

November 13, 2019
Town of Wood River Annual Budget Hearing & Special Town Meeting

The Public Hearing Meeting for the Annual Budget: Chairman Ron Burg called the Public Meeting for the annual budget to order for the Proposed Budget for 2020 at 6:35 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Ron Burg asked if there were any questions. Chuck Swenson asked why the Highway Improvement amount went down. Clerk Raylene Swanson stated that it was due to the increase in the amounts for wages and equipment maint., gas & oil. These offset each other. Blaise Vitale asked when the new Town Hall would be built. Ron Burg stated the plan is to have it done by the end of next year. Ron Burg adjourned the Public Budget Hearing at 6:41 p.m.

Special Meeting of the Town of Wood River was called to order by Chairman Ron Burg immediately following The Pubic Meeting. Ron Burg stated there would be a vote on the proposed 2020 budget as provided. 19 voted in favor. 0 opposed. 2020 Budget was approved unanimously. Chairman Ron Burg adjourned the Special Town meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Raylene Swanson, Clerk

November 13th, 2019
Regular Monthly Meeting

The Regular Board of Supervisors meeting was held at the Town of Grantsburg office on November 13th, 2019. Present were Chairman Ron Burg, Supervisor: Gilbert Meyer, Treasurer Laura McKeag, Clerk Raylene Swanson, Road Maint. Operator Duane Selander, and 19 others. Supervisor John Hennessey was absent.

- I. **Call to order:** Chairman Ron Burg called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge was said at the beginning of the Budget Hearing.
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** The November 13, 2019 agenda was reviewed. All voted in favor. MC.
- IV. **Approval of 2020 Budget:** Gilbert Meyer made a motion to approve the 2020 budget as printed and approved by the Townspeople. Ron Burg seconded it. MC.
- V. **Approval of Minutes from prior Board Meeting:** Ron Burg said there were a few things he would like added into last month's Minutes. Ron requested the note "This wage aligns with the County's pay scale." under the section – Road Maint., Annual Review. Ron also stated that is should have been stated as "8 sections of the 20-year plan, which is reviewed every 10 years" under the Planning Commission notes. Clerk Raylene stated she wrote down what was stated. Gilbert Meyer made a motion to approve the October 23, 2019 meeting minutes as written with stated corrections. Ron Burg seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MC.
- VI. **Communications Report:** Clerk Raylene Swanson stated that the required grant paperwork was submitted to Wisconsin Elections Commission. She said she has been recruiting Election Inspectors for the 2020-2021 term. She said she would be appointing a Deputy Clerk within the next few weeks. She will be working on training the individual and will be done next April as stated this past April.

- VII. **Treasurers Report, Laura McKeag:** Treasurer Laura McKeag submitted the October 2019 Treasurers report. The General Checking Balance is \$106,844.97; The Money Market balance is \$1,087,983.94; the CD balance is \$35,796.25.
- VIII. **Public Forum:** (3-minute limit per person, unless arranged in advance): Chuck Swenson mentioned that last month Wayne Lake had requested no parking be done on the portion of the Burnett Dairy parking lot that could be potentially bought by the Town. He wanted to know if it could be covered too. Wayne Lake said the soil that is being dug up will have to be compacted otherwise will have to be removed. Patrick Hansen presented a copy of a petition originally submitted to the County. 463 petitioners against a 97 lot RV park. He referenced the Town of Wood River 2011-02 Mobile Home Ordinance and it's wording. Changes have been made in State Statutes over time. He believes that this Ordinance should pertain to the Wood Lake RV Camp. He received a copy of drawings for a 85 lot RV Park with Wood Lake RV Camp. Patrick hoped Sam would be able to answer to the disconnect between the 12 lots stated last month and the 85 lots submitted to the State for approval. Ron Burg asked where he received these from. Patrick stated he submitted an Open Records Request with the State of Wisconsin.
- IX. **Former Wood Lake Bible Camp:** Samantha Langenbach, representative of the Wood Lake RV Camp stated: we have cut down a few trees for maintenance purposes only. They were near buildings. The property is 234 acres owned by Wood Lake Camp and Retreat. They had a meeting last week with the President of Converge Great Lakes, whom are Baptist affiliated, and asked them if they would like to come and run our camp. We have a lot to work out. We are only in the beginning stages. If they were to agree, their staff would be coming in to run the majority of the operations. We would still have maintenance personnel etc. She said, "let's address the issue of the RV Camp". Sam gave us a copy of a map of 12 RV lots which are located within the original camp. We have updated the electrical and plumbing. She said, "it is our understanding that with the current conditional use permit we can have the 12 sites but will not allow 'Park Models'. These sites are only related to camp issues. How are these 12 sites to be used? They will be for staff and volunteers." Regarding the map of RV lots- ½ mile to the lake. We have put in a transformer that would support 12-13 RV's only. Some gravel has been put there. Their vision: if Converge does not want to do it, we would use it for family etc.. Not open for public use. Wood River has no zoning. Kinsella's were concerned that if they didn't submit it for 85 and zoning came in, they wouldn't have a chance. The deal with Converge would not allow a profit. The goal is to keep the camp as a successful Bible camp. Sam requested that the Board get an unbiased legal opinion to confirm if the wording is actually correct in the State ordinance. Would hope to open in the summer of 2021. Originally had been optimistic and stated 2020. The State will require a license whether it's a public or private campground. Regarding building permits for work that has been done: I asked Building Inspector Jon Mattson if any permits were required from the Town. He said "no." The construction work/remodeling of Cabins 1-10 along the lakeshore are almost complete. The 'Tandem' is just being started on. Currently boy staff/girl staff with bathrooms in the middle and bunk in each room. The office got a new furnace and floor. 'Damascus' had interior work done. Wood River side: put electricity in 'Ojibwe' area where a transformer was installed for 12 future RV lots. Hope to have a horsecamp or prayer cabins. Trade Lake side: have put in a pole building. Have done some work on Swedish Church.

