

BOARD MEETING
MARCH 12, 2009

The Gerry Town Board met at 7:00 PM, March 12, 2009, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: John R. Crossley, Supervisor
Robert B. Heitzenrater, Councilman
Gary J. Swan, Councilman
Richard C. Heath, Councilman
Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer
William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney
Larry Barmore, District 9 Legislator
Mark A. Risley, Highway Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Crossley called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) A letter was received from Gerry Baseball thanking for the town's donation and are requesting financial support for the 2009 season.

2) A notice was received from the Town of Cherry Creek informing of a public hearing being held on March 9 at 7:15PM regarding a local law on Wind Energy Conversion Systems.

3) A thank-you letter was received from the Valley Historical Society and the Sinclairville Free Library thanking the town for there annual donation.

OFFICERS REPORT:

Zoning Officer. Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, commented its been quiet and he did issue a stop work order on a property on Salisbury Rd. as they started building without permission.

Dave Crossley, Zoning Officer, noted he had phone calls regarding cats on a property and he contacted the humane society and they closed up the building where the cats were.

Monthly report for March

Issued 2 permits this month
17 pending permits
1 Certificate of Occupancy to be issued for 2009 permit
4 Certificate of Compliance to be issued for 2009
1 Certificate of Compliance to be issued for 2008 permit

Dog Control Officer.

No Report as Dog Control Officer retired.

Highway Superintendent.

Highway Superintendent, Mark Risley, commented the new door at the shop was

installed and it works great. He asked about the heating of the garage and asked if the board had a chance to discuss this. After discussion, Councilman Heitzenrater entertained a motion for Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, to purchase the new ventless heating system in the garage, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Councilman Heitzenrater noted he received two phone calls from town residents. First, was a resident on Damon Hill Rd. concerned about there property being scraped up from the town's trucks. Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, commented that they may have scalped it during the winter and they will take care of of it. The second call was from the Marings near the town park regarding water problem. Councilman Heath commented that every year there has been a problem, but as soon as it warms up there is no problem with water at all and he suggested maybe a drain would work there. Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, will take a look at it.

Supervisor Crossley said he received a letter from a government class student asking how to remedy the divets in the road left from snowmobiles. Highway Superintendent, Mark Risley, noted its not a big problem on local roads and the state and county roads have no problem as the revenue from snowmobilers supports them.

Assessor's report.

February 2009

The County had passed the Cold War Veterans exemption. This exemption works the same way as the Alternative Vets exemption and covers veterans who served between 9/2/1945 and 12/26/1991. The Town of Gerry might want to consider adding this exemption for Town taxes. I've only had one property owner so far who is eligible for this exemption, so the impact to the tax base would be minimal. The state has finished their survey of the Town. They came through during the last few months and valued a sampling of properties in residential, commercial, and farm/vacant classes. This will be the basis for the development of the 2009 equalization rate. Supervisor Crossley commented it should be a small difference to the equalization rate as some towns are raising almost 13%. Supervisor Crossley is calling Kevin Okerlund, Assessor, to find out more information.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR AGENCIES:

Park & Recreation Committee.

Councilman Heath reported the Committee will be meeting in April. The existing person for the Part-Time Mower position is still interested in the position for this year and the committee is going to schedule a meeting with the current Part-Time mower and Recreation Leader. A few projects are left to do at the park this year which are the soffit, painting the concession stand and planting trees in the park.

Councilwoman Bartholomew commented the Gerry Town Picnic Committee met and scheduled the Gerry Town Picnic in the Town Park for June 7th.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 21 - 2009. Dog Control Officer Appointment. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Heath. Approved.

Resolution No. 22 - 2009. Modifications to 2009 budget. A motion was made by Councilman Heitzenrater, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Resolution No. 23 - 2009. 2009 Budget Transfers. A motion was made by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Minute approval for the February 2009 Board Meeting and Public Hearing on Local Law No. 1 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heath, seconded by Councilman Swan.

Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Zoning Laws. Dave Crossley, Code Enforcement Officer, commented that a few areas need revised and the Town Board decided to hold a meeting on March 31, 2009 at 6:00 PM to discuss and review the Zoning Laws.

The Flag poles for the cemetery were picked up last week.

Furniture. Supervisor Crossley noted that they purchased new desks for the Supervisor's office and the Town Clerk's as they are having problems with the old desks and he found a good deal at Geer Dunn. Supervisor Crossley commented that the Town Clerk is going to go through all the old equipment and declare it junk or surplus and try advertising the items to sell, as they are taking up room.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

NEW BUSINESS:

Easter Egg Hunt. The Town Clerk will contact the current Recreation Leader to find the date and post in paper.

Parking Concern. Supervisor Crossley commented an issue came up at the Town of Charlotte's Highway Building where some people are parking tractor trailers there. William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, noted that if something were to happen it is a liability for the town. Basically, the issue is up to the Town Board to decide if they should use there property for public use and the Town Attorney guides them of what he feels is proper. Mark Risley, Highway Superintendent, suggested that a taxpayer should be allowed to use the town's property. This concern will be discussed more at the Special Meeting on the 31st.

Supervisor Crossley and Councilman Heitzenrater suggest that the cold storage building be painted and possibly the Highway garage, as its becoming an eye-sore and maybe in the fall they will have a better idea where financially there at so this can be done.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #33 - 55 totaling \$20,945.50 was approved on a motion by Councilman Heath; seconded by Councilman Heitzenrater. Approved.

General Fund Vouchers #56 - 84 totaling \$9,145.06 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew; seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Board meeting will be held 6:30 PM, April 9, 2009 at the town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM on a motion by Councilman Heitzenrater; seconded by Councilman Swan.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,

Town Clerk