

TOWN OF LAMARTINE

Board Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2024

With all notices having been properly posted, Randy Kuik, Chairman called the February meeting to order at the Lamartine Municipal Building Meeting Room (LMBMR) at 7:00 pm. Also present at this meeting were Supervisors; Travis Kloetzke and Roger Grade, Treasurer Shelley Schmidt, and Deputy Treasurer Greg Michels and Clerk Cindy Pluim. Supervisor Travis Kloetzke and Cindy Pluim took meeting minutes. Please see the meeting sign-in sheet for other attendees.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)

- January Board Meeting Minutes (01/08/2023) –With no corrections needed, Travis moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented, Roger seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Special closed Clerk interview meeting minutes (01/15/2024)– With no corrections needed, Roger moved approve the meeting minutes as presented, Travis seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Special board meeting minutes (01/22/2024)-With no corrections needed, Roger moved approve the meeting minutes as presented, Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Treasurer's Report

Shelley verified the account numbers balanced for Januarys Treasurer's report and read them out loud confirming the balance ending of \$1,834,963.64 .

Shelley verified the January Cash Summary ending balance was correct at \$1,834,963.64.

Travis moved seconded by Roger to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment

- Chairman Randy Kuik called three time for public comments. No comments were expressed.

Reports & Communications

- a) **Road Report** – Craig reported that he and the part time people have been working a lot on cleaning brush out of the ditches and trimming trees. A chipper was rented to chip the brush because our chipper was broken. The manufacturer of the new chipper advised there was an issue with cracking in some of the machines so they are replacing ours with a brand new one, ship date was supposed to be 02/09/2024.
- b) **Culver Permit Report** – Matthew Faubel on Brown Road
- c) **Monthly Building Permits** – Ken Stephani, Westbrook Lane-windows, Al Cleland-Orchard Road-Replace bay window, Keith & Carol Meyers, Thomaswood Trail-New homes construction.

Old Business

- a) **Board Discussion/Action-** an offer was extended Cindy Pluim and was accepted. Cindy's first day will be 2/12/2024. Cindy plans to have regular hours at the town hall four days a week but the exact schedule is still being worked out.
- b) **Board Discussion/Decision- Planning Commission Alternate-** Lawrence Ford has agreed to be an alternate.
- c) **Board Discussion/Decision-** Randy has worked with potentially getting funding to assist with the cost of regrading and chip sealing the Town of Lamartine portion of Heinrich and Dike Rds. The DNR has requested a resolution from the board showing intent so the DNR can lock it in to their capital improvement plan. A discussion was had by the board about whether this project should be done along with if the project was done if the gate that is currently in place would be open or closed during the winter months. The gate was initially installed from a request by the DNR. The DNR also funded the gate. The gate was recommended because many people were driving down there during the winter months and getting stuck. Roger brought up the idea of taking a few cores in the roadway to determine what kind of base exists underneath. Randy was going to check in on it. Travis stated he would draft a resolution for the March meeting and board could decide at that time to move forward or not. The DNR would contribute up to \$60,000 to the project and the Township would be responsible for the remaining amount.
- d) **Board Update- Townline Rd. Bridge** Landowners have agreed to the proposed market price presented by the Town's consultant, Jewell. Randy also met with one landowner and the design consultant regarding property access. A solution was worked out.

New Business

- a) **Board Discussion/Action- Spring Road Posting-** The question was asked if we should post weight restrictions on the town roads in the spring like has previously been done. It was also discussed if the practice should continue. Due to the extremely mild winter and the frost already being out of the ground it was determined that installing signs this year would not be valuable to the town because the time has already passed. It was also noted that surrounding townships have stopped this practice altogether or have moved to permanently posting the roadways. Most traffic that is going down the road will continue whether posted or not (garbage, propane, school buses) and that those that exceed the weight limit will get a permit regardless so who exactly are we posting for?
- b) **Board Action- New Operator License for Tim Krause & Kim Krause at Wescott Sportsman's Club;** Randy completed a background check on both applicants and found no reason to not issue the license. A motion was made by Travis and seconded by Randy. No discussion took place, motion carried 3-0.
- c) **Board Discussion- Hall Rental Fees for 2025.** Shelley introduced the topic and presented rental fees for surrounding communities with the question of "Should we increase the fees?". It was discussed the rental fees have not changed in many years along with the rising cost of heat and electricity, the purchasing of the cleaning chemicals, painting the walls, and potentially needed to clean the floors professionally in upcoming year. With all the rising costs and maintenance, it was recommended to increase the rental fee. The board will take up this topic at the March board meeting.
- d) **Board Discussion/Action- Do we continue with Deer Removal through the County;** on continuing with the \$82 annual charge for deer removal from the County. Randy spoke with Tom Janke, the current procedure is to call the non emergency line to report the deer and if it is not in a residential area, the county will move it into the ditch. The concern is with our mower having a puncture due to antlers post decay. Further discussion will be done, Craig

has offered to take over doing what the County would have been responsible for. Randy will speak with Tom Janke to get us removed from the contract.

- a) **Board Discussion/ Action- Grandwood Dr Plat and Establishing a true right of way;**
Currently there is not a dedicated right of way for this roadway. The roadway portion is currently owned by one of the landowners along Grandwood Dr. This property owner was looking to sell the property but was recently told by the County that they could not sell the property without doing a CSM and cleaning up the right of way situation. By doing this it would decrease the size of the property in question to under 1 acre which would then make the land “unbuildable” according to the local ordinance. There was lengthy discussion about how the matter should be resolved. The board has no control over the owner’s ability to build on the land after the right of way is dedicated and it would need to go to the variance board to determine, however the board is open to continuing the discussion pertaining to the right of way dedication and needs to obtain additional information to understand all the implications correctly. The board will continue the discussion in the future.

Approving the monthly vouchers and checks – After reviewing the vouchers Travis moved to approve the vouchers. Motion was seconded by Roger. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjournment – Randy moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Roger. Motion carried 3-0 meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm.

Upcoming meetings/Events

March 19, 2024 6:00PM Planning Commission with Cedar Corp. for Recertification of Zone Manual, Maps & Farm Land Preservation Map

*****Election on April 2, 2024, Polls open 7:00am to 8:00pm*****

April 8, 2024 7PM Monthly town board meeting

April 16, 2024, 7PM, Annual Town Meeting

June 7, 2024, 3-5PM bulky waste drop off at the hall

June 8, 2024, 8-1 PM, bulky waste drop off at the hall

June 15, 2024, Annual Lamartine Fire Dept Steak Fry

Respectfully Submitted,
Town of Lamartine
Cindy Pluim, Clerk

Included with these minutes: Attendance sign in sheet.