

August 6, 2019

The Albion Monthly Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Venske on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 6:50 P.M. at the Albion Town Hall with the following members present: Bob Venske, Abigail Staff, Jeff Lehnherr, Pat Tesar, Lawrence Beck and Julie Hanewall, Clerk with 16 concerned citizens. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bob Venske. Clerk Hanewall confirmed the meeting notice was posted on the web site and in 4 locations: Town Office, Outside the Town Hall, Oberg's Bar and Piggly Wiggly.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 2, 2019 – Jeff Lehnherr mentioned that at the July 2 meeting John wanted to put on siding, should not be a condition. Also, I miss spelled faucet. Abigail Staff made a motion to approve the July 2, 2019 minutes with changes, Jeff Lehnherr 2nd, 5 ayes, motion carried.

Public Participation/comment – Claude wants a letter sent to the garbage contractors about missing pick-ups. Ron Urick from Indian Heights asked who is responsibility to clean out the Walkways/Easements. The easement was moved about 6 years ago. Who would mark it and clear it? It is blocked by mature bushes. He has been walking across Margie's yard. He is asking what can be done to open up this access? Bob Venske will visit the site with Ron and find a solution. Will have an update at the meeting in September.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING – Chairman Venske opened the public hearing – Clerk Hanewall will call your name, please stand and give your statement. 3 min limit. She also stated that this public hearing published in the Edgerton Reporter on July 10, 17, 24, 2019. Also, all involved were served in person.

Bill Barrett – 86 Craig Rd, Rockne Rd. He stated on his deed that this Road was sold to the Town for \$1.00 in 1968. Questioning how this can be vacated? Attorney Matt Roethe stated that under state law 66.1003(4) allows the town to vacate any public road if it gives appropriate notice.

Steve Behm – 12 Aarback Rd. Haugen Rd. The late John Stolen years ago stated that this could not be done because the easements were not wide enough, what changed? If he sells the house would it make it a land locked parcel? The county allows shared driveways, as long as the land abuts a public right of way, it doesn't have to enter just abut it. Will the township grant access off of Aarback Rd. to his property? Yes, as long as it meets the standards of the ordinance. What was the agreement on Haugen Rd in the past? At one time it was advantageous to the Town to receive road aid from these gravel driveways. Venske stated: since that time: equipment got expensive, material got expensive, labor got expensive, and road aid did not grow. Right now with 3 1/2 miles of gravel road it cost about 15,000 to maintain a gravel road. We get .45 cent a foot. Steve stated he has had about 5 yards of gravel in 23 years. He complained about having a server at his house at 10:00 p.m.

Abigail Staff made a motion to extend Steve's time by three more minutes, Lawrence Beck 2nd. 5 ayes, motion carried. Steve also wanted to know why we exempted part of Thronson Rd. He would like to have this table until next month, to get some answers to his questions. He thinks it is wrong to single out certain people, all the roads are under budgeted. He would also like to see the agreement made on Haugen Rd.

Maryjo Johnson - 1552 County Rd A, Johnson Rd. She did send a formal objection to the vacation. This has been a town road since 1949. Power is up by the house would make it hard to get in if the road was vacated. They rent out land. Sounds like it is already done deal. A decision will be made tonight. Thinks this is pretty shady.

Donald Haried – 1552 County Rd A, Johnson Rd. To vacate this would be a hardship for us. The Town road dates back 1949. We built our house ten years ago, if we had known this was going to happen, we would have built closer to County A. What is the Annual cost? How much revenue was provided in maintaining the gravel roads since they were established? What portion

of that money was applied to the gravel roads? What will the annual savings be on the gravel roads? Would like to see this tabled for 6 months.

Ron Thronson – 784 Thronson Rd. North section – This road starting at Hwy 73 was renovated in 1955. The land was taken from the farm. All these years the township did all the maintenance. The township was told at the time it was a private drive going north. Only in an emergency would they plow the driveway. In 1998 Sveum found out that Thronson Rd also went left and right. The township from then on maintained the road. They recently found out that they have been paying taxes on the road.

Tim Thronson – He talked to Dan Frick, can't count on the fence lines. They are paying tax on the road. Buy the land from them. From 1972 to 1998 the road was never plowed. The facts are undeniable. 13 total roads, vacating 6, who's next? They own the land under the road and would like someone to look into it.

Donavon Sveum – 781 Thronson Rd, south end. How was the decision made to vacate the 6 roads? He bought the property in 1979. First thing he did was try to make it a town road? In June of 98, found out it was a road. They have been maintaining the road, so they should pay him back. He wants the signs down, and off the google maps. He has a lot of pot holes, no one has maintained it.

