

Regular Town Board Meeting

MINUTES

Town of Armstrong Creek

Armstrong Creek, WI 54103

June 21, 2021

Chairperson Barbara Barker called to order the Regular Monthly Board Meeting at 6:10 p.m. on June 21, 2021.

Present

Chairperson Barbara Barker, Supervisor Bonnie Pyrcz, Supervisor Bob Janczewski and Clerk Tamaney “Sam” Augustin were all in attendance.

1) Approval of Agenda

- Barbara Barker asked for a motion to approve the June 21, 2021 agenda. Bonnie Pyrcz made that motion and Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried.

2) Approval of Minutes

- Barbara Barker asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7 and May 17, 2021 meetings. Bonnie Pyrcz made that motion and Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried.

3) Citizens Input

- Mike & Jan Williams- They have a home at Forest Lake. They are concerned about rumors that they have heard about water levels dropping on their lake. It was explained to them that a dam in Fence, which helps to hold the water levels up in Forest Lake, needs extensive repairs. These repairs to the dam could cost more than \$240,000. A bottomless culvert is also a possibility if funding cannot be found to repair the dam. If this option is chosen, it would lead to water levels dropping approximately 4-5 feet in Forest Lake.

It was recommended that they attend the town board meeting in Fence as they will have to fund the project according to DNR recommendations and make the decision as to how it is handled in the coming 3-5 years. They were also encouraged to organize their neighbors and voice their concerns at the local level first and work their way up the legislative ladder if a resolution cannot be reached. They were also encouraged to contact groups like Trout Unlimited and Ducks Unlimited to see if they can help to come up with a solution. Bob Janczewski stated that the board would do what they could to support their efforts to get a positive resolution to the issue.

- Collette Nelson asked for a list of future projects so that she might be able to guide us toward grants that could help fund those projects. She offered her expertise to Armstrong Creek with their effort to apply for grants as long as it does not conflict with her grant writing position with the Potawatomi.

4) Communications

- Barbara Barker shared a quarterly update that she received from Goodman. She likes the format and the content. Discussion regarding some sort of similar communication format for Armstrong Creek and the possibility of mailing it available to all residents. Including it on the website or printing it and making it available to pick up for free at a central location were mentioned. Sam Augustin will be getting info on bulk mailings, including restrictions, requirements, and postage rates.

5) Treasurer's Report

- Chris Frydrych submitted the treasurer's report to the board members via email. It was reported that May receipts were \$718.36 and disbursements were \$22,366.65, leaving a balance in the General Fund of \$67,427.43. Bob Janczewski made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Bonnie Pycz seconded that motion. Treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

6) Annual Liquor License Renewals 2021-2022

- Sam Augustin stated that all of the applications for liquor licenses, cigarette/tobacco licenses and operators (bartender) licenses were renewals of previously issued licenses with Blue Roof submitting additional operator license application. The applicant currently holds an operator license in another county as well. Tamaney Augustin requested that a motion be made to approve the renewals of the licenses and to issue the operator licenses. Barbara Barker made that motion and Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried.

7) Comprehensive Plan Update

- Barbara Barker shared suggested updates to the Comprehensive Plan. CenturyLink additions, cell tower additions, as well as adding information that our park has restrooms that meet ADA standards with a playground, pavilion, free wi-fi access and basketball court. Mention of rescue squad and fire protection need to be added as well. Bob Janczewski made a motion to approve the additions and Bonnie Pycz seconded. Motion was carried.

8) Community Center updates to rental rates and contracts

- Barbara Barker shared the current community center and pavilion contract being used as well as samples of contracts from other area towns. Fee structure confusion needs to be remedied. Barbara Barker asked that anyone interested in volunteering to help with revising the contract and fee structure to please get in touch with her.

9) Welcome Signs Update

- Barbara Barker reported new Welcome signs will be put up after paperwork is completed. More information on progress will be provided soon.

10) Email change proposals

- Sam Augustin presented information to board members explaining the need to get away from using personal email addresses for town business. She proposed that the board members use email addresses ending in @armstrongcreek.org. It was explained that these email addresses will be used by anyone who holds the position and will be accessible by the current board if a person is no longer a member of the board. An example of an address is: clerk@armstrongcreek.org. This address will be used by anyone who holds that position.

If approved, the email addresses will be posted to the website immediately so that anyone who needs to contact a board member will see the new address. Bob Janczewski made a motion to authorize the email changes and Bonnie Pycrz seconded. Motion was carried.

11) Forest County Festival Grant attendance hours

- Bonnie Pycrz shared that we were chosen to receive a \$10,000 grant. We are required to attend the festival on July 3rd from 10-6 with a descriptive presentation on how we intend to use the grant funds. Sam Augustin will help put that presentation together. Each member of the board will take a shift, with Barbara Barker taking the shift when checks are presented.

12) Discussion/action spring weight restrictions for maple sap haulers

- Bob Janczewski stated that maple sap haulers are held to different standards than milk haulers by the state. Solutions to lift those restrictions on town roads without the haulers having to approach for permission every few years are needed. This would give haulers confidence to pursue more long-term contracts for hauling without there being a risk of losing that access.

Developing a possible permanent ordinance that allows for the unhindered access to hauling with standards regarding use of proper hauling equipment would be the best solution. Research is going to be done on how to put such an ordinance together. This will give the sap haulers an added ability to pursue new long-term business without risk of inability to fulfill those commitments..

12) Pay June Vouchers

- All vouchers were reviewed. Bonnie Pycrz made a motion to approve the June vouchers and Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried and vouchers were approved for payment.

Portfolio's Discussion/Action

a) Roads and Equipment

- James Kowalkowski reported pedal repair was made on loader, He also reported that Forest Service can possibly help with some matching road funds for road repairs. They can incorporate some matching funds in their annual budget to help with cost of paving or repairing without us having to apply for grants.

He has been cutting off the top of the gravel pit to get it open; will be finishing the last three trees in next week. They can rent the equipment and finish removing stumps and moving brush. It can be done in-house with \$1920 invested in equipment rental and hauling fees. He was given permission to do that.

b) Community Center

- James Kowalkowski reported that areas with holes and low spots were filled and other prep to get areas ready for Polish Heritage Day.
- Barbara Barker reported that the exterior of the building will be repaired as soon as the materials are delivered.

c) Garbage

- James Kowalkowski reported that new computer system scheduling mix-ups with the new owners of company have been resolved.

d) Cemetery

- Grass is cut and all looks good

e) Other

- Bob Janczewski asked that we consider putting in a tank for off-road fuel storage. It would eliminate the approximately fifty cents per gallon road tax. James Kowalkowski stated that he would look into the available options.

22) The July 2021 Regular Town Board Meeting will be July 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

23) Motion to adjourn was made by Bonnie Pyrcz and seconded by Bob Janczewski. Motion carried.

Chairperson Barbaraara Barker adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by: Tamaney Augustin, Town Clerk
clerk@armstrongcreek.org