

Medary Town Board – Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Medary Town Board was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chairperson Linda Seidel. Board members present: Supervisor 1 Bob Keil, Supervisor II Michael Weibel, Treasurer Mary Hofer, and Clerk Susan Miller.

Also in attendance were the following: Ruth Keil, Bill Gautsch, Brigitte Gautsch, Duane Deml, Bill Whitmer, John Schmaltz, Steve Elsen, Rick Staff, Tom Brown, Barb Konrad, Dick Konrad, Tom Culp, Bob Skemp, Warren Weitzman, Jesse Young, Lisa Young, Bill Cerbin and Dan Paulus.

Approval of September 13, 2016 Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Bob Keil to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2016, regular monthly board meeting. Second Mike Weibel.

All aye. Said minutes were approved and placed on file.

Approval of September 13, 2016 Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Mike Weibel to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2016, Medary Plan Commission meeting. Second Bob Keil.

All aye. Said minutes were approved and placed on file.

Joe Hengel on Maple Ridge Addition

Tabled until further notice.

Review 2017 Dates for Large Item Pickup

Tentatively scheduled dates for 2017 are April 22 and Oct. 21. The Board affirmed the dates.

Review Draft of Boundary Agreement Between the City of Onalaska and the Town of Medary

There is a large governmental push to establish boundary agreements. The Town of Medary Board has been working with the City of Onalaska to create a boundary agreement between the two municipalities. The Board has been very protective regarding the concerns of annexation when working on this agreement and has tried to protect what it feels is important to residents of the Town of Medary. The Town also needs fire protection and ambulance services, which are provided in part by the City of Onalaska. There is a public hearing on the boundary agreement on November 17, 2016, where the Town of Medary Plan Commission and the City of Onalaska Plan Commission will take comments and listen to resident concerns. A one-page fact sheet and draft of the boundary agreement are available for review in the town clerk's office. The Board reviewed these documents with those at the regular board meeting, including the three tiers of rules for annexation. This is the agreement as reviewed by the Medary plan commission.

Motion: Steve Elsen from the Medary Plan Commission to move forward with the boundary agreement as presented to the boundary agreement hearing on Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. Second Mike Weibel.

All aye.

Review Draft of Fire Inspection Fee Ordinance

The Medary Plan Commission has suggested that we charge the annual fire inspection fee back to the property owner of each commercial and industrial building. Currently the Town of Medary pays for these fees. Now these fees would be billed to the property owners. This is a common practice among municipalities – for example, the cities of La Crosse and Onalaska both do this.

The recommendation from the Medary Plan Commission is to accept Ordinance 2.03 (the Fire Inspection Fee Ordinance).

Motion: Mike Weibel to accept the proposed fire inspection fee ordinance from the plan commission with the addition of having a public hearing on Nov. 15. Second Bob Keil.

All aye.

Approval for Use of Stone Hill Drainage Fund

Tom Brown has provided three invoices from work done on the Stone Hill Drainage area.

Motion: Linda Seidel to approve invoices submitted from Tom's Bobcat and La Crosse Seed for payment out of the Stone Hill Drainage fund totaling \$2683. Second Mike Weibel.

All aye.

Road Matters

1. Rim of the City No Parking signs: There seems to have been some confusion regarding where the signs should have been placed. The signs are currently installed on County Road FA; signs will be moved to Rim of the City Road, as that is the road they were purchased for and we have no jurisdiction on County Road FA.
2. There are at least fourteen guard posts we need to replace on Pierce Road because of excavation done for the Highway 16 project. Tom can move a couple of them with the Board recommendation. Mike Weibel says there's no other alternative.
3. Regarding the issue at the Smith Valley Road catch basin that was discussed at last month's meeting, Tom found that he can't use cable, but he can put posts between other posts. They also put reflectors and white paint on them. The posts are currently 8-10 feet apart. Tom can put regular posts out every 3 or 4 feet. Linda Seidel says there should be posts on both sides, likely every 3 feet. She would like to look at it. All three board members will drive out at separate times and review at a later meeting.

Citizen Concerns

1. Letters from Kimberly Huston and Bill Cerbin regarding issues on Rim of the City Road and County Road FA. The Board is very concerned about the issues on these roads and has been considering various solutions. We talked with the Conservancy to try to alleviate some of the traffic. We have tried rebar/cementing the Rim of the City road sign pole into the ground. We have considered street lighting, which many residents did not want. We talked with the Sheriff's Department, and they said installing No Parking signs would give them something to enforce. (As previously mentioned, the No Parking signs on County Road FA will be moved to Rim of the City.) A resident wondered about the possibility of creating a tow zone. They think that after a few people are towed, it might lessen people's desire to

come there. Another resident asked if the County Sheriff can do more patrols. They say the Sheriff used to do that in the past, but the Board has been told they won't do that. They're very open to the fact that if they are called now, they will go out there and ticket cars. Another resident asked if it was possible that the County could allow No Parking signs on County FA as well, now that the existing signs are moving to Rim of the City; he said they seem to be helping. Ruth Keil mentions that the subject came up at Medary Fun Days, and that the police are very aware and patrolling the area. The policeman Ruth spoke with said community and neighborhood awareness are very important in this situation.

Linda Seidel says we need to get our signs moved to Rim of the City, since County Road FA is not our road. We need to put a speed limit sign for Rim of the City on the November agenda for approval. Linda Seidel will contact Ron Chamberlain at the County Highway Department to check on the four signs that were installed in error, and inform the County that they just happen to be working (in case they will allow us to leave them and purchase more signs for Rim of the City). We can also discuss additional signage for Rim of the City at the next meeting and draft a letter to be approved by the board for the County Sheriff to increase monitoring. Mike Weibel suggests a special meeting with the Sheriff's Department and City Police so the residents can ask questions because it's a complicated situation; the police don't want to start chasing kids through the woods and have them fall off a cliff. Residents also report that speeding cars have gone into the ditch on County Road FA, and residents worry that sooner or later, something's going to happen with someone walking or biking in the wrong place at the wrong time. They expressed frustration with County Highway Department, as they would like to see a speed limit sign placed on County Road FA, but have been told it is a very lengthy and expensive process. Mike Weibel mentioned that Kathy Tyser, the County Board Supervisor for that area, might be of help with the process of putting a speed limit sign on County Road FA. A resident wondered if Rim of the City can be closed from 10 pm to 6 am. Linda Seidel doesn't think we can probably do that. We also asked the residents where they would like the No Parking signs on Rim of the City. The large sign would be at the entry to Rim of the City, and the smaller ones would be in designated areas going through. A resident suggested a stop sign instead of a yield sign at the end of Rim before going on to FA. Tom Brown mentions we should find out about the Tow Away Zone before ordering No Parking signs, as that may change what we need to put on the sign. It was also mentioned that a towing company could be called instead of the police if there was a tow away zone. Linda Seidel will also draft a letter to Steve Carlyon regarding park closure signage for Rim of the City and County FA.

Approve Monthly Bills

Motion: Bob Keil to approve and pay all monthly bills through Tuesday, October 11, 2016. Second Mike Weibel. All aye.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion: Mike Weibel to adjourn. Second Linda Seidel. All aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Miller, Town Clerk