

Town of Amberg
Town Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 16 April 2013

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Chairman Matt Mattison called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Attending were Matt Mattison, Ron Holmes, Russell Werner, Lisle Suzawith, Pat Boshen, and 12 community members.

Open Floor: None

Supervisor Holmes made a motion seconded by Supervisor Werner to approve the minutes of the March meeting as read by the clerk. Supervisor Werner seconded by Supervisor Holmes also made a motion to accept the treasurers reported of Cash on Hand in the General Money Market account of \$55,348.17, the Tax Money Market account of \$115,735.59, community center loan balance of \$91,683.53 and the Equipment fund CD's balances of \$127,920.25 and \$96,631.24 respectively. Both motions were passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Fred Smeester, **Plan Committee** chair stated that the plan commission met on 3 April from 6:30-7:30 at the Community Center. The discussion centered on the commercial windmill ordinance. The commission looked at PSC 128 again to see what is allowable to put into the Town Ordinance. Also they looked at other ordinances to see what would be normal charges for applications and permits. A first draft should be ready for review by the commission next month.

The current **Fire Department** report is on file in the clerk's office. Fire Chief Parr provided the board with a statement of expenses and a change in the by-laws Article 2.1 to increase the complement of the department from a minimum of 10 members to 12 and a maximum number of active members from 25 to not more than 40 active members. He also provided information on the number of incidents that they responded to in 2012 which included 2 structure fires, 3 lift assists for the rescue squad, 3 grass fires, 2 vehicle accidents, 2 wild land fires, 1 chimney fire and 3 downed power lines. He also added in praise that in the last two years the membership of the squad has increased by 12 members, ten of which have completed entry level fire classes of 60 hours of class time.

Amberg Museum—Mike Churchill and Margaret Mattison asked about the status of the well. Matt stated that they are currently waiting for the ground to thaw and dry up before contacting Jerry Rice to work on it.

Road Department—Patching the approaches to the Dow Dam bridge has helped. It still should be reworked to help with the runoff and potholes. It was felt that hot mix would hold up better. The last cold mix blacktop done for the town hasn't held up very well. Mattison stated that the road crew would resume work on Barker road after the road limits are off and the frost is out of the ground. He continued to state that there is still more to dig up and gravel. Late spring snows haven't helped. The board discussed when the LTRIP ad for bids should be run and whether it should be for hot or cold mix asphalt. It was decided to have it ready even though Mattison didn't feel that the road would be ready until August. The board decided to complete the PASSAR Road Tour on Thursday, 2 May at 7:30 am. They will meet at the Community Center and proceed from there. It was decided that the road crew should inform Mattison on when they will be switching from 5--8 hour days/week to summer hours of 4--10 hour days/week.

Ruth Roush the Community Center caretaker is having trouble with the vacuum cleaners that are in use at the Center and has requested a new one be purchased. The ones in use are old and have been repaired several times. After a short discussion Supervisor Holmes seconded by Supervisor Werner made a motion to have the clerk purchase a new vacuum cleaner for the Center not to exceed \$200.00.

Talk has sporadically continued since last year about purchasing a new lawn mower for the cemetery with a 38" cutting width. Information was obtained on a Poulan Lawn Tractor with a list price of

\$1029.99 that meets the required specifications at Mathis Ace Hardware. Supervisor Holmes will follow up on the lawn mower specifications and order it if prudent.

After discussion about replacing the broken plow and fixing the older dump truck it was decided that it would be more cost effective to purchase a new truck. Information was requested from several sellers. Supervisor Holmes, seconded by Chairman Mattison made a motion to replace the old dump truck with a new truck similar to the one purchased last year, with a bigger engine and the same equipment package for a price including trade in of the old truck of \$131,000.00 It passed unanimously.

New Business:

Road Crew benefits and wages—The clerk reported that the road crew foreman has been employed by the Town for 5 years and has not received a raise in the last two years. Jim Parr has passed his probationary period and is also due for an increase according to the benefit schedule previously established. After a short discussion Chairman Mattison made a motion to raise both salaries by \$.50/hour effective with the next pay period. It was seconded by Supervisor Holmes and passed unanimously.

Vouchers were paid and Supervisor Holmes seconded by Supervisor Werner to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED: _____