

TOWN OF BLUE MOUNDS  
Town Board  
December 14, 2009

Dennis Jelle opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Present were Chairman, Dennis Jelle, Clerk Helen Kahl, and Supervisors Al Antonson and Joen Meylor.

Helen Kahl read the minutes of the November 9, 2009, meeting. Al moved to approve, Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Gary Sutter appeared to discuss a potential expansion of his dairy facility on HWY 78 S. The family is considering expanding a couple hundred cows to about 550-600 cows. They do not have to go to the DNR with this size expansion. He has talked to Pat Sutter from Dane County Land & Water. Dennis mentioned the town would want to work with him to designate driveways at specific places and there would be recorded field roads with permits. No fees would be required for these field roads. He hopes to expand his manure storage to 6 months capacity. Al mentioned that spillage on roads is also a concern. Toward spring the Board would work with Gary to designate the field roads.

Reini Straubhaar appeared regarding his rezone from RH to B-1. The county wants to know if he still retains his one RH split. Historically, in the township, commercial splits have not counted when calculating the number of potential development rights. Al moved that, in accordance with our comprehensive plan and to adhere to previous similar situations, Reini Straubhaar retains a residential split on his parcels, Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0. Helen will send a letter to County Zoning Dept. regarding our decision. In other discussion regarding that area, Jesse Straubhaar indicated that Eckel Road and HWY F intersection should be improved with the increase in traffic due to the added residences and businesses. He says HWY F is too low there. Al mentioned that Hwy F is a priority with the intersection to HWY 18-151 and a change will happen at some point in time in the next 10 years or so.

Centurian Cycling Event, August 7-8, 2010. Helen indicated this is an international bicycle race, involving thousands of participants. It will only be on a short length of Mounds Park Road in our township.

Moratorium on Commercial Rezones in the township. Al moved to release the moratorium on commercial rezones now that the Comprehensive Plan is finished. Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Al moved to accept the Comprehensive Plan as presented. Joen seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Our land use guidelines which have been in place since 1980 are quite consistent.

By 2010, the county is required to have a new radio system in place. The county will spend about \$30 million upgrading the system. There is a proposed annual fee for maintenance for each municipality, beginning at \$1,140,000 per year, starting in 2013. There is a meeting on Wednesday night, December 16, beginning at 7:00 at Verona. Most municipalities feel the county should budget and tax for this maintenance fee rather than passing it on to the municipality level. According to the County letter, if we do not respond, it indicates we are opposed to passing the annual fee on to the municipalities. Al moved to NOT participate, Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Al attended a meeting at the Department of Revenue to learn why the state wants to go to a county-wide reassessment system as opposed to a state system. There was almost NO support for it. Even Dane County was opposed, based on cost and efficiency. Local control, especially as concerns Board of Review, would be lost under this system. Wisconsin Towns Association opposes it. There will probably be legislation introduced in the coming year.

Working Lands Initiative requires that if you're changing A-1 Exclusive land to Residential, there will be an approximately \$975 fee per acre plus a \$55 filing fee to the county. This begins January 1, 2010.

Discussion regarding the \$300 fee for rezoning homes that were built before the 1980 land use plan. The town does charge the fee, everybody is charged the same. Leo Ryan made a complaint and wanted it to be considered. He rezoned his home plot and felt since they'd lived there for almost 40 years, it seemed like an excessive fee. Dennis moved to keep the fees the same with no exceptions. Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Helen read off the list of potential pollworkers for 2010 as follows: Pat Hefty, Kay Hansen, Darlene Reeson, Pat Hefty, Laura Miller, Helen Ladwig, Faye Morse, Donna Bigler, Jim Ackley, Pat Phillips, Jill Jonas, Carol Riphahn, Lynn Carroll, Ruth Steinhauer, Joyce Boness and 3 new members, Cathie Jensen, Kathy Brock, and Sue Lindem. Al moved to accept list of pollworkers for 2010 and 2011. Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Helen reported we probably do not need the line of credit at this time. Since we have an approved motion from an annual meeting several years ago, we could reopen the line of credit if a need arose. Al moved not to renew the line of credit at this time, Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Al moved to give a \$100 gift for Darlene Shelstad for mowing, Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Land Use Committee, no report, no upcoming site visits or meetings.

No road maintenance report.

Fire District report. The Board has gone thru a review of the Chief, met with the attorney and had many meetings to discuss the issue and make plans to move forward.

Al moved to approve the bills, Joen seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Al moved to adjourn. Joen seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Kahl, Clerk