Helen Olstad - 1041 Bliven Rd – Olstad Dr. Moved in 55 years ago. We were not designated as a town road it was a private driveway. The policy was to plow some of the private roads when heavy snow and would be charged on the tax bill. Wally Nelson who was in charge of the roads came to Wayne and asked if he would like to make their driveway a town road. This way they could swing in and clear the road. This could be a financial burden on these people and that should be taken into consideration. We need to be neighborly.

Claude Radermacher – 161 Craig Rd - Support to the board of this emotional subject that you have to make a decision on. This whole deal came about because of financials, as a board you are charged with fiduciary responsibilities for the township. I trust you will make a good decision.

Kim Olson – More a question for plowing, rather than the upkeep of the road. Don't know what the financial cost is for continuing to plow the roads. Is there some sort of compromise? We need to put the money where it is the best use. How much would it cost us to continue to plow?

Tim Thronson - Would like to know what the actual savings would be?

Gary Trulson – 727 Oak Dr. - Trulson Tr. He agrees with everybody. As far back as he can remember it has been a town road. This was proposed for financial reasons. He has seen gravel put on once. The town should have records, of when, the cost, of gravel and plow. Don't start project unless you know the savings.

Close Public Hearing – Closed public hearing at 8:06 P.M.

Discussion/Approval of Resolution# 19-05 – Vacating portions of various town roads. – Staff – Can we piecemeal this and work together? Venske – We should get the figures together, we would need to isolate each road and get the cost, some asked to spread this out. Not unreasonable, should talk about this more. Agrees that more studies should be done. Staff asked Attorney Roethe if they can piecemeal this together, making deals with this and that. Roethe stated: This is a policy decision, the only thing if you table, you will have to personally service either by a processor or a certified letter and publish in newspaper. Lawrence Beck made a motion to table for 6 months, reasons for tabling need costs involved, what will we gain or lose financially. Pat Tesar 2nd. Staff asked that Beck retract his motion because this is not a lot of road. If the motion is removed Staff will make a motion to deny. Let's make these permanent roads and get them on paper and fix it forever. Motion has been made that we table for 6 months and 2nd. 0 ayes, 4 nays. Abigail Staff made a motion to deny the resolution#19-05, No Second. Beck would like to see the numbers. Venske thinks the board should table until Spring. Kim Olson stated the board has to make a decision for the whole town, everyone here who has talked has their own self-interest. If they came to the budgetary meetings, they would have an understanding that the Town

is trying to save money and do the right things. Abigail Staff made a motion to deny resolution# 19-05, Pat Tesar 2nd. 3 ayes.

Update/possible action on CKSD issues – Gary Tellefson – Nothing new still working on the building issues, work in progress.

Update/possible action on Access/Driveway Permit and/or Refunds – Refund to Larry Kruckenberg on Lake Drive Rd.

Approval of Petition# DCPREZ-2019-11451 for Ryan Dedolph – Pat Tesar made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Plan Comm and approve, Lawrence Beck 2nd. 5 ayes, motion carried.

Approval of Petition# DCPREZ-2019-11455 for Dakota Gray – Pat Tesar made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Plan Comm and approve, Lawrence Beck 2nd. 5 ayes, motion carried.

Approval of Petition# DCPREZ-2019-11465 for Possin Living Trust – Jeff Lehnherr made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Plan Comm and approve, Abigail Staff 2nd. 5 ayes, motion carried.

Discussion/possible approval on Bingham Road Boat Landing – Put on next agenda.

Road – Fahrner finished up the chip sealing and came back and swept. They do have some repair down by the lake that Scotts will do when back in the area. That will be taken care of next week, that will take care of the roads. Will need to shoulder and do gravel roads. Mowed the park and had it ready for craft fair. Started mowing ditches. Hoping Josh will be back around a little more so we can get more done. Reoccurring back problem. The building was finished yesterday and approaches will be next week.

Fire District – Randy not here because of National Night Out. He did want me to mention they are recognizing the four for the house fire in Fulton. They will be receiving a Meritorious Public Service in Heroism Award.

Chad Green would like to have fireworks on the ice (Koshkonong) on February 1, 2020. Need to get permission from the Town. We don't have a pyro permit process; all he needs is a statement signed by the Town. Carries his own insurance. Need to talk to the DNR: Contact Rob Davis. It will start at 4:00, Sky divers will land on the ice at 6:30, fireworks will follow about a 20 min show. If you get DNR approval and bring something in writing and we will discuss it.

Is there a business running out of the storage units on Hwy 51?

Contact Ben Wepel about littering on Jacobus Rd.

Jeff Lehnherr made a motion to pay bills, Lawrence Beck 2nd. 5 ayes, motion carried.

Abigail Staff made a motion to adjourn, Jeff Lehnherr 2nd. 5 ayes, motion carried.

Julie Hanewall, Clerk