

KOSHKONONG TOWN  
BOARD MINUTES  
August 8, 2007

Chairman Tim Griep called the meeting on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 to order at 7:00pm Supervisors Carol Clavey, Jae Ames, Jim Brandenburg, and John Debereiner, Treasurer, Judith Almquist and Clerk, Bonnie Dahnert were present.

Chairman Griep asked if proper notice had been made. Clerk, Bonnie verified that postings have been made.

**Plan Commission:**

Met on July 25, 2007 and heard a petition for the development of 26 single-family units on the parcel currently owned by Tom Baker. RSV Engineering and Tom Patterson brought petition to the Plan Commission. Plan commission had concerns about water and septic of the number and the density of homes. Jefferson County zoning considers this parcel prime agriculture land. The plan commission elected to table it for the time. Judy Almquist explained that it can only stay tabled for 90 days.

Supervisor Clavey explained that the other owners would need to sign off on it too.

**Park Committee:**

Carol arrived at the meeting late and deferred to Jim Varah - Oct 6 will be a workday for the park. Making a firebreak will be one of the items to be completed. November 3 work on wall. Jim Varah requested funds for October 6 and November 3 for skid steer use not to exceed \$900. Weed control funds for fall not to exceed \$500. Also requested were \$200 for backpack sprayer and chemicals. Ron Martin said that he would specify the chemicals that would be most effective.

Ames/ Debereiner made a motion to approve the costs of \$900, \$500, \$200 for the Park Committee. Motion Carried

**Public Safety Committee:**

Recap of August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting-Chairman Griep announced that no one was in attendance other than John Debereiner so no meeting was held.

**Public Works Committee:**

*Recap of July 29 meeting-*

Meeting was held with 5 people in attendance. They talked about expectations --- Signs, weed control, snow plowing etc. to get a grasp on what needs are going to be needed for the future to allow for the time of year and overall job that needs to be done

***Discuss/Authorize shouldering for areas recently paved roads*** – Star School, Poepfel, Hackbarth & County Line --- In residential areas gravel would not be appropriate for lawns. Need to contact the County regarding the steep drop off on some of the roads. Part-time employees could do some of the shouldering. Star School is not as big of concern. Hackbarth is more severe in the drop off. Low shoulder signs should be placed in some of the areas. Hackbarth really needs to be shouldered. Rain may destroy the dirt if we fill with that for lawns. Dip in road at Bramble Bush will hold water. There are driveway concerns where the wedging was done and there are big drops. What should be done? Next year bids should have “driveway leveling” in bid as a specification. Star School and gravel driveways should be taken care of. Ames/ Clavey made a motion to shoulder Hackbarth and it should be directed by Chairman.

Motion Carried. Clavey/ Ames made a motion to leave Star School as is with the exception to have the town employees fill driveways and intersection. Motion Carried.

Clavey/ Griep made a motion to have Jefferson County sheriff report so that he can go back out on patrol. Motion Carried

**Sheriff's report:**

Deputy Sheriff was in attendance and asked for concerns:

Chairman Griep wanted to thank the sheriff department for providing patrol on Bark River Road after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and keeping down on speed.

Ames expressed a concern about the pipeline work making the roads very dirty.

Marion Kutz reported that the intersection at Garvert and Groeler is acting like a racetrack and they might as well take the stop sign down. The deputy said they would patrol the area a little bit better.

Break in reports have been mostly to storage buildings.

Major crashes were asked about, and the deputy reported that they are not too bad in this area.

Most of the serious crashes have been north of here.

More accidents that are animal related would happen in the fall when people take off the corn.

Jim Varah said that people are passing on the double yellow line south of 106 on Hwy N. It is an area that is hard to be less obvious. The deputy asked if there was a certain time of day. No particular time is better or worse.

Griep/ Clavey made a motion to go back to the Public Works information. Motion Carried.

***Shouldering*** - Griep should meet with a county superintendent to discuss the County Line and Poeppel Road for shouldering.

