

Regular Town Board Meeting

MINUTES

Town of Armstrong Creek

Armstrong Creek, WI 54103

August 16, 2021

Chairperson Barbara Barker called to order the Regular Monthly Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on August 16, 2021.

Present

Chairperson Barbara Barker, Supervisor Bonnie Joe Pycz, Supervisor Bob Janczewski, Treasurer Chris Frydrych, and Clerk Tamaney “Sam” Augustin were all in attendance.

1) Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve the August 16, 2021, agenda- Bonnie Joe Pycz made that motion and Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried.

2) Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2021, meeting was made by Bonnie Joe Pycz and Barbara Barker seconded. Motion was carried.

3) Citizens Input-Stan Maruszczak asked regarding when the culvert will be put in on Christanovich Rd. James Kowalkowski stated that the work would be done after additional gravel grinding at the pit was done so that there would be sufficient material to get the job done.

4) Communications

- Barbara Barker shared information on the thank you cards that were to be sent to the Potawatomi Council for grant funds that were awarded to Armstrong Creek for the well at the town garage and to the Lions Club for their donation that was made toward the purchase of the new commercial refrigerator in the kitchen at the community center.

Barbara Barker also discussed the extension of deadline for submissions (August 20) to the 5-year plan with North Central Planning Commission for parks and recreation, giving us the opportunity to submit a “wish list” of projects. We will include new bubbler and portable hand washing stations at the park; aluminum bleachers, portable fence, moveable bases, concession stand with electricity and roofing for dugout areas at the ball field and develop a picnic area and update signage at the Red Bridge.

Hwy 101 construction will make the road unavailable to all except residents until mid/late September. All truck traffic should follow the designated detour routes

5) Treasurer's Report

- Chris Frydrych submitted the treasurer's report to the board members. It was reported that July receipts were \$52,027.55 and disbursements were \$27,912.84, leaving a balance in the General Fund of \$101,827.70. Bonnie Joe Pycz made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Bob Janczewski seconded that motion. Treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

6) Rescue Squad presentation- they will reschedule

7) Discussion/action early morning engine braking noise issues

- Jerry Gudowicz brought up the early morning noise of engine braking on Hwy 101 as they approach town. He would like to see an ordinance regarding that as calls to Forest County Sheriff have been unsuccessful because there is no ordinance in place for them to enforce. Bob Janczewski stated that most people who live in areas with this issue simply become accustomed to the sound.

He also mentioned an incident at Polish Heritage Days that resulted in the sheriff's department being called and an ambulance call. It was suggested that cameras be placed on the property for security purposes. It was also suggested that someone be designated at big events who would be responsible for contacting the sheriff's department if an issue arises. Further research on possibilities of adding cameras will be done.

8) Discussion/action policy regarding funerals and senior meal site scheduling

- Barbara Barker discussed a recent conflict with a funeral dinner being scheduled at the same time as the senior meal site. Discussion was had regarding whether funerals should take precedence over meal site or any other scheduled event at the Community Center. After this discussion, Barbara Barker made a motion that any previously scheduled event reservation would stand and funeral dinners would need to be scheduled around those existing reservations and that both events could occur in the same day if there was sufficient time to accommodate both, Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried.

9) Discussion/action spring weight limits

- Continued discussion on the winter weight limits and developing of an ordinance that will address the concerns of the local truckers. A copy of another community's ordinance was shared to possibly use as a model for what we want to adopt. Having a no-load ruling as well would allow truckers to get home during restricted times. Sam Augustin has been asked to draft an ordinance that will address these issues in the best way possible. She will have something tentative together by the October meeting

10) Discussion/action possible sale of two trucks

- Bob Janczewski said that James Kowalkowski would like to have permission to sell the two trucks that are not in use rather than letting them sit and deteriorate. There are website options that he can pursue at no cost to the town. We can also place links to this on the town's website and put-up notices in town. Bob Janczewski made a motion to pursue selling the old International and the Stirling (less the plow). Bonnie Joe Pycz seconded. Motion carried.

11) Discussion/action possible road brushing

- Bob Janczewski reported that road brushing needs to be done. He also stated that the town should consider buying the equipment to handle this. James Kowalkowski said that last fall and early winter, he did as much as he could with chainsaw. Discussion was had regarding putting the equipment purchase into the proposed 2022 budget.

12) Discussion/action insurance and license requirements for hired contractors

- Bob Janczewski discussed the need to be sure that all hired contractors have proof of both liability and workers compensation insurance before they are allowed to do work for the town. Bob Janczewski made a motion that all contractors must provide the proper paperwork before a job is started and when a job is sent out for bid, it will be specified in the bid sheet specs that these are provided to the town before any job can be awarded. Bonnie Joe Prycz seconded. Motion was carried.

13) Discussion/action bidding process for town jobs

- Bob Janczewski mentioned the need to be more diligent regarding the bidding process for jobs. After much discussion and many different viewpoints on the matter, Bob Janczewski made a motion that all jobs for the town be placed out for bid regardless of the anticipated cost. Bonnie Joe Prycz seconded. Motion was carried.

14) Discussion/action beer cooler or kegerator for CC and potential electric upgrade

- Barbara Barker gave board members information on several options for kegerator or beer cooler. The old kegerator was not repairable, the bottom was rusted and the coolant in it is no longer legal to use. The beer cooler options were discussed and the larger one (holds 88 6-packs) that would fit under the counter at the bar by making it three inches wider. Further research on a few more possible sources of purchase will be evaluated and recommendations will be made to the board later.

15) Discussion/action main phone number for town

- Sam Augustin proposed to the board that they should consider having a single phone number for the town. She presented an option from Verizon that allows for a phone call to be received on any smartphone by simply installing an app from Verizon. It can be installed on as many as five devices at one time. It is \$25 monthly plus taxes and fees. It would also eliminate the need for a board member's personal phone number being a main contact point for the town. Barbara Barker made a motion to allow that process to be set in motion to obtain that main phone number and establish a call tree protocol for the town. Bob Janczewski seconded. Motion was carried.

16) Review/pay August Vouchers

- All vouchers were reviewed. Bonnie Joe Prycz made a motion to approve the August vouchers and Barbara Barker seconded. Motion was carried and vouchers were approved for payment.

Portfolio's Discussion/Action.

a) Roads and Equipment

- Brakes are redone on the grader
- Gravel crushing started Wednesday, August 18.
- Road signs, that were on back order, have been installed.
- Most roads have been graded and cold patched. .
- Mowing will begin on roadsides during the last weeks of July.
- Equipment has been running well with only repair of significance being replacement of foot pedal on loader.

b) Community Center

- Need for furnace maintenance service was discussed and it was determined that it is due to be scheduled. James Kowalkowski will schedule that appointment.

c) Garbage

- Bonnie Joe Prycz working on new contract information and will report back when she has received it. Sam Augustin will assist with this process. A new contract will be pursued with cost quotes included for additional dumpsters at special events on town properties.

d) Cemetery

- Frank Kowalkowski will be asked if he can share information on the cemetery. His knowledge is invaluable, and we need to learn as much as we can from him. His willingness to share that knowledge will be greatly appreciated.

e) Other

- Barbara Barker announced that the Centennial Celebration for the town will be held along with Polish Heritage Day in 2022. A planning meeting will be scheduled in the very near future.

17) The September 2021 Regular Town Board Meeting will be September 20, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

18) Motion to adjourn was made by Bob Janczewski and seconded by Barbara Barker. Motion carried.

Chairperson Barbara Barker adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

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