

TOWN OF KOSHKONONG
MEETING MINUTES
February 11, 2009

Chairman Tim Griep called the meeting of the Town Board of Koshkonong to order at 7:00pm. Clerk Kim Cheney verified the proper postings had been made.

Supervisors Jim Brandenburg, Jae Ames, Carol Clavey and John Debereiner, Treasurer Judy Almquist and Clerk Kim Cheney in attendance.

Park Committee

Presentation by Mary Linton concerning Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park. Mary Linton gave a slide show presentation on the park and her study of the grasses in the park. She has focused her study on reed canary grass. It is a very invasive grass and she is doing a project on controlling the spread using different treatments, i.e. mowing, burning, etc. There are two more years left in her study project. She also did a survey of the animals in the park, specifically salamanders and wetland turtles.

Discuss/Approve Park rules change to allow nighttime activities. Mr. Walt Christensen advised that Mary Linton has proposed an evening walk thru the park to listen to the frogs. He asked if a special permit would be required to be in the park later in the evening. They have a tentative date set for May 2nd. Ames/Griep motion to approve the proposed nighttime activity hosted by Mary Linton. No discussion, motion carried.

No further park issues.

Luebke Property Drainage Issue

Discuss/Recommend Action regarding drainage issues on the Luebke property. Griep reported the parties involved are currently working out an arrangement to rectify the situation. Ames/Clavey motion to table this issue until the parties have reported back to the town. No discussion, motion carried.

Griep/Clavey motion to suspend the current agenda items to hear from Deputy Griffith of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department. No discussion, motion carried.

Deputy Griffith reported some problems with mailbox bombs being set off, they are investigating. Griep reported hearing from residents about traveling salesman in the Town. The party in question was a traveling beef salesman. Brandenburg reported contacting the company and advising them they would need a permit to go door to door in the town. They have left the area. Griep reported concerns about traffic being re-routed on Town roads due to accidents. Mr. Ron Luebke asked about garbage cans in the road. Deputy reported he will move items out of the roadway if necessary. Mr. Jim Varah asked about weight enforcement on Town roads. Deputy advised that any large trucks should be reported to the Sheriff's department.

Griep/Clavey motion to return to current agenda items. No discussion, motion carried.

Plan Commission

DENNIS STORK: Request to rezone allowed division within existing zone, farm consolidation (pre-1975 home with 35+ acres remaining), 35+-acre lot in A-1 zone. Located at N1085 Groeler Road, Fort

Atkinson, WI, parcel # 016-0514-2042-000. Debereiner reported the Plan Commission approved this request. This is the only way to allow a trailer home to be put on the property for farm help. This can be re-zoned back to A-1 in the future if the situation changes. No dissent from the Plan Commission. Clavey asked if an older trailer currently on the site would be removed. Mr. Dennis Stork reported that it will be moved to the back of the barn to store saddles etc. Griep/Brandenburg motion to approve the Stork request. Ames reported some past complaints about limited visibility on the corner near the property due to crops. This current property will not have crops planted. Ames also advised that their fences need to be kept out of the right of way. No further discussion, motion carried.

JOE ESTHER/COUNTRY INVESTMENTS LLC: Request to rezone 1.1 acre from A-1 To A-2 Agri-Business for storage of non-farm equipment to bring site into compliance with county zoning. Located at W6855 Hwy 106, Fort Atkinson, WI, parcel #016-0514-0822-000. Debereiner reported the Plan Commission approved this request, with a question as to whether there would be a fence around the property. Mr. Joe Esther in attendance and reported there is currently a fence at the back of the property. Equipment would be stored in the current parking lot area. According to county zoning no equipment can be stored that is not related to farming, therefore needs to be rezoned per Mr. Esther. Ames questioned if there would be customers/retail use of the property. Mr. Esther replied no. Ames/Griep motion to support the Plan Commission's motion but also to include that this is not for retail sales. No further discussion, motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Procedure for appointment of Commissioners. Griep reported speaking to Peter Jacobs regarding his term expiring in April of this year. Almquist and Ames indicated there is a procedure for appointing commissioners. Clavey thought the Board voted-in any interested parties. Ames and Almquist indicated any interested parties should submit a letter to the Board indicating their interest and the Board would then make a decision. Almquist suggested asking the current commissioners to possibly extend their term to the see the Comprehensive Plan completed or at least through the first public hearing. Griep/Debereiner motion to accept applications to be submitted to the clerk for review. No further discussion, motion carried.