***Discuss/Authorize sale of Allis Chalmers Grader by sealed Bid. –***

This discussion came out of the Public Works meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The only time it is used is to grade Haight Road. Ames questioned the legality of the sealed bid and Griep checked with an attorney about the legality and he was assured that equipment can be sold with out the elctors.

Ames/ Griep made a motion to take sealed bids for disposal of the Allis Chalmers Grader due by 7:00 on September 12, 2007 for opening during the meeting. Motion Carried.

Clerk will generate the notice and can post that it will be available for inspection during the office hours or call a town supervisor.

***Discuss/Authorize Purchase Tires for F350 Truck –***

Back tires (4) need to be replaced. Net state fleet pricing. Keep a tire as a spare. \$115 would be an approx. cost for each. It would be nice to have a spare rim to mount the spare.

Griep/ Ames made a motion to purchase 4 new keep one for a spare and author. Town chair to determine where to purchase. Motion Carried

***Discuss/Authorize equipment purchases for Sign Post Rack, materials 2 Wing Plow Carts and hand tools form Public works employee list.—***

When the public works committee met they felt that some equipment and storage items would be needed.

*Rack* – for cleaning up clutter.

*Materials for wing plow carts* - storage and moving the plow

*Part time employees list* – gas can, flashlights,

*Chainsaw issues and maintenance* – blades sharpened,

Ames/ Clavey made a motion to authorize purchase and cost of materials for post rack, wing plow carts not to exceed \$500. Motion Carried.

***Discuss/Authorize Ford 6610 Tractor repairs.—***

The problem is the shifting forks are worn. They have to be double split and Triebold, in Whitewater quoted \$3100 in labor. Jaeckels asked if it would be worth it. Lee Fischer from Airing Equipment came and met with Supervisor Brandenburg and said the wholesale cost would be about \$6000. Jefferson Co. has new tractors coming in and they are trading them in soon. The proposal is in front of the board. \$25,250 each for purchase of the Jefferson County tractors is negotiable. The County Tractors have cabs, air conditioning, mower, etc. one is a 1999 and the other is a 2000 model. Do we fix for use or for trade? 4600 hours are on the current tractor. Tires are going to be needed next year. Recommendation was made of the super boom mower.

What would it take to get it un-jammed? Butch at Jaeckel Bros. would figure about 2 hours to get it unstuck. (Butch has worked on it before.) Airing Equipment deals with flail mowers. The newer tractor should be more efficient and may only have to do one pass instead of two. We would have to give up the broom attachment if we go with new mower.

We really have to move on getting something done to get on with our roadwork. Rental is \$1600/week. The town could take delivery in September.

Ames/ Debereiner made a motion to have Butch Heckert fix the transmission in the ***Ford 6610*** tractor. Motion Carried

***Discuss/Authorize purchase of Tractor with mower attachments to replace Ford 6610.***

Griep said he doesn't think it is a bad idea. The tractor is worn and it is going to take \$3100 to fix it and we can get \$6000 trade for it.

Didn't use all the money for the snow plow so there would be funds available.

With wild parsnip and invasive weeds in ditch you are risking employees getting harmed by breathing it in during mowing. Having a cab on the tractor could protect the workers. A time to look at the County tractors should set up. Lee Fischer from Airing Equipment said that the tractors are being used currently.

Question of the plow purchase was at the annual meeting. Do we need a town meeting to authorize the purchase of the tractor? Tim will check into the legal issue

Ames/Griep made a motion to give the chairperson authorization to put a tractor on hold. (New Holland Tractor from County) Motion Carried.

The town could get 10 – 15 years use out of a newer tractor.

Jim, Jae and Tim will go and look at it. It will be during the day and Chairman Griep will find out where and when. Tim will let clerk know about quorum notice.

***Dog Lister/ Weed Commissioner Concerns:***

How do we get people to get the license on the dogs? DA office employee doesn't even get license for dog. What can be done? Residents have 4 dogs and don't get license on 106. Marion Kutz is concerned about the people that do not have licenses. People who do not get a license have to sign a paper regarding the decision.

