

PROCEEDS OF THE MEETING OF THE FERN TOWN BOARD
July 8, 2024

Chairman Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Also present were Supervisor Drewa, Supervisor Saak, Treasurer Demko, Deputy Clark Batte and Clerk De Clark.

Constituents present were Pat Wloszczynski, Jan Wenzelow, Rich Wenzelow and Stewart Borne.

Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the town minutes from April 8, 2024.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Monthly Report

Treasurer Demko presented the monthly Treasurer's Report which included account balances and interest rates.

Moved by Supervisor Drewa to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Saak.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Monthly Bills

Moved by Supervisor Saak to approve the agenda.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Correspondence

Chairman Erwin stated that he had received a reminder of the completion of the town's road recertification. Chairman Erwin, Joe from county and DeMuri will take care of the recertification.

Chairman Erwin received a thank you from Beaulier's Lumber for the purchase of the new shed.

Scotch Pine Road

Chairman Erwin stated that that he is working on getting the road worked on, but the project is on hold for now.

Appointed Clerk

Chairman Erwin had driven to Shawno to find out what was necessary for appointing a clerk over electing a clerk. The change must be approved within 70 days of the election so it must be approved by August 12th. It will need to go on the November election and the appointed clerk will not take effect until April of 2025. He stated that it needs to be posted that we will be changing to an appointed clerk. Deputy Clerk Pam stated that she would take care of this.

Stu Borne

Mr. Borne is a private forester who serves several clients in our area. He requested that the town reduce the weight limits for logging trucks on Patten Lake Road. The current limit is ten tons.

He stated that the loggers would prefer to log in the summer over the winter months. He stated that the truckers could run early in the mornings. He would like to know what the cooperative is for using the roads in the summer.

Chairman Erwin stated that the road is maintaining it's excellent quality with the 10-ton limit. He stated that the equipment and processors should be using Walnut Road West.

Supervisor Saak stated that the road will be affected by running full loads in the summer.

Supervisor Drewa stated that the weight of an empty truck is 30,000 over the limit and that he agrees with the board that the taxpayer should not have to pay to repair the roads that the truckers ruin.

Chairman Erwin stated the board would consider letting them run the road in the summer if the Companies helped pay for the repairs, but the town's budget is limited.

Mr. Borne stated that they could bid the jobs with the repairs to the road included. Would it be possible to run the roads only at a certain temperature? He also stated that most of the damage to the roads was from Goodman Timber, not the current loggers. He would like a level playing field for all trucks.

Chairman Erwin stated that he would consider day use permits for certain trucks

Supervisor Saak asked why not use Walnut West? Mr. Borne stated that it adds extra miles for the load. He stated that he had look at using Norway Pine Road as an option. Chairman Erwin stated that he would be for using Norway Pine. Mr. Borne stated that it is not a very viable options as there is a 20-foot drop on the road.

The issue was tabled until the August meeting.

Town Dump

Chairman Erwin stated that the town needs to start requiring stickers and passes to prove residency for the use of the town dump. It's getting far too chaotic especially during holiday weekends. The town should consider having someone meet the users at the gate to show proof of residency. He also suggested going from 20 to 30-yard dumpsters. Supervisor Saak stated that it is too hard to throw the items in the larger dumpsters. He suggested smaller dumpsters but adding an additional one.

Constituent Pat stated that the sticker in the window is a good idea. No sticker, no dumping.

Supervisor Saak stated that truck loads are often from more than one town resident. He suggested employing two employees for holiday weekends.

Chairman Erwin stated that they should monitor the situation and revisit it.

Board Member Comments

Deputy Clerk Batte the Board of Review open book was set for Monday, July 22nd from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The Board of Review will be on August 6th from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. She also stated that she would take the training classes for the Board of Review.

Constituent Concerns

There were no constituent concerns.

Adjourn

Moved by Supervisor Saak to adjourn.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Drewa.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patti De Clark
Town Clerk