Ron Burg asked Samantha the following questions: “What is your capacity at the Camp?” She said, “I work for Pat and Judy Kinsella. I run a rental company for them. I have been asked to help with the permits and paperwork. I do not have any authority with the Camp.” Ron asked, “Converge Great Lakes, are you looking at renting the grounds to them?” Samantha said, “yes. We are hoping for a 10 year agreement. We would do maint. work, mowing etc.” Ron asked, “what were the upgrades done to the 12 site area in the original camp area?” Sam said, “The electric and plumbing were updated to code. We’re still waiting on the water test results. License dependent on water test.” Ron asked, “85 lot site. You are saying now that it is only 12?” Samantha replied, “yes.” Ron asked, “How are you conversing with Jon Mattson?” Samantha said, “only phone calls. No e-mails.” Samantha’s understanding was that it was County zoning and was told did not need any permits from the Town of Wood River. Ron referred to Town of Wood River Ordinance 2002-1 and Sam read aloud paragraph 1 of the ordinance. Ron stated she must ask the Town for any building permits. Ron referred to the Town of Wood River’s 2011-02 Mobile Home Ordinance. Samantha does not think the mobile home ordinance applies. The State does not believe that what they are putting in is a mobile home park. Their attorney would like the Town to seek independent counsel. Samantha accused the Town of doing a fishing expedition. Samantha asked Ron, “what is your relation to the Concerned Citizens of Wood Lake?” Ron said he had a place on Wood Lake and that he would consider himself generally supportive of The Concerned Citizens. He wants to make sure laws are being abided by. Samantha submitted an Open Records Request for all Building Permits applied for in the Town of Wood River in the last 12 months. Ron said that he hoped we could get answers. Gilbert said, “this is a fishing expedition on both sides. We need to continue to communicate over the next month.”

- X. **Road Maintenance Report, Duane Selander:** Duane reported that there has been issues with the intersection of Range Line Rd and Hegge Rd. Daniels Town did some work and Duey had put up a “Stop Ahead” sign. Working on getting this ready for snow. Duane said he would like to have a different helper. Ron will meet with the candidate on Thursday, November 14th.
- XI. **New Town Hall Project Report:** Ron Burg reported that the testing company had identified more contamination and will be working on getting the contaminated soil excavated. More testing will need to be done. Ron Burg stated he would follow up with Dan Dowling on the question about parking this winter on part of that lot.
- XII. **Planning Commission Report, Rick Cunningham:** Reported that the Planning Commission has reviewed the first 8 chapters of the 20-year plan. Now will be reviewing the recommended changes. No meeting date has been set.
- XIII. **Fire Association Report, Gilbert Meyer:** No meeting since our last Board Meeting.
- XIV. **New Business:** No New Business.
- XV. **Audit bills and sign disbursements:** Bills were audited and paid.
- XVI. **Identify agenda items for next meeting:** Town Hall project discussion, 2020-2021 Election Board, Wood Lake Camp and regular monthly items.

XVII. **Adjournment:** Gilbert Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Burg seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Raylene Swanson, Clerk