Weeds - who would mow the thistles if a person does not take care of the weeds? Judy explained that a certified letter has to be sent to land owner telling them that the weeds will be destroyed. Cost is a factor in this. Farmco would spray for us if necessary. Farmers will not have to use as much for chemical spray if town takes action on the weeds earlier for the property the town is responsible for mowing. Albion and Sumner do not have a weed commissioner as reported to Chairperson at the Rock River Boat Patrol. Maybe we need to have the problem taken care of and bill back. There are organic farmers that would have a problem with overspray. Clerk can check into the rights to take care of non-responsive weed noticed residents. Most of the reports were on vacant lots and realtor properties. New company has a desire to have the invasive eradicated. Local company, by the name of Landkeepers LLC, could be contracted to destroy invasive weeds.

State statute states that dog licenses must be acquired. Need to check into the legality and process for non-compliance.

Clavey/ Griep made a motion to put dog lister and weed commissioner questions on the agenda for next month and have Clerk to check with DA and the Towns Association and report back. Motion Carried

### **Wolfe Trailer Park:**

Craig Voegeli (former owner) back taxes to Whitewater School District and town.

Trailer was sold and the question was whether the new owner or old owner is responsible for back taxes.

20% is town's receivable, the rest is School district amount.

You cannot garnish wages, or judgment for small claims. They don't have the income to pay it back. The previous owner doesn't make enough money to garnish wages. Treasurer does not know where to file to collect back taxes. \$495 is due at this time. Can it be sold to a collection agency at a reduced amount?

How many of these situations of back taxes do we have at this time? How many and how old are the back taxes on other situations?

Treasurer should figure out how many and how much and if we should turn all of these over to collection.

Is it Volgeli's bill at this time? Treasurer should check into this. Who is actually responsible for bill when a mobile home is sold?

The board does not want to set a precedence in waiving the tax bill.

Clavey/Griep made a motion to check with whoever to find out who has responsibility of back taxes on sale of Mobile home, whether it is the current owner or previous owner; and if no contact is made within 30 days, it will be turned over to collection. Motion Carried.

This needs to be placed on old Business on agenda for next month. Trailer Park is assessed taxes and the home is assessed as personal property.

### **Sign Grant information:**

Clerk called the Michael Erickson to have a copy of the grant faxed to the town. No money has been requested against the grant at this time.

Randy Harris was going to work with the County on this. County was going to order and bill for signs. Paul was going to request on the grant a certain amount of signs that needed replacing. Someone needs to contact the County to see what has been done regarding this. We have up to 3 years to claim funds from the grant.

Supervisor Clavey said she would speak with the County Highway shop about where this stands. Griep/Ames made a motion to have Supervisor Clavey investigate the sign grant and determine what progress has been made and report back next month.. Motion Carried.

**Shop Inventory report:**

Discuss/Authorize Shop Inventory – Ames/ Griep made a motion to table it to next month. Motion Carried

**Old Business:**

**Moritz Driveway** – Keith Moritz was in attendance to speak to the issue. He has the diameter of culvert and will do it to specs with the permitting from the building inspector. Will be placed on Groeler Road south of property. He is doing clearing in the corner.

Ames / Griep made a motion to approve the field driveway for Keith Moritz. Motion Carried. Down in the hollow on Groeler Road we need to do something for water control in the low spot. The sides of the road are higher than road. Town may have to do something for water control where the road is busted up to carry the water away.

Road agreement was discussed and was brought up because Clerk mentioned it to Mr. Moritz. The road agreement should have gone along with the Deed. Dean's Foods agreement is the one Chuck Naber saw 7 years ago when a proposal was spoken about. Nothing has been done about the road agreement.

**Hansen/Fairview Lane Property report** – nothing has been done with zoning as reported by Griep. The property owners were in attendance regarding the concern for set back of house. They have talked with zoning and have the set back information and questioned when it changed. The builder went there and talked to Guy Burlingame about where the set back is. The owner went to zoning and got the setbacks and the claim is that the lawyer is trying to contact the couple about information and they don't recall any of the communication from a lawyer. 30 feet and 63 feet from the center line is the setback for the subdivision. There is no turnaround for the bus anymore. If there is no issue with the house set back there is no issue.