Proposed County Tax Levy Increase

Information from and questions for Walt Christensen regarding the proposed county tax levy increase. Walt Christiansin reported that the county will have a referendum on the April ballot to increase the levy to support the county nursing home for the next 4 years. The county plans to circulate information regarding this in the paper and by mailers etc. Christensen reported the county will be \$3.5 mil short and is asking for the raise the only way it can, by referendum. Ames asked if this increase will be removed after the 4 years. Christensen advised that the language in the referendum will indicate whether this will happen. Resident Mr. Dale Dahnert asked if this increase is for the county nursing home only or will it be applied to other county services also. Christensen advised that there may be additional language in the referendum that would allow other budget items to be included.

Public Works Committee

Discuss/Approve Hwy Employee comp time over 80 hours. Almquist advised the employee handbook limits comp time to 80 hours and anything over should be paid. Griep asked Ames if he would review the employee handbook and address the comp time carry over with the Town Attorney and report back at the next meeting.

2009 Fee Schedule

Discuss/Approve 2009 Town Fee Schedule. Ames suggested billing other municipalities an administration fee for services we provide. Almquist suggested reviewing the Fire Call and Rescue Services Call fees. Brandenburg suggested reviewing area Towns and their fees. Clavey asked about Plan Commission fees and if it has been breaking even. Almquist indicated the fees don't always cover the expenses of having the meetings. Griep suggested getting schedules from two surrounding towns to compare for the next meeting. Griep/Brandenburg motion to have Clavey obtain 2 fee schedules from surrounding towns and report back to the board at the next meeting. No further discussion, motion carried.

Koshkonong Union Cemetery:

Discuss/Recommend Procedure to appoint a cemetery committee. Griep/Ames motion to appoint Cathy Naber, Ed McCullough and Carol Clavey to the cemetery committee. No discussion, motion carried. This will be a voluntary position.

Discuss recent burial. The town needed to supervise a recent burial before the committee was formed. Debereiner was asked to oversee the interment. Debereiner reported there was an error in the layout of the cemetery but was corrected. Mr. McIntyre did not correctly mark the grave. Brandenburg helped correct.

Clerk/Treasurer's Contracts

Discuss/Approve employment contracts for the Clerk and Treasurer. Griep suggested setting a meeting date of Feb 23 to review contracts

Minutes/Treasurer's Reports:

Minutes January 14, 22, 26 Griep/Clavey motion to approve as corrected.

Treasurer's Report for January 2009. Griep/Clavey motion to place on file. Carried.

Public Comment, report meetings attended: Jennifer Weston candidate for circuit court judge in attendance and gave a short speech about her candidacy. New recycle bins, Ames commented that Veolia has changed their hours of service regarding their drop-off site. Ames also reported complaints of trash coming from the new bins being dumped. Town needs to keep an eye on. Clavey suggested checking Pepsco statements thoroughly as there have been some errors. Cheney reported the Genealogical society wants to look at records. Griep will contact. Clavey would like to go to WTA district meeting in Janesville.

Bills: Griep/Brandenburg motion to pay the bills with corrections. Ames questioned the heat in the shop and advised Stoller/Kutz to check thermostat. No further discussion, motion carried.

Adjournment: Griep/Clavey motion to adjourn at 9:30pm, no discussion, motion carried.

Kim Cheney, Town Clerk