

**Draft**  
**Town of Vermont Board Meeting**

April 12, 2021

7:00 P.M.

Due to Covid-19 this meeting is via conference call. Call in to the meeting by dialing (608) 422-4798  
In attendance: Karen, Alex, Doug, and Scott, John

1. Call to order and certification of notice posting

Karen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Katie was unable to get her microphone working, but did certify that the meeting had been published in the Mount Horeb Mail and Star News, the town website, the door of town hall and emailed to subscribers.

2. Approval of agenda

John motioned to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0

3. Approval of March minutes

Doug moved to approve the March minutes. The minutes were approved 5-0

4. Chairman's report and acknowledgments

The annual meeting will be held by phone again this year, on April 20, 2021 at 7 pm.

5. Citizens' Input

Several citizens voiced their concern about having been unable to hear during the previous planning commission meeting. Doug gave a summary of the grandfathering discussion that had taken place in that meeting.

6. Treasurer's report

The deposits for this month totaled \$2,484.78 The total balance is \$614,169.67 with an operating balance of \$260,000

Karen made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and the motion carried 5-0

7. Clerk's report

Expenses this month were quite routine. We paid our election inspectors for their work in February and last week. We also paid our annual dues to the Wisconsin Towns Association, who are always helpful in answering questions and keeping us informed about legislative issues. We did have a bill for the International Truck, however that was plow blade related, and not new, just one that was a bit late due to the way our billing cycles aligned.

The election, our 6<sup>th</sup> in 14 months, went smoothly, with a good turnout. We look forward to a yearlong respite, and hope that by next April we will be operating in non-pandemic conditions.

John motioned to approve the clerk's report. Motion carried 5-0

8. Payment of bills

Karen moved to pay the bills. Motion carried 5-0

9. Patrolman Report, Mt. Horeb Fire Department, Black Earth Fire District and District 1 EMS Reports

Jack has finished cutting trees and all the roads have been broomed. The tractor is cleaned up and ready to trade in on our lease.

Black Earth Fire District is coming in below budget and does not plan any increases to municipalities for 2022.

10. Road Bid Opening

The budget for chip sealing this year is \$170,964

The bid from Fahrner was \$168,880.00

The bid from Scotts was \$173,590.00 minus 3,600 if all the roads listed were done.

As the town policy is to select the lower bid, Karen moved to approve the Fahrner bid for the chip sealing. Motion carried 5-0

11. Request for site specific exception for the 100' rule for replacing a grandfathered residence

The Herrlings are requesting an exception to the 100' rule because the floodplain comes right to their front door. They would like to move the housing site further up the driveway to the location of the previous barn. While in general the planning commission wants to stick to the 100' rule, in this case 100 feet is not enough to move the residence out of the floodplain.

Scott made a motion to approve the site specific exception to the 100 ft rule. Motion carried 5-0.

12. Zoning change, driveway and homesite approval, 4710 Cedar Hill Lane, Aaron Carlock to be sold to Kyle and Jaime Carlock

Karen recused herself as a property owner and Scott took over as chair for this item.

The Carlocks are selling a portion of land to Aaron's brother.

Scott made a motion to approve the rezoning of 9.27 acres, with 8.27 acres in FP1 and 1.07 acres to RR1. Motion carried 4-0-1. Doug added that this split is important to the town, as they are trying to maintain their Farmland Preservation acreage.

Doug made a motion to approve the driveway permit and explained that the driveway had already been moved so that the lights from vehicles would not shine into the neighbors' house. The driveway permit was approved 4-0-1.

Alex made a motion to approve the building envelope, and the motion was approved 4-0-1

13. Fire and EMS discussion

The Village of Blue Mounds began this discussion by introducing a resolution to control the growing costs of MHFD. Karen felt that the resolution is well-intended but does not provide a real solution to the problem. The town board would like to have some dialogue with the MHFD board, possibly including a special meeting. John Coffin, as the representative to the board said that the concerns had been relayed to Jenny Minter, the chief. There is a general feeling that at this time there is not a lot of support for the resolution among other communities despite concerns about rising costs.

#### 14. Vehicle Cost of Ownership

The average cost of ownership to date for the Ford truck has been \$7700 per year. For the 2014 IH, purchased for \$156,000, the average annual cost of ownership has been \$22,371.69. Doug pointed out that we would need to amortize the purchase price as well. Because costs associated with the big plow truck have been so high, in future years we may need to look at budgeting for a shorter replacement cycle.

#### 15. Agenda Items for May Meeting

Fire/EMS Analysis

#### 16. Adjournment

John made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:01

Katie Zelle, Clerk