

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN

Regular Town Board Meeting

September 6, 2011

Chairman Allen Opall called the meeting of the Rib Mountain Town Board to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 3700 North Mountain Road. Present were Supervisors Pete Kachel, Fred Schaefer and John Sybeldon, a quorum. Excused: Supervisor Jim Legner.

Also present were Town Attorney Dean Dietrich, Town Administrator Gaylene Rhoden, Fire Chief Paul Wirth, Building/Zoning Inspector Daniel Dziadosz, Streets/Parks Superintendent Scott Schatschneider and Clerk/Treasurer Patricia Jahns.

Supervisor Kachel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On September 2, 2011 copies of the meeting notice were made available to the media, Town Board, Town Attorney and posted at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center.

Minutes: Motion by Schaefer/Kachel to approve the minutes of the 8/16/11 regular Town Board meeting. Questioned and carried 4:0.

Plan Commission Report & Recommendations – Docket #11-15: REI Engineering, representing the Austin Living Trust, requesting a rezoning of the official zoning map from Suburban Residential Zoning to Urban Commercial at 4901 Tulip Court. The Plan Commission recommended approval of the rezoning from SR to UC. Dan Dziadosz commented that the new zoning is consistent with the Town's long range planning and with adjacent properties. **Motion by Schaefer/Kachel to approve the zoning change from Suburban Residential to Urban Commercial for the purpose of commercial development at 4901 Tulip Court. Questioned and carried 4:0.**

Resolution 11-10: Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$750,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2011 – Dawn Gunderson of Ehlers & Associates provided the sale results and submitted a resolution, populated by results of this sale, which needs formal action. She reviewed the details of the sale of \$750,000 in General Obligation Promissory Notes. The sale was distributed nationally as well as to local banks. Standard & Poor's affirmed the Town's AA rating based on its current financial condition. Dawn noted the Town's strong bond rating factored into the Town of Rib Mountain sale. There were five underwriting/banking firms that bid on the GO Notes with the most favorable bid from BOSC, INC, Menomonie Falls, Wisconsin with a true interest cost of 1.3266%. Dawn reported the BOSC bid is the most cost effective financing for the Town of Rib Mountain.

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As the Town's AA rating attracted larger underwriters, both BOSC and Baird offered a 2% reoffering which gives the Town an additional \$7,500 available for projects.

Dawn reviewed the Town's planning estimates for 2011-2015 and noted this borrowing will allow the Town to keep its tax rate at its present level. The bond proceeds must be spent in three years to avoid arbitrage. She reiterated that the Standard & Poor's AA rating speaks highly of the Town's favorable financial condition, i.e. the debt payment and fund balance policies. It is positive reinforcement of management efforts to run the community.

Motion by Schaefer/Sybeldon to approve Resolution 11-10 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$750,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2011 and to award the bid to BOSC, INC. Upon the vote being taken, the following voted Aye: Opall, Kachel, Schaefer and Sybeldon. Motion carried 4:0. There were no nays and no abstaining.

Approval of Consolidation Proposal for Sanitary/Utility District Study - Chairman Opall stated the Town Board wants a consolidation study by a third party to determine if there would be cost savings. While he thinks the Rib Mountain Sanitary District Commission has done an excellent job setting aside money, the Town Board continues to be questioned about continued separation of entities.

The Town received two proposals for a utility consolidation study. The Board considered the proposals from Ehlers for \$9,500 and RW Management Group for \$7,500.

Rib Mountain Sanitary District Commissioner Ed Jensen didn't understand the need to spend \$10,000 for a consolidation study as having a separate utility kept funds distinct. He claimed the RMSD has kept its water rates the cheapest in the area, if not the state. He read a newspaper article about a municipality that uses utility money to budget for projects. More objections were voiced by former and current Sanitary District employees as they were concerned about the Town spending the District's money.

Supervisor Schaefer responded an impartial third party will determine if consolidation of the Town and Sanitary District would provide real savings to the tax payer. The study may indicate there would not be any savings, but the Town Board will have a study that confirms Rib Mountain's low rates, whether there would be any significant savings and an answer for those who continue to ask questions about consolidation.

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN

Regular Town Board Meeting

September 6, 2011

Dawn Gunderson of Ehlers reiterated that Town and utility funds must be totally separate. Town Attorney Dean Dietrich commented that municipalities and utilities cooperatively merge their money to fund projects within their budget but the money is still accounted for separately.

