

MONTHLY MEETING MARCH 10, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Cedar Lake met at the Cedar Lake Town Hall in Mikana on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM. Present was Chairman Ken Leners, Supervisors Kory Weiss and Mary Hele by Zoom, Maryhelen Drew, Clerk, Treasurer, Gladys Roux. Also, 31 other persons were present. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting were read. Ken asked if Maryhelen stated “ Suzie’s address is where she is registered to vote.” Yes , Maryhelen did state that. Ken made a motion to add this to the minutes for the February meeting. This was seconded by Mary. Kory asked Ken why it is so important that this be added to the minutes. He is concerned about the reason for calling out this specific line. Is this a ploy to do something? It was amended to add the driver’s license and where she receives her mail. Roll call vote: Ken, yes: Mary, yes: Kory, yes. Motion passed to amend the minutes with this information.

PUBLIC INPUT

Tony Wolff gave an update to the office building. It should be done by election. Most materials that are needed have been bought and it comes to about \$1600. The budget is \$5000. Tony suggested that new front doors on the town hall should be purchased which would cost about \$1000. Discussion followed with Ken stating to go ahead and purchase, not to exceed \$2000. Ken and Kory suggested that Tony order this door.

Suzie Boumeester spoke about her living arrangements at the time. They have been here 2 ½ years in the Town of Cedar Lake. She is looking forward to expanding her knowledge about the clerk position. She then went on to explain that Ken Leners had filed a complaint with the Wisconsin Elections Commission alleging that she is not a resident and not legal to be running for clerk. Ken also filed complaints against Lois Gabriel, and Mark Wojciechowski, alleging that they were aware that she was not a resident

when they nominated her at the caucus. She believes that she is voting correctly. She also feels that this tactic is being used to harm her reputation for the election. J. Mutchler asked if she had been cleared. At this time, the commission has not set a date for this hearing. They have advised that it would be some time before this complaint is resolved. Lee Ellerbruch asked if Ken had checked his documentation prior to submitting the complaint. Yes, Ken had asked two attorneys and went with their advice.

Ken then offered Jodie Barrett time to speak.

Lois Gabriel spoke to the complaint which Ken had submitted. She does not take this lightly as this is a Class 1 felony and she is 100% innocent. This should be of concern to all electors the way he went about these false accusations. Ken submitted a 22 page complaint to the State. Ken said that we need to understand that he is representing the majority of people.

Lee Ellerbruch noticed that during his last term, Ken had been investigating LLBC. She feels that this is not the job of the town to investigate their C & R's. Who is paying for the attorney fees? She does not want .01 of her taxes to help pay for this. Ken said that this has all been about revenue and nothing more. Ken spoke about the Divisions 2,3,4 & 7 who have already changed their C & R's.

Next , a letter received from Sally Griffin was read stating that Suzie Boumeester had rented her rental property in the Town of Cedar Lake January 17, 2025. She is warning the Town Board of potential expenses Due to the filing of the complaint of Suzie Boumeester, Lