

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN
Public Safety Committee Meeting
January 21, 2020

Committee Chairman Brad Conklin called the meeting of the Rib Mountain Public Safety Committee to order at 5:33 p.m. at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 227800 Snowbird Avenue, Wausau, Wisconsin. Other members present included Allen Opall and Jim Legner.

Also present were Supervisors Fred Schaefer and Gerry Klein, Town Administrator Gaylene Rhoden, Clerk Joanne Ruechel, Street/Park Superintendent Scott Turner, and Code Enforcement Officer Orval Quamme.

On January 17, 2020 copies of the meeting notice were made available to the media, Town Board, Town Attorney and posted at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center and Town website.

Approve Minutes of September 17, 2019 – Motion by Legner/Opall to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2019 Public Safety Committee meeting. Questioned and carried 3:0.

Discussion and Recommendation of Citations for Retail Theft- Administrator Rhoden stated that the current Code Enforcement Officer (CEO), Orv Quamme had discovered an ordinance that allows the Town to issue a citation for retail theft. CEO Quamme would like to get phone calls from the Marathon County Sheriff's Department when a retail store apprehends a shoplifter so he can respond to the business. As long as it's a first-time offense and the amount shoplifted is under \$100.00, the CEO could issue them a citation. The citation would be for \$25.00. By having the Town CEO respond, this would save the Marathon County Sheriff's Department from having to respond. If a citation is issued and it is challenged, and if the Town loses the case, the Town may have to pay the court costs.

The Public Safety Committee asked the CEO to reach out to the Marathon County Sheriff's Department to get reports and statistics about the calls that they have responded to in the Town.

Motion by Legner/Opall to wait until we sign a contract with the Marathon County Sheriff's Department. Questioned and carried 3:0.

Discussion of Parking on Buttercup Road- Mr. Ryan Scanlan of 3909 Doolittle Drive Apartment 10, Steven Point, WI stated that he works at the group home on Buttercup Road. He stated that the current parking at this house does not work for the current needs. He stated that the mound system prevents them from putting in more parking.

Jess Manhattan from 718 N 10th Avenue, Wausau WI was also present to speak. She works at the group home on Buttercup as well. She stated that there is a monthly staff meeting for approximately 15 people and there is not enough on-site parking for them. 6-7 vehicles fit in the lot right now. There are approximately 12 employees working every day at this location. The team meets every 6 months and at that point, there are usually 8 staff members, team members and family members who show up for this meeting. Those meetings cannot be held off-site as the staff members need to be there for the other residents.

Street Superintendent Turner stated that all of the other residents on Buttercup signed a petition to make this a no parking road. There have been issues in the past with the road crews plowing this road in the winter and not being able to get through because of the cars parked on the road. He also stated that in order to widen the road, it would cost approximately \$20,000 to do that. Superintendent Turner said that there are options on-site to provide parking, but it would be expensive for the group home.

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN
Public Safety Committee Meeting
January 21, 2020

CEO Quamme stated that the best parking would be on the south side of the property as there is a mound system on the north side of the property.

Motion by Opall/Legner to encourage the Public Safety Committee to visit the site and bring this issue back to another Public Safety meeting in the future. Questioned and carried 3:0.

Rib Mountain Emergency Manual for Elections- Clerk Ruechel stated that she created an emergency manual and it was submitted to the State Elections Commission in the fall of 2019. She said that she tried to make a complete manual of different scenarios that might arise on election day. The alternative voting site in the Town would be the SAFER fire department at 224225 Hummingbird Road. This is an informational item only.

Adjourn Meeting – **Motion by Opall/Legner to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m. Questioned and carried 3:0.**

Submitted by:
Joanne Ruechel
Clerk

Note: These minutes are not to be considered official until acted upon at an upcoming regular meeting, therefore, they are subject to revision.