Fire Department/Rescue Squad. After some discussion it was decided to ask Ben for a bill which the town would pay and let him know he could then donate the money himself.

12) 5-Year Road Plan

- Discussion on the update/revision of our 5-Year Road Plan was held. James agreed that it did need updating because certain things on the current plan have already been done and some were done differently than the plan originally outlined. He also suggested the plan be redone because work scheduled to be done on major roadways in the area may affect the price we have to pay if equipment is already in the area and we may want to change our plans to take advantage of that. That will be revisited at and discussed further at future meetings.
- James suggested getting a proposal to the Forest Service to coordinate efforts to take advantage of a 75/25 deal to upgrade Wall Road. He will continue to research this.
- Discussion on LRIP will be done at the March meeting.

13) Revision of Comprehensive Plan

- In 2010 the town worked together with North Central Regional Planning Commission to come up with a Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Armstrong Creek. The Wisconsin Towns Association reports that plan is required by Wisconsin Statutes to be updated every 10 years. Wally Leja reported that he did think we needed a revised plan because of the upgrades in our broadband and other things that have changed and evolved in the community. Chairperson Barker suggested we get together a 5-person committee to handle this and asked Wally Leja if he would be willing to assist with this project. He agreed to help.

14) Stanley Borzecki Road Update

- The issue in question requires research on paperwork filed in the past. Carol Coffey volunteered to go through old town records looking for anything regarding the establishment of the road in question and whether the town is in ownership of the said property before any action can be taken

15) Samp Pycrz Road

- After much discussion earlier in the meeting, the questions regarding permission to operate heavy equipment on town roads, etc. by Sam Pycrz during his logging jobs was continued and it was decided that he will check with the board previous to moving equipment from one place to another. He will be required to have a permit from the town to move equipment while road limits are on during certain times, dates, and weather conditions as to when he will be permitted to travel on town roads. Certain restrictions will also be applied to forwarding wood to other areas in regard to which roads he can use.

16) February Pay Vouchers

- In reviewing the vouchers a question was raised about the Verizon Wireless bill and whether a change should be made. After all questions were raised and answered Don Chitko made a motion to approve the February pay vouchers. Bonnie Pycrz seconded that motion and it was carried.

Portfolio's Discussion/Action

a) Road and Equipment

- James Kowalkowski agreed that most equipment issues had been discussed earlier in the meeting but said he would wait and see how the Oneida truck performs before he fixes the Sterling to have it up and running to put up for sale. It needs a new pump which would take weeks to get and install.
- Selling the old International to the Town of Goodman was discussed and it was agreed by the board that it would not need to be posted.

b) Community Center

- James reported that he handled the issue of the water freezing and suggested doing some insulating in the Spring rather than running a heater because of the

expense.

- It was suggested the furnaces need to be serviced. James will call and schedule that.

c) Garbage

- Nothing to report regarding the dump.

d) Cemetery

- Nothing to report regarding the cemetery.

17) Schedule March 2021 Regular Meeting for March 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

18) Motion to Adjourn made by Don Chitko seconded by Bonnie Pycz. Motion carried.
Chairperson Barbara Barker adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by
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