

Minutes of the Town Board meeting on July 5, 2017

(this meeting was posted correctly)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Declaration of quorum followed by pledge of allegiance
3. Approve agenda
4. Approve minutes: 6-21-17
5. Approve payment of bills
6. Administrator Report
7. Public input
8. Consider Parks Committee recommendation to create a Wills Park & Marina sub-committee.
9. Reconsider motion to approve the special board meeting of 6-21-17.
10. Consider Tech Committee recommendation-fund tower placement.
11. Consider appointment to Plan Commission.
12. Consider Resolution 7-17, limits on campaign contributions
13. Consider liquor license application
14. Consider commercial launch application
15. Operator license approval
16. Correspondence
17. Future meetings
18. Consider Town long range plan.
19. Adjourn

Chairman John Lowry called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Supervisors Hugh Mulliken, Gary Farber and Nancy Goss were present along with Administrator Walter Kalms. There were about 5 citizens present.

Lowry moved, Goss second to approve the agenda as posted. Passed 4-0.

Mulliken moved, Goss second to approve the minutes of 6-21-17 as presented. Passed 4-0.

Payment of bills – Lowry moved, Mulliken second to pay the bills presented adding on a payment to O'Reilly Auto Parts for \$49.97. Passed 4-0.

Administrator report – The flooring at the post office is being looked at. It is not holding up under normal wear. A meeting with the Land Trust and the office to discuss current maintenance policies on the hill went well. The entry sign to be placed near the Little Sister Hill is at the DOT for approval. The tennis courts are being resurfaced. The rezoning on Hwy ZZ for JF Construction was heard at the county and it went well. Roads are being prepared for paving with gravel placed on them and stumps being pulled and the return receipts for the hearing on the expansion of Sunnyside Ln have all come back.

Public input – Goss has volunteered to sit in on the Sister Bay finance meetings in the near future. Kalms reported that Jim Olson Ford asked to borrow our new truck to have on display at Progress Days in Kewaunee County. Mulliken-said he spoke to many board members of surrounding municipalities and they all felt that a town employee should not sit on a committee as a voting member.

Wills Park sub committee – Farber reported that a member of the Parks & Property Committee wants to make some substantial changes to Wills Park and Marina. The ideas were brought to the committee but didn't have enough information for the committee to make decisions. As chairman he asked that a sub-committee form to present the ideas to the committee. Christine Bridenhagen along with Cheryl Culver will serve. Mulliken-why can't the regular committee get this done? Lowry-wants a sunset clause to finish up. **Lowry moved, Farber second** to create a sub-committee which will be limited to 3 meetings and must be posted to study improvements at Wills Park and Marina. **Mulliken moved, Goss second** to amend the motion to include and there must be 3 people on the sub-committee. Amendment passed 4-0. The amended motion passed 4-0.

Rescinding motion – The closed session on 6-7-17 was part of the board meeting and did not require separate minutes. **Lowry moved, Goss second** to rescind the motion of the approval of the minutes of the special board meeting of June 7, 2017. Passed 4-0.

Tower investment – David Studebaker was here on behalf of the Tech Committee. They are requesting payment to DC Broadband of \$14,000 for a tower that will help improve service in the area around Europe Lake. This would be the money budgeted in the 2016 budget that was not spent and carried forward. Maps were provided showing poorly served areas and this is one of them. This area has a high concentration of seasonal owners and may provide an opportunity for them to spend more time at their homes here. **Lowry moved, Goss second** to approve the request of the Tech Committee. Passed 4-0.

Plan Commission- Goss reported several people had indicated they would serve. **Goss moved, Lowry second** to appoint Paul Bokelman to the Plan Commission. Passed 4-0.

Resolution 7-17, limits on campaign contributions- Dan Powers was present and provided handouts explaining a statewide referendum to limit campaign finance. There are 107 municipalities which have approve a similar resolution. Groups called SuperPac's are outspending individuals in contributions and those contributions usually have requests attached. This is a constitutional issue. The goal is to have a county wide referendum. Passing would give a voice to the people. Goss said that in the proposed resolution that the word "not" at the end of the first line of item 1 should be stricken. **Mulliken moved, Goss second** to adopt Resolution 7-17 and to send it to county and state representatives after the word "not" was removed from the end of the first sentence in item 1. Passed 4-0. (a copy of that resolution is at the end of these minutes)

Liquor licenses – **Lowry moved, Goss second** to approve the picnic license applied for as presented. Passed 4-0.

Commercial launch – **Goss moved, Mulliken second** to approve the commercial launch application as presented. Passed 4-0.

Operator license-Goss moved, Lowry second to approve the operator licenses as presented. Passed 4-0.

Long range plan – Lowry would like to meet with representatives from the Dept. of Transportation to discuss the problems at the top of the Ellison Bay hill and what remedies can be put in place.

Lowry moved, Goss second to adjourn at 8:27pm. Passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Johnson

**Town of Liberty Grove
Resolution 7-17**

Supporting a Constitutional Amendment to Allow Limits on Campaign Contributions and Conducting a Non-Binding Statewide Referendum

Whereas, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance, and;

Whereas, even the appearance of being able to buy access to candidates or influence policy and governing decisions based on large donations erodes the voter's confidence in our elections and democracy, and;

Whereas, the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in Citizens United and related cases allow unlimited spending by certain groups known as Super-PACs to influence local, state, and federal elections, and;

Whereas, the above mentioned Supreme Court cases:

- 1) Have granted Corporations, Unions, SuperPACs, and other man-made entities the same Constitutional protections given only to "We the People..." (i.e., individual human beings) by the Framers of the Constitution, and;
- 2) Have declared money to be 'free speech'

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County, Wisconsin, does hereby respectfully request the Door County Board of Supervisors to support this Resolution and ask the Wisconsin State Legislature, and our locally elected state representatives, to provide the voters of the state with the opportunity to speak through a non-binding state-wide Referendum asking if they, the voters, support an amendment to the United States Constitution stating:

1. Only human beings, not corporations, unions, SuperPACs or similar associations, are endowed with individual constitutional rights, and
2. Money is not speech, and therefore limiting political contributions and spending is not equivalent to restricting political speech.

Be it further resolved, that the Clerk for the Town of Liberty Grove send a copy of this Resolution to the Door County Board and to our state and federal representatives with instructions to enact resolutions, referenda, and legislation to advance this effort.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was passed at a properly noticed meeting of the Liberty Grove Town Board on July 5, 2017. Mulliken moved, Goss second to approve. Passed 4-0.

Janet Johnson
Clerk/Treasurer