

TOWN OF CHICOG  
Town Board Meeting  
May 12, 2021

1. The Town Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.
2. Pledge of allegiance was recited.
3. Roll call: All Present
4. **Treasurer's Report** was given as follows all balances as of April 30, 2021:
  - Checking Account: Beginning balance - \$36,546.89, outstanding checks - \$7,535.52, includes interest of \$2.11, Final working balance – \$29,011.37
  - Money Market Account: \$328,541.96 includes interest of \$188.92
  - Highway Equip. Maintenance Account - \$8,926.27
  - MMA Equipment Replacement Account - \$ 6,668.38 includes interest of \$ .98
  - Tax Account - \$302.00Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.
5. **Chairman's Report:**
  - a. Our deepest sympathies and condolences go out to the families and friends of Chicog resident Walter Sleva, 62 yrs. young. Information on Walter was posted in the Spooner Advocate along with a date of celebration of live.
  - b. Our dear friends Walter & Anne Reese have departed from us and moved to Illinois to help on a family farm. Thank you for the great friendships and camaraderie that you extended to our community. Yu are greatly missed and always welcomed, stay in touch.
  - c. The Christensen Road project after a year of reconstruction is scheduled for paving Monday May 10<sup>th</sup>. On May 10<sup>th</sup> the Christensen Road project has been completed other than shouldering and watching the grass grow. Thank you Monarch Paving for an excellent and timely job!
  - d. Patching of the Town's paved roads has started along with the regular maintenance schedule.
  - e. I would like the board to look at our highway budget and determine if we have the finances available to chip seal some of our worst paved roads some of which are in desperate need. We have gotten a few numbers together as a reference. Approximately 3 miles of highway, the lower half of Lower McKenzie Rd. and extending through Zehm Road.
  - f. Seems that there is a popular trend of laying down of black tire marks on the asphalt roads "burn outs" how childish and immature! A royal blue pick-up truck has been witnessed on bridge Road extending onto Highway 77 in this activity. There have been some pretty dangerous locations of activity to public safety. Descriptions of offenders, picture of the license plate number or just the number would be appreciated as they will be turned into law enforcement.
6. **Correspondence:**
  - a. We received an informational letter from the National Parks Service; this is in regards to private ownership within their jurisdiction along the Namekagon River. All privately owned properties wishing to make changes to their properties must first get approval from the National Park Service (NPS), not local zoning or government.
  - b. Contractors for the Town of chicog clean-up have been contacted and confirmed for June 12, 2021. Fliers will be posted and are available via the Town's web site.
  - c. I have been in contact with Dahlberg Electric on potential work to McClain Lake Road reclaiming the right of way. The Power poles are far too close to the asphalt and impede proper snow removal as well as public safety.

The representative informed me that the Town will have to cover Dahlberg's relocation cost. We have had this issue before

- d. With a North-Northwesterly wind some of you may have noticed excessive smoke in our area for the last couple of weeks. This has been due to the DNR doing their annual prescribed burns in the Barrons areas not a wild land uncontrolled burns.
- e. Received a Notice of Sales letter form Washburn County. There are 2 parcels of land up for delinquent real & estate tax sale. If you wish to check this out go to [www.wisconsin-surplus.com](http://www.wisconsin-surplus.com). They are Tax ID: 10517 & 9633.
- f. There will be a pop-up pantry and mobile Library event in the parking lot on June 23, July 28, and August 25 from 2 to 2:30pm. Come check it out.
- g. There is a recall on Kidde smoke alarms. The ESG & Fire Department did buy smoke alarms that may fall into the recall. The ones on recall or the "Kidde TruSense Smoke Alarms" and "Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide alarms". This information will be posted on the Town's web site.
- h. Steve Loiselle has received several comment/correspondence in regards to timber, logs & brush being left in the right of way. Pat most of this wood is not in the right of way but on personal land. When we clean out the right of ways we give the owner the option to keep the wood or have us haul it away. If they want the timber then we move it onto their land.

