

WHITE CREEK TOWN BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 08, 2023

The White Creek Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 08, 2023 at the Major John Wilson Sprague Building. Supervisor James Griffith called the meeting to order at 7pm. Roll call was taken by the Clerk. All Board members were present at the meeting; Supervisor James Griffith and Town Board members Gregory Austin, Tammy Taber, Lance Wang and Gregory Woodcock. Also present were Mark Spiezio of Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad Budget Officer Laura Manning, Planning Board Chairman Carey Murphy and Town Assessor Darryl Caputo.

Resolution 35-2023 – Approval of July 11, 2023 Town Board Minutes

Lance Wang made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 Town Board Meeting as presented. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of approval.

Supervisor Griffith announced that the September 12, 2023 Town Board meeting will be held at Jermain Hall on Niles Road.

2022 Town Audit Results and Recommendations

Supervisor Griffith shared the results and recommendations of the Town Audit and his letter of response. All recommendations by the Comptroller's Office have been implemented at this time. The entire report and the Supervisor's response can be found on the Town's website.

A/GFTC Grant Update

Supervisor Griffith stated that the comment period is continuing for another thirty days in regards to the study. Responses can be emailed to Jack Mance at jack@agftc.org

Resolution 36-2023-ARPA Funds for Parking Lot

After much discussion for several months regarding the current state of the parking lot, Supervisor Griffith proposed that forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) in ARPA funds be used for the paving of the front section of the parking lot.

Motion was made by Supervisor Griffith, seconded by Lance Wang. Tammy Taber abstained and all other members voted in favor.

LCLGRP Salt Barn Update

Supervisor Griffith reported that the cost of a new salt shed would be around \$900,000.00 with the grant covering fifty percent of the cost. If you are termed high priority the municipality could get upwards of seventy-five percent paid through the grant. The project will be discussed at the next board meeting when Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben will be present.

2024 Budget Workshop Scheduled

A Budget Workshop has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7pm. Budget Officer Laura Manning stated that she hopes to present a preliminary budget at that time.

Town Residents Comments

Town Resident Ron McEvilly asked about the town having a policy in place in regards to workplace violence. At that time, Supervisor Griffith took the opportunity to present a draft of a Workplace Violence Prevention Program for the town and employees. The Board members will review the document and a final draft will be ready for adoption before the end of the year.

Mayor Carmen Bogle addressed the Board in regards to what she called a threat of spirit of collaboration between the Village of Cambridge and Town of White Creek. The issue involves the current efforts to adopt the new Cambridge Fire House as the polling place instead of the Town Hall which has always been the polling place for districts 1&2. Mayor Bogle stated that Town Board Member Woodcock has been attending the Village Board meetings vigorously questioning the progress and aggressively urging action. She also had been notified that Town Board Member Woodcock has been contacting the Board of Elections representing himself on behalf of the Town Board urging the BOE to move forward with the change. Ultimately, the Mayor was asking for all Board members to be respectful of one another and follow the proper channels through correspondence between the Mayor and the Supervisor.

Presentation from Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad

Mark Spiezio and several members of the CVRS were present at the meeting. Mark Spiezio gave a very thorough and interesting presentation and also asked for

the Board to consider budgeting 30 thousand dollars for the Rescue Squad in their 2024 Budget. Supervisor Griffith thanked Mark and all the members of the CVRS for their service to the community and beyond and would take the request into consideration when preparing the 2024 budget.

Resolution 37-2023 – Variance Request – Guy Clark

At the August 2nd Planning Board meeting, Guy Clark presented a sketch plan for a proposed subdivision on Ash Grove Road. The purpose of the division of land was to separate the farm land from the existing residence on the parcel. Mr. Clark has farmed this land from the former owner for several years and wanted to obtain the land but doesn't not have need for the home on the parcel. Due to regulations regarding flag lots (which would be created by this subdivision), the Planning Board could not move forward with the requested subdivision. Mr. Clark along with Planning Board Chair Carey Murphy came to the meeting to request the Town Board grant Mr. Clark a variance to subdivide the property even though it does not conform to the flag lot regulations. After reviewing the sketch plan, Tammy Taber made the motion to grant a variance to Mr. Clark which will allow him to continue with the subdivision process with the Planning Board. Motion was seconded by Gregory Austin, Supervisor Griffith abstained and all others voted in favor of granting the variance.

Budget Officer's Report

Budget Officer Laura Manning submitted the monthly operating statement to the Board Members. The expenses are on par for this time of year. Laura reported that the revenue for Town Court is up \$3,000.00 and mortgage and sales taxes are up by \$3,400.00. The revenue from plowing for the Town of Arlington was actually \$3,000.00 more than what was projected.

Town Clerk's Report

Town Clerk Lisa Austin-Cuddihy submitted the July monthly report to the Board.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben submitted a monthly report of activities to the Board. The crew has been ditching and three thousand yards of sand has been put up for the winter.

Resolution 38-2023 – Audit Approval

After the review of all vouchers submitted for payment and written approval by all board members, Gregory Woodcock moved to approve the monthly vouchers for payment. Gregory Austin seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of approval.

General Fund: \$ 5,489.47
Highway Fund: \$44,320.82

Total: \$49,810.29

Justice Court Report

Town Justice Scott Lucey submitted the July Court Report in the amount of \$2,596.00.

Adjourn

With no further business on the agenda, Lance Wang made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Gregory Austin and all in favor. Meeting adjourned 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Austin-Cuddihy
White Creek Town Clerk