

TOWN OF HOLLAND BOARD MEETING

April 10, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT	Chair Steve Michaels, Supervisors Mike Hoffman, Jerome Pedretti, Robert Stupi, Kathy Warzynski
STAFF PRESENT	Clerk Marilyn Pedretti, Town Crew Gary Hofer; Town Engineer Jim Webb

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Michaels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notices were posted.

MINUTES

Motion by Warzynski/Stupi to approve the minutes of March 14th and March 20th. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS: none.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR REPORT: none.

BALL FIELDS

Michael Goryl, 1902 Independence Avenue, spoke on behalf of the Holmen Youth Baseball Parents Association (HYBPA) requesting use of the Town baseball fields and concession stand for the summer 2019 season. Discussion followed concerning parking issues. Board members requested the HYBPA make use of the new parking area to the east of the Town hall (Wildflower Park). Motion by Hoffman/J Pedretti to allow Holmen Youth Baseball Parents Association to use the two fields out here for the summer season and Skogen's field. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

DRAINAGE ISSUES

Michaels noted the Town engineer, Jim Webb, was present to assist in answering questions.

Steve Mieden, N7123 Bice Avenue, spoke of his concerns with drainage in their neighborhood and noted that, while the flooding was especially catastrophic with this last event, they have had multiple flooding occurrences over the last few years. He talked about the blocked roads, silting, and lack of infiltration. Mieden noted the actions he and the Noffkes took to pump water, excavate and sand bag. He asked the Town to look at short term and long range planning. He added that this also becomes a safety issue with the water becoming a magnet for kids.

Jared Noffke, N7015 Bice Avenue, detailed the severe flooding that took place around their home on March 14th. He talked about their sewer system backing up into their house, the water levels coming dangerously close to losing their home and the fire department's help in pumping water. He thought that the drainage issues have become worse since originally designed 20 years ago as a result of additional homes built which divert water to their lot. He asked the Town to find a solution and suggested engineering a drain field to handle the water using the CapX2020 money. He was not asking the Town to fix what happened but to find relief for future events.

Ivy Noffke, N7105 Bice Avenue, said they have lived in their home 15 years and have watched the new homes being built with their yards pitching towards their small drain field. She noted they had nine feet of water this last event and appreciated the pumping the fire departments provided but they also had to excavate a 14' hole to get below the frost level. Noffke reported the costly expenses they have incurred with this flooding and stated they cannot stay in this neighborhood knowing this could happen again. She provided pictures of past flooding.

Lane Liudahl, W7735 Volendam Street, reported they were two inches away from water in their home and appreciated the sand bags. He was concerned with the empty lot at the end of Volendam, which was completely under water with drainage from the neighboring farm field. He questioned how that will affect drainage when a home is built.

Jack Butzler, W7747 Volendam Street, stated he did not have flooding to the same degree as some of his neighbors but there was some damage and expenses in paying for pumping and hauling 6 truck loads of water away. He met yesterday on site with Jacob Switzer, County Land Conservation, and after looking at the whole area, it appears that 20 acres is flowing to the corner of Van Dunk and Bice. He noted the weather is changing and the Town needs to plan for these events and suggested a task force.

Bob Hoffman, W7705 Van Dunk Street, shared the concerns of his neighbors and was concerned that the Town will lose track and nothing will change. He stated this is a public safety issue.

Mike McMarrow, N7097 Bice Avenue, stated he has lived in the neighborhood the longest and noted the draining takes longer to dissipate each year. He was present for moral support of his neighbors.

Melissa Horman, N7093 Bice Avenue, stated they were one of the first houses built and the drainage seemed adequate then but the more houses that are built in the area the higher the water level is in the summer. She was also present to support her neighbors.

Jenny Waller, W7151 Heram Road, reported their home was surrounded by water and they could not access their driveway for several days. She noted they had similar flooding two years ago. She asked that the Town look at the culverts and grading in the area.

Travis Waller, W7151 Heram Road, stated the 1,000 acre area drains through their property and asked for relief.

Mark Dunne, W7189 Heram Road, noted he has 35 acres with a 6 acre horse pasture that floods in the spring because of the frost. He offered an area in his back yard that the Town could dig a hole which could provide a drainage pond for the 1,000 acres.

Jim Webb, Town engineer, stated this last event was “localized” flooding, which is the bane of urbanized areas as storm water systems are frozen and cannot function properly. He provided comments on some of the retention areas on his mapping and gave some history of why storm water regulations started in the 1980s and how it has evolved over the years. Webb stated drainage easements should include flood relief plans and noted options are limited when the ground is frozen but in normal conditions the rule on infiltration is that it has to drain in 48 hours. He noted rain gardens are a better option because they do not silt up like a yard.

Michaels thanked everyone for their input and noted the Plan Commission will continue this discussion at their May 1st meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

Road barricades and road signs: Michaels thanked the Town of Onalaska for the loan of road signs during this past flooding event and noted we need to replace one of their signs due to damage. Discussion followed on purchasing additional signage for future events. It

was the consensus to research all options. Motion by Warzynski/Stupi to replace the Town of Onalaska damaged sign not to exceed \$500. **MOTION** carried unanimously. The other options will be discussed next month.

2019 seal coating and crack filling: Clerk Pedretti reviewed the background information and cost options as quoted by La Crosse County Highway Department. Discussion followed. Motion by Stupi/Hoffman setting 2019 seal coating and crack filling work to be option 2 as listed which takes out Castle, Chris and Kip and hold off on Waldenberger and include five days crack fill. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

Heram Road: Clerk Pedretti reported no state funding has been received yet and reviewed the request to replace two property pins that were within the right-of-way. No action needed.

Town crew updates: Gary Hofer, Town Crew, reported they are working on some equipment for spring, they started the first brush chipping of the season and swept the parking lots with the tractor broom. Michaels reported the Boy Scout Troop 91 has volunteered to help empty the sand bags. J Pedretti also suggested that if the Scouts were looking for more work, they could help with garbage pick-up along Town roads.

PLAN COMMISSION

CUP Cell Tower: Chris Henshue, o/b/o Bug Tussel Wireless and Christine and Greg Christen, W7404 County Road T, requested a permit for the installation of a 195 foot cell tower. He explained that there are 21 planned towers in La Crosse County. He outlined the three tasks of the towers: (1) provide broadband internet service, (2) installation of AT&T equipment; and (3) function in one capacity or another as a network being developed for Department of Homeland Security for effective emergency communications.

He read a letter from Christine Christen indicating: “We kept in mind our neighbors in planning with the least amount of intrusions, such as no guy wires, less than 200’ and no flashing beacons but defer to the Town Board as they debate the safety merits.” Henshue noted there are many structures in the area without warning lights but he also deferred to the Board on safety. Stupi reported the Plan Commission also discussed the beacon and made a unanimous recommendation to approve pending recommendations from the Holland Air Park. Discussion followed and Henshue gave additional information about the structure and answered questions.

Motion by Stupi/Warzynski that we approve the Conditional Use Permit for the installation of the cell tower that would include a beacon on top. **MOTION** carried 3 yeas (J Pedretti, Stupi, Warzynski) to 2 nos (Hoffman, Michaels).

Zoning Petition Clark: Jay Clark, W7312 Sylvester Road, requested a rezone of 6.77 acres from General Agricultural to Rural to create two residential parcels. Stupi reported the Plan Commission appreciated his thorough report and explained his request to carve out an acre on the southwest portion of the parcel for a future home. He reported the Plan Commission unanimously recommended approval of the rezone. Discussion followed. Motion by Hoffman/Stupi to approve the request to rezone 6.77 acres from General Agricultural to Rural for owner Jay Clark at W7312 Sylvester Road. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

Mitigation of drainage issues: Stupi reported the Plan Commission discussed some general concepts concerning the drainage issues in the Town. He explained the areas identified as possible consideration:

1. Are retention ponds being maintained properly, especially as relates to silting?
2. Who maintains drainage easements and how is that reported?

3. How much authority does the Town have on private easements, noting that people fill them in or add plantings that change the filtration?
4. No stormwater designs could have covered this past flooding event which was an “act of nature” but repetitive flooding areas should be studied.
5. The County Land Conservation Department’s explanation was well done.
6. Culverts – are they installed correctly, how often are they checked for compliance and how to budget checking over 1,500 driveway culverts.
7. More “road closed” signs should be purchased.

J Pedretti asked if they could review the subdivision ordinance on how drainage easements are designed. Doug Klenke, N6954 Sunrise Lane, member of the Plan Commission, noted designated ponds are turned into parks and suggested that could affect drainage. Discussion followed. Stupi stated they will have in-depth discussions and examine possible solutions at their May 1st meeting and invited the public to attend.

Report on 4/3/19 meeting: Written report provided.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Michaels reviewed the minutes from the March 21, 2019 meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Weed Commissioner: Motion by Hoffman/Warzynski to appoint Robert Stupi to the Weed Commissioner job for two years. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

Plan Commission: Motion by Stupi/J Pedretti to appoint Jeff Osgood and Kathy Warzynski to the Plan Commission for three year terms. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

IMPACT FEE FUNDS

Members reviewed the list of suggestions from the March 20, 2019 public input session on allocating the Badger Coulee Lines’ Environmental Impact Fee funds. It was the consensus to place the McGilriry Bridge request on the May meeting agenda.

COMPOST SITE: SECURITY

Michaels reviewed the quote received to trench 310 feet, bury wire and install a 110 outlet for a security camera at the compost site. Discussion followed. It was the consensus to obtain additional quotes.

RESOLUTION 2019-1: INSURANCE CLAIM

Clerk Pedretti read the following into the record:

DISALLOWANCE OF CLAIM OF RAYMOND EASTON

WHEREAS, Raymond Easton has filed a claim alleging that on or about March 16, 2019 as he drove through a Town of Holland road, located by his residence, that damage was caused to his vehicle by water over flowing the road, resulting in damages and request for reimbursement of \$500; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Holland has reviewed the information, investigated the facts and determined that the Town of Holland has no liability for this claim, and recommends formal disallowance of the claim by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the above stated claim does not appear to be meritorious and should be disallowed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the claim of Raymond Easton against the Town of Holland, its officers, officials, employees, and agents is hereby disallowed and further be it required that notice of disallowance of this

claim shall be served on the claimant by registered or certified mail and the receipts therefore, signed by the claimant, or the returned registered letter, shall be proof of service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the claimant shall be notified that no action on the claim against the Town of Holland, nor against any of its officers, officials, agents, or employees, may be brought after 6 months from the date of service of this notice of disallowance.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2019.

Motion by Stupi/Hoffman to approve Resolution 2019-1. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

WEBSITE

Clerk Pedretti explained there were some hiccups in going live with the new website today. She will keep the Board updated on the progress.

FIDUCIARY RETIREMENT REPORT

Board members reviewed the Fiduciary Retirement Report as provided by Treasurer Marla Wagner.

WTA OFFICIALS WORKSHOP

Michaels explained the Wisconsin Towns Association 2019 Town Officials Workshop opportunity. New board member Jeff Herlitzke and Clerk Pedretti expressed interest in attending. Motion by Stupi/Hoffman for two to attend the WTA Town Officials Workshop. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT & BILLS TO PAY

The March Treasurer's report was reviewed. The April bills were reviewed. Stupi had expressed concerns with the Holmen Pumping invoice and made note that the procedures for approving work that is estimated to cost more than \$1,000 must go through Board approval and an emergency meeting can/should be called. Motion by Stupi/J Pedretti to approve the bills for \$66,299.49. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – FUTURE AGENDA

Reminder of the April 17th annual electors meeting and a detail of the 2020 Department of Transportation road work near Hunter's Bridge is available for review.

Michaels presented Kathy Warzynski with a "Certificate of Appreciation" and thanked her for her nine years of service on both the Town Board and Plan Commission.

ADJOURN

Motion by J Pedretti/Warzynski to adjourn. **MOTION** carried unanimously. Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn J. Pedretti, Town Clerk