#### **7. CAFO's Ordinance:**

- a. We have received work that the County Board will be looking at this ordinance at the May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Pat Wilcox will be attending.
- b. Kent Shifferd & Louie Columbus requested that the Board look at the change to Section VI that was made by the Attorney. With the change made by the Attorney the limited on how many animals is now only in accordance with NR 243. We feel that this is too many for our area and would like to see it be limited to 100 animals. Discussion follows. Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Steve Loiselle to change Section IV A to read: A "Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation" or CAFO is any facility that requires a permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under Chapter NR 243 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code except that the number of animal units allowed is 100 or less in operations that involve concentrated feeding as opposed to free grazing. Motion passed.
- c. Sue asked Mr. Kohler if we pass this ordinance and the County doesn't would we have any backing from them. Mr. Kohler – No you won't, any legal actions because of this ordinance we would be fighting both the State & County. Further comments from Mr. Kohler. Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Steve Loiselle to table approval of this ordinance until after the County has made their decision. Motion Passed.

#### **8. STR Ordinance:**

- a. At this time, the town board anticipates going into closed session pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(g), Stats., to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved, to wit: Morning View Lakehome, LLC's lawsuit against the town and the notice of claim and circumstances of claim served upon the town.

The town board anticipates going back into open session to vote on matters discussed in closed session.

- b. The Town Board entered closed session with the Town's legal counsel at 7:45 pm
- c. The Town Board returns to open meeting at 8:25 pm.
- d. The Town Chair asked Mr. Kohler to explain to the audience what was discussed in closed session. Mr. Kohler complied.
- e. Motion made by Pat Wilcox to approve the Disallowance of Claim seconded by Sue Kowarsch.

Roll call vote:

Chairman: Disallow

1<sup>st</sup> Supervisor: Disallow

2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisor: Disallow

Motion passed.

f. Motion made by Pat Wilcox to postpone the Repeal/Rescind of the Town's STR Ordinance 2020-01 till a later date seconded by Sue Kowarsch. Motion passed. Date set for a special meeting for this on May 26, 2021 at 7 pm at the Town Hall.

**9. Committee Reports:**

a. ESG – Terri Corrie: 1. We held an ESG Board meeting the other day. 2. We will be holding the Annual ESG Meeting on June 17, 2021 at 10 am at the Town Hall followed by a walkabout event. We will not be serving food but will provide coffee, hot tea and bottled water. Please come and bring your own picnic lunch. 3. We will be trying to hold a summer walkabout once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. 4. We will be holding the Hunter's Feed this year even if we have to make it all take out. If you normally donate butter please remember that June is Dairy month with butter normally on sale. Butter freezes very well. We will need around 20 lbs. of butter. There will be a raffle.

b. Ladies of the Lake: we have this fund raiser back again do to Covid. There will be a meeting on May 13, 2021 at 1 pm at the Town Hall. If you can't make the meeting but would like to be involved please contact Glenys Thorsen at 952-240-4321.

**10. Public Input:**

a. Scott Pahos: I would like a clarification on the date for the Annual Meeting? Terri Corrie – dated posted at Pappy's is wrong I made a mistake the Meeting date is May 22 not the 20<sup>th</sup>.

b. Bill Dubek on the increase of property taxes. Property taxes when up for 2 reasons; 1. The Town's overall assessed value decreased by \$5,000,000 which means that amount was spread out over all other parcels and we raised the tax levy.

11. The next Town Board Meeting will be Jun 9, 2021

12. Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve and pay bills 11500 thru 11524 and -1021 thru -1221. Motion passed.

13. Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed

14. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**Dates to remember:**

May 22, 2021 – Annual Meeting at 10 am

June 5, 2021 – Open Book 10am to 12 pm

June 12, 2021 – Town Clean-up 8 am to 4 pm

June 19, 2021 – Board of Review – 10 am to 12 pm