

**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS
TOWN OF CRESCENT
AGENDA FOR
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2015
6:00 P.M., CRESCENT TOWN HALL**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Treder called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. The meeting was properly posted.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken. Members present were:

William Treder, Chairman
Joel Knutson, Supervisor
Adrian Turgeon, Supervisor

Tracy Hartman, Clerk
Carla Fletcher, Treasurer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Knutson to approve the agenda. Seconded by Turgeon. All aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Knutson to approve the minutes from February 10, 2015. Seconded by Turgeon. All aye. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A written report was received by Treasurer, Carla Fletcher.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT AND APPROVAL OF PURCHASES

None

FIRST RESPONDER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF PURCHASES

None

ROAD CREW REPORT

Mike Bess was present and stated that plowing is going well and there have been very few breakdowns over the last 6 months. Bess stated that they still have some of the seasoned wood left and should have some left for next season before needing to start using the wood received earlier this year. Bess stated that they are hoping to get the sweeper out soon and start working on the roads. Turgeon stated that the mail lady that works in Crescent brought lunch for the road crew because she has been happy with the condition of the roads. Knutson requested that once plowing is done he would like Mike and Roger to create a self-assessment for how things have gone this year.

COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Robb Jensen was present and gave an oral report to the board. The board is looking at an evening meeting in May for the disposition of the Heal Creek parcel. There were a number of small resolutions. In March they will be discussing the three options for the County

Highway shop. That meeting will be held on March 17th at 9:00 a.m. Jensen stated that there are a number of factors that need to be looked at before a decision can be made.

LIBRARY REPORT

Harry Whidden was present and gave an oral report to the Board. They had a building committee meeting this month. On March 13 there will be meeting with the architect, builders and board members. Whidden stated that the regular board meeting is tomorrow.

TOWN PLAN COMMISSION REPORT

None

TOWN LAKES COMMITTEE REPORT

Knutson reported that there has been a major pullback in spending relative to AIS in waterways. There was only one lake association that received a grant in Oneida County for AIS education/planning grant. There were other lake associations that received the clean boat/clean water grant and therefore local lakes will have some funding for AIS efforts. Squash Lake received a grant for shoreline restoration.

UNIFORM DWELLING

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Possible Decision RE: State Budget Proposal for County Property Assessment & Board of Review

Crescent Assessor Michael Schnautz was present and gave an update on the proposal that is currently in the State Budget to make property assessment and Board of Review completed at a County Level. Schnautz reported that currently the Towns Association, County Association and Assessors Association have all written letters to the state stating that they are against this change. One major change under the proposed changes is that the County Assessor would have to change property assessments every year. Currently, the assessor looks at each property once every 4-7 years, they would now have to look at every property every year. Schnautz stated that the assessor would need to be a level 3 assessor and there are only 12 level 3 assessors in the State, this would triple the cost of the assessment process. Schnautz stated that the town would be required to pay 95% of the current contract and the county or the state would be required to pay the difference. Schnautz stated that there are only a few states that do the assessments at the County Level and those states pay \$30/parcel, we currently pay approximately \$7/parcel. The Wisconsin Towns Association has provided a letter that they recommend the town submit to the State opposing this change. Treder stated that he has a letter that he would like the board to consider signing and sending to the State.

Motion by Knutson to approve the resolution as read by the Chairman and that it be delivered to Representative Swearingen, Senator Tiffany and the Wisconsin Towns Association. Seconded by Turgeon. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible Decision RE: Heal Creek Update

Knutson reported that we are in a bit of a holding pattern relative to where we were last month. The City has modified their proposal to include a \$60,000 cash option in lieu of the land swap if the County so desires that. Knutson stated that they continue to have dialog with representatives from the Hodag Sports Club. Knutson stated that increasing the recreational offerings at the Golf Course seems to have a large buy-in from the community.

Discussion/Possible Decision RE: Approve Applications for Operator's License

None

Discussion/Possible Decision RE: Approve Driveway Permits

None

FIFTEEN MINUTES OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Robb Jensen stated that he has received questions from a few residents and the concern is will the City Annex this property. Knutson reported that is the purpose of putting the land into forestland preservation. Jensen also asked at what point the residents are going to be notified that there will be a public hearing to discuss the land purchase. Treder stated that the April annual meeting does not need to be noticed, however, we will post that meeting and for the April meeting there is not a set agenda. The agenda is determined by the electorate that come to the meeting. Jensen also asked what happens if the sports club agrees to the trails and the same recreational opportunity as the town and the city, would the City still have the chalet open? Knutson stated that it is his understanding that with MFL there are restrictions and therefore the same options for trails, etc would not necessarily be an option. Knutson stated that the other aspect is even if Hodag Sports Club puts the land in MFL and opens it up for trails those could be closed/ removed at any time. Jensen stated that there are three options that the County will look at when they meet in May: offer by Hodag Sports Club; offer by HSC, City of Rhinelander and the Town of Crescent; and they have recently thrown out the idea of keeping the property. Treder asked how the current trails are maintained, Knutson stated that they are currently maintained by the Nordic Ski Club and that would continue. Treder asked if there is any thought of future cost to the Town to maintain the trails. Knutson stated that the goal from the outset is to keep this as financially independent from the tax rolls as possible. Jensen asked what happens if the golf course fails and the property goes back to the paper company. Knutson stated that the city has been very open about that possibility and the golf course employees are behind this 100% because they know that they need to have more options available at the golf course to bring residents/revenue in. Treder asked if Rhinelander will start charging user fees for the "park". Knutson stated that at this time it doesn't look like it, however, if other recreational services (tow road for tubing) are offered than they may have to look at it. Dana DeMet, Chamber of Commerce, stated that he sits on the Golf Course committee and the Golf Course is not far off every year from making money. Dana stated that on a personal level part of his concern with the HSC buying the property and putting trails in is he doesn't see getting the same amount of volunteer commitment because the guarantee is not there for continued use.

REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Squash Lake Association in support of Heal Creek
Training opportunity for Road Crew

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Motion by Knutson to approve vouchers as submitted and adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Seconded by Turgeon. All aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Hartman
Municipal Clerk