

TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MAY 18, 2015

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A. Notice of the meeting was posted at Town Hall, the park at 4539 American Way, Gaston Road at Brown Thrush and US Hwy 12 & 18 at County Road BN, and on the Town's web site. Town Chair Kris Hampton and Supervisors Mike Fonger, Steve Anders, Kristi Williams and Mike DuPlayee were present, along with Clerk Kim Banigan, Treasurer Debra Abel, Highway Superintendent Jeff Smith, Deputy Brian Biwer and Lt. Brian Hayes.
- B. Hampton called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
- C. Minutes of previous meeting(s):
  - 1. **MOTION** by DuPlayee/Williams to approve the April 30, 2015 road inspection minutes as printed. **MOTION CARRIED 4-0-1** (Anders abstained).
  - 2. **MOTION** by Williams/DuPlayee to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2015 public hearing and Town Board minutes, with the correction of one typo. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- D. Finance Report and Approval of Bills: **MOTION** by DuPlayee/Anders to approve payment of bills corresponding to checks #23611-23657, as well as #23610 which replaced #23601 that was written to the wrong vendor. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- E. Public Concerns: None.
- F. Road Right of Way Permits: None.

II. BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss/Consider response to response to resident traffic concerns on Vilas Hope Road: Colleen Richart, 4264, had written an email to the Town Board expressing her safety concerns due to speeders. Deputy Biwer said that Vilas Hope Road is one of the most highly traveled and highly policed roads in the Town. He provided a list of the 53 citations issued on the road from February through April 12<sup>th</sup>. There were actually 62 traffic stops, with citations issued to drivers traveling at least 10 mph over the 45 mph speed limit. A speed board has been placed there and seems to be helping, and the deputies now have a laser gun which will help with enforcement. Smith said there are not enough driveways in a 1000 foot stretch to satisfy State Statute requirements for a Town to lower the speed limit below 45 mph. Ms. Richart wondered if any other factors, such as limited visibility, lack of shoulders, business traffic for America's Best Flowers, etc. could factor in, but Smith said not. Ms. Richart said that mailboxes have been taken out more than once in recent years, and she is also concerned with the safety of children waiting for the school bus in the morning, when the traffic is the heaviest. Hampton said it appears all that can be done is to increase enforcement, but there was general agreement that the Town does not want to earn a reputation for creating a speed trap. Residents agreed that enforcement has been much better since the DCSO took over policing the Town on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Deputy Biwer noted that calls for service typically increase in the summer months, which may leave less time for traffic enforcement. Lt. Hayes said he will alert the DCSO traffic team and SAM1 deputies that enforcement is needed during the morning commute hours. Residents were advised to let the Town Board know if they see an improvement with continued enforcement actions, or not.
- B. Discuss/Consider approval of reservation of the Capitol View Park for a neighborhood picnic on May 25<sup>th</sup>: **MOTION** by Anders/Fonger to approve the park reservation, and to waive the reservation fee since it is a neighborhood function. **MOTION CARRIED 4-0-1** (Williams abstained).
- C. Reconsider decision to bill costs of arson fire at 4721 Gaston Circle to the property owner: Hampton reported that the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief are not able to identify which of the

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costs are extraordinary to the extent that they would be comfortable testifying in court if it came to that. The Clerk stated that she would not be comfortable approving an invoice that included billing for volunteer and mutual aid services that the Town has not actually been billed for.

**MOTION** by Anders/DuPlayee to reconsider and rescind the April 6<sup>th</sup> decision to bill the property owner for the costs of the arson fire at 4721 Gaston Circle. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

- D. Discuss/Consider approval of an agreement with Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc. for bridge inspections: The Bridges on Uphoff and Femrite Roads were found to be deficient by the County's bridge inspector. Thoughts are that the Uphoff Road bridge may be able to be repaired, putting off the expense of replacing it for some time. Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc. proposed to perform in depth inspections of both bridges, submit a new bridge inspection report to the DOT if inspection results in a different conclusion than the County's inspection did, and provide cost estimates for repairs or replacement of the bridges. Discussion was that this seemed like a good investment compared to facing the replacement of two bridges at the same time, and due to the fact that it can take up to 3 years of paperwork to qualify for a 50% reimbursement from the State. **MOTION** by DuPlayee/Williams to approve an agreement with Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc. for inspection of the bridges on Uphoff and Femrite Roads, not to exceed \$1,000. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- E. Discuss/Consider time line for cleanup and repairs of 2542 Gaston Road: A time line emailed to the clerk from the property owners listed several items that have been completed and others that will be completed by May 22, June 22, July 11 and August 24. Neighbors acknowledged that there has been progress but asked that the Town Board continue to monitor the situation. There was a report that a brush pile had been left to smolder over night, the Clerk will follow up to be sure that the burning ordinance restrictions are understood. **MOTION** by Williams/DuPlayee to review the progress of the cleanup and repairs at the July 6<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- F. Discuss/Consider approval of an agreement with Tetra-Tech for private well sampling services: There was a question as to why the cost to sample two wells this year is similar to the cost to sample three last year. **MOTION** by Williams/DuPlayee to approve the agreement with Tetra-Tech for private well sampling services since the cost depends on their being able to sample the wells in conjunction with other upcoming work in the Town, but directing the Clerk to make sure they understood that there are only two wells this year. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- G. Discuss/Consider approval of quote to re-pave the Town Hall parking lot: Smith had gotten a ball park price of \$15,587 from Wolf Paving to re-pave and re-stripe the front parking lot area only. He stated that the Town public works employees could take out the old blacktop. He had not gotten any other quotes, thinking it best to find out if the Town Board supports moving forward with the project before involving other contractors. Hampton suggested using 2014 carryover funds to pay for the project. **MOTION** by DuPlayee/Anders to solicit quotes from other contractors to repave and re-stripe the front parking lot, with a separate quote for the area between the Town Hall and Garage. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- H. Discuss/Consider approval of the purchase of a rototiller for use in Town parks: Smith explained that in the past the Town has borrowed a rototiller and garden tractor from the Village public works department, but the Village recently replaced their rototiller with one that spins the other way, which would throw playground sand into the grass. He had three price quotes for rototillers: 1) \$2,500 for a Lands, 2) \$2,450 for a Bush Hog, and 3) \$1,875 for a Woods. He said any of them would be suitable, and the Village public works director has agreed to allow the Town to continue to borrow their garden tractor. **MOTION** by DuPlayee/Williams to approve the purchase of a rototiller, cost not to exceed \$2,000. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

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- I. Discuss/Consider approval of the purchase of trees for the former Natvig Landfill site: Hampton shared a map of the former landfill site, showing where he proposed to take out some box elders and replace them with more desirable trees. Larry Berg of McKay Nurseries had suggested five Norway Spruce Trees, similar to the ones across Hwy N on the Skaar property, and one Swamp White Oak, at a cost of \$936. There are already oak, cherry and hickory nut trees to the west. Hampton proposed funding the purchase of the trees with ATC impact fees, which the Treasurer reported are currently at \$1,337. **MOTION** by Fonger/DuPlayee to approve the purchase of the six trees, cost not to exceed \$1,000 and paid from ATC impact fees. Planting to be performed by the Town's public works employees. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- J. Discuss/Consider calibrating of salt spreaders: Discussion was that since the Town generally only salts hills and intersections, calibrating would not be all that meaningful. Consensus was to continue with current practices.
- K. Discuss/Consider approval of a Request for Proposal for Auditing Services and timeline for RFP process: The Treasurer had prepared a red-line version to the RFP used back in 2010, and stated that she had a list of potential auditing firms to send it to. **MOTION** by Anders/DuPlayee to approve the red-line version of the RFP, and send it to firms as selected by the Treasurer, due by June 30<sup>th</sup> to be considered at the July 6<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
- L. Review April Police Activities: Board members reviewed the summary provided by Captain Teuscher, which showed 204 calls for service and 99 citations in April, both dominated by traffic related matters.
- M. Set date for the Town Board to tour the non-metallic mining site at 2272 US Hwy 12 & 18: Hampton reported that Wade Cattell has dropped his request to expand the mining site, but requested the Town Board tour the site in advance of the upcoming discussion regarding renewal of the mining permit. Board members agreed to meet at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> to tour the site.
- N. Discuss/Consider approval of attendees for the Dane County Towns Association meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>: **MOTION** by Anders/DuPlayee to allow for three attendees. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

III. CLERK'S REPORT: None.

IV. BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS: None.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Emergency Government Committee: DuPlayee was elected as committee chair, and the June meeting will be held at Paul Davis Restoration, with the agenda to include an item to consider adding Paul Davis Restoration as a non-voting community member of the committee.

VI. Adjournment: **MOTION** by DuPlayee/Fonger to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.** The meeting ended at 8:20 P.M.

Kim Banigan, Clerk  
Approved 06-01-2015