Motion by Kachel/Schaefer to approve the Ehlers proposal for a utility consolidation study for \$9,500. Supervisor Kachel noted that Ehlers works for the Town and perhaps a neutral third party should be considered. Supervisor Schaefer responded that a third party study will look at the process and synergies to maintain infrastructure and Ehlers has extensive experience with utility districts. Dawn Gunderson, herself, is a former Finance Director for a local government. **Questioned and carried 4:0.**

Discussion/ Approval of Extension of Ambulance Agreement: Village of Kronenwetter – Attorney Dietrich recommended that the Village of Kronenwetter ambulance agreement include an escalation in the annual fee.

Motion by Kachel/Schaefer to agree in concept with the changes as presented in the draft document in the Village of Kronenwetter ambulance contract but it must come back for final Town Board approval. Questioned and carried 4:0.

Authorize FEMA Grant Application for Fire Equipment – **Motion by Kachel/Schaefer to authorize application for a \$75,000 FEMA grant for firefighter equipment and training curriculum and to approve funding with a 95:5 match as part of the 2012 Fire Department’s Capital Equipment budget in an amount not to exceed \$3,750. Questioned and carried 4:0.**

Town Chairman Appointments – Chairman Opall submitted the names of Gregg Hessel for Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate, reappointment of Bill Bursaw to the Park Commission, and Ebert Nitzke for the Park Commission. **Motion by Schaefer/Sybeldon to approve the Chairman appointments. Questioned and carried 4:0.**

Approval of Appointment: Pedestrian / Bicycle Safety Committee – **Motion by Schaefer/Kachel to appoint John Beatty to the Pedestrian / Bicycle Committee. Motioned and carried 4:0.**

Approval of Intern Wage Adjustment / Correction – The Finance & Personnel Committee recommended a wage correction for the 2011 planning intern. **Motion by Kachel/Sybeldon to approve the wage correction/adjustment of \$15.12 for Ryan Petrie. Questioned and carried 4:0.**

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN

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September 6, 2011

License Application - Motion by Schaefer/Kachel to approve a picnic license for the Chamber Business P.M. to be held October 20 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Mid-Wisconsin Bank in Rib Mountain. Questioned and carried 4:0.

Approval of the Recodification of Employee Manual - No action taken

Town Board Comments - none

Staff Reports - Administrator Rhoden provided a written report. Security Health proposed a renewal rate increase of 5.4% for 2012 health insurance premiums. She apologized if she missed any phone calls as she was unaware her phone was off line. She reported there was vandalism at Doepke Park. She is unable to attend the next Town Board meeting as she is a presenter at the International City Manager's Association conference. She will be available by phone if needed. She reported Ehlers & Associates gave kudos to the Town of Rib Mountain for its debt management and fund balance policies. The Town received a positive email regarding Scott Schatschneider and the road crew.

Town Attorney Dean Dietrich - none

Fire Chief - Chief Wirth submitted a written report. He noted that the current Marathon County Mutual Aid Agreement is in effect until November 1, 2011. It has been proposed that a separate mutual aid agreement be signed by each municipality, independent of any other agreements between municipalities.

Building Inspector - Daniel Dziadosz provided a written report and August permit activity.

Streets / Parks Superintendent - Scott Schatschneider apprised the Town Board of crew activities and public works projects. He described the vandalism at the ball park at Doepke Park noting there was no damage to the playground equipment. He reported there was also vandalism to a shed at Liberty Park and a tipped porta-potty. He needs to hire two backup snowplow drivers before the winter season begins.

Clerk / Treasurer - Patricia Jahns thanked the Town Board for granting her leave of absence and stated she was grateful to return to service.

Code Enforcement Officer - Paul Hursh submitted a written report for August complaints and calls for service. He provided pictures of the vandalism at the ball diamond at Doepke Park.

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Committee / Commission Reports

Walkable Community Committee - An ambassador from the Stevens Point "Aware and Share Program" will be attending a committee meeting.

The Park Commission will meet next week.

The Public Safety Committee will meet on September 15 at noon.

Public Works Committee & Rib Mountain Drive Update -- none

The Finance & Personnel Committee met prior to the Town Board meeting and will meet again on September 16 at noon.

Public Comment Period - Resident Bev Kordus asked the purpose for the Town to borrow \$750,000. Administrator Rhoden reviewed the list for scheduled borrowing and noted it will not have an impact on the tax rate. She commented the Town did not borrow for the Rib Mountain Drive project.

Resident Wendy Belanger, on her daughter's behalf, questioned why there was no teeter totter at Chellis Park as indicated on the signage.

Adjourn - **Motion Schaefer/Kachel to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Questioned and carried 4:0.**

Patricia J. Jahns, MMC/WCPC/CMTW
Clerk/Treasurer