**Ron Burnett Claim**—A conversation with the insurance company said that the tree was not previously reported before it came down shows that the town was not at fault. A letter should be forthcoming. We have not received the letter at this time. Ames/Clavey made a motion pending the letter from the insurance company to deny claim. Motion Carried.

**Minutes/Treasurer's Report:**

Minutes: July 11 - Griep / Clavey made a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Minutes July 19 - Griep/ Clavey/ made a motion to accept the minutes as written.

As of July 31, 2007 the account balances are as follows: Checking Acct. -\$1,895.08, Tax Famma \$2,500.00, Gen Savings \$2,500.00, Repo Agreement \$1,223,302.29, Passbook savings \$10,878.76, Landfill acct \$433.36. The receipts for the month of July 2007 Trailer Fees \$8.97, Fire Call Repay \$1,900.00, Dog License \$361.50, Late Fees \$160.00, Shared revenue State of WI \$10,455.48, 2% Fire Dues \$9,772.90, Computer Aid \$521.00, Hwy Aid \$32,904.92, Managed Forest \$69.06, State of WI credit \$443,365.04, Running at Large \$25.00, Photocopy \$2.40, Cigarette License \$50.00, Liquor License \$350.00, Operator License \$50.00, Haight Rd Snow plowing \$302.50, Publishing of license \$30.00, Park Restoration \$33.00 (bird houses), Fireworks Permit (listed as sellers permit) \$50.00, Fence Permit \$50.00, Special Assessment Letters \$40.00, , Building Inspection Fees \$3,700.00, Plan Commission fees \$25.00, Savings Acct Int.

\$1.92, Tax Acct Int \$1.92, Repo Acct Int \$3,792.42, Receipts total \$508,023.03 with disbursements of \$47,737.23.

Griep/ Clavey made a motion to place the Treasurer's Report on file. Carried

**Public Comment, report meetings attended:**

***Carol ---Put on agenda for next month to:***

A person approached the town picks up garbage on Old Hwy 26 from Stagecoach to Paul Swart's home while riding bike. His name is David Gore and lives on Waubunsee Trail. – He wants to adopt a highway (Old Highway 26) and the request is to be placed on the agenda for next month. The Adopt a Highway was done after they had left for the winter.

***Tim---Rock River Safety Patrol--*** 28 citations 9 in our township. Budget constraints are being experienced because they have 3 people on patrol through Labor Day. The number of citations is down from last year. They believe that the addition of the personal watercraft has helped with this patrolling.

***Tim---Phaser-Wislr Training***

Tim went to training on Phaser and Wisler and feels that he is dreaming about roads now. Rating roads is currently being done by the part time employees. Information is too old for working on the spreadsheet. It will be very useful in projecting work. The town should be able to have the information more current soon.

***Jae---Winter Roads maintenance course.*** – October 3 & 4, 2007 - we should encourage the part time employee(s) to go and others.

***Carol***—Jerry Mortimer sent an email to Carol on behalf of the Friends of Koshkonong. Larry Barta said that the State has made a decision on the Hwy 12 bypass, but Jerry Mortimer was not told what the decision is.

***September 18 budgeting meeting by the UW Extension and Towns Association*** - Tim cannot go. Neither can Bonnie.

**Bills:** Frank Bros. went way over the proposal by a lot. We had problems with this when they did Pottawattami years ago. They went over by \$13,000.00 without approval. \$80,173.92 is the amount that will be paid with a letter asking who approved the additional Ames/ Griep made motion to pay all bills except Frank Bros. overage amounts. Motion carried

**Next meeting-**

August 19, 2007 at 2:00 pm will be the next Public Works Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

September 12, 2007 at 7:00 pm Town Board Meeting

**Adjournment:** Griep/ Clavey made a motion to adjourn at 9:32pm

Bonnie Dahnert  
Town Clerk