

## **Town of Bear Creek**

### **Town Board Proceedings of July 13, 2021**

---

The Regular Board Meeting of the Bear Creek Town Board was held at the Bear Creek Town Hall, on July 13, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marty McCluskey at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Marty McCluskey, Chairman; Jeff Scallon; and, Steve Emerson, Supervisors.

Others present: Donna Lins, Treasurer; Tim McCluskey, Patrolman; Ted Greenheck, Plan Commission Chair; Robbin D'elene; and, Sheila Carver, Clerk.

The minutes of the June 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting were read by the Clerk. Scallon motioned to approve the minutes. Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was given by the Treasurer. Treasurer Lins noted that the ARPA Funds came in and will be transferred to the Reserve Account and tracked independently. Scallon motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

Scallon reported driveway permits for John Conlon and Mark Lindquist; and, shed building permits for Henry Jennings on Bluebird Drive, Dennis Schluter on Highway 130 and Chad Price on Highway B.

Plan Commission Chair Ted Greenheck presented a CSM for Brandon Koziol and Elizabeth Heiser. The Plan Commission approved the CSM and recommends approval to the board. The CSM creates a 4.68-acre lot at the end of Meixelsperger Road from Kevin Heiser's property. There is a small easement for Kevin Heiser to access a field road. This is Heiser's second division in recent years, the last one being recorded on September 13, 2017. Residents are limited to three divisions in a ten-year span. Scallon motioned to approve the CSM as presented. Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

The Reedsburg Utility Commission, Lightspeed Broadband division, was awarded a grant from the Federal government to cover 20% of costs to put in fiber internet in the Town of Bear Creek by the year 2028. There is an opportunity for them to apply for a State of Wisconsin PSC Broadband grant which the state has allocated part of their ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to. They get extra points on their grant application if they partner with a municipality on this grant. They want the Townships of Bear Creek and Franklin to be partners on this grant opportunity. If awarded, the grant expedites the build completion deadline to the year 2024. The financial expectation for the Town of Bear Creek would be committing the ARPA funds of \$66,255.20 and no more. This broadband internet service would be available to every household in the Town of Bear Creek. The speeds are 1,000Mb/1,000Mb or 1Gb/1Gb, which is incredible. The Lightspeed monthly bill is currently at \$59.95/month and that comes with a wireless router. There is a \$100 construction fee for a household to commit to the service being brought to their house. That \$100 would be refunded once service is started. There is also a \$65 nonrefundable installation fee. To compare, the Bug Tussel package that is \$59.99 is 8Mb/2Mb. Scallon motioned to adopt Resolution 2021-03: A Resolution to partner with Reedsburg Utility Commission, Lightspeed division, on a State of Wisconsin grant for installation of broadband internet and committing the ARPA funds to that project if awarded. Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

The board discussed the 2021-2022 propane contract. Carver contacted Consumer's Co-op and found that LP contracts are starting out at \$1.59, but it is predicted that prices will increase. Prices did increase since the initial contact, but Consumer's Co-op will honor the \$1.59 since we are a Township. The Town currently has a credit of \$1,111.50 from last year. For several years, 2,500 gallons had been contracted. Last year the Town used 1,800 gallons; the year before 1,600 gallons was used. Scallon motioned to contract 2,000 gallons at \$1.59 totaling \$3,180.00 minus the credit for a total of \$2,068.50. Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

Patrolman Tim McCluskey informed the board that Bindl Bauer Limestone will finish with gravel on Marble Quarry Road on Thursday. He is currently working for Bindl-Bauer doing the grading, not for Bear Creek. The finished road should be 24 feet wide; 20 foot of black top and two feet of shoulder on each side. Scott Construction has always staked the road out before the gravel was spread, but they were reluctant this year. They did stake about every quarter mile, which was minimal. There is concern that the project could be mishandled this year by Scott Construction due to prior year discrepancies and current year disregard for the project. Ardell Newton would like to see his bank fixed up better so it could be mowed. The area is in the right-of-way.

Robbin D'elene was present to represent Pat Corcoran in regards to the beavers on his property. D'elene talked to the DNR. They said if the land owners agree and the beavers are not causing issues with the road, then they are fine with beavers creating a habitat. The fill that Bindl Bauer Limestone donated is protecting the roadway at this time. The water is up to the culvert. The DNR gave D'elene a solution to put in a flow device through the damn. It keeps the water stabilized to a certain level, but the beavers are currently not causing a problem.

The board approved expenditures totaling \$91,960.37. The Treasurer will transfer the funds from the Marble Quarry Road construction loan for the work invoiced from Judd Excavating.

Scallon motioned to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

Sheila Carver,  
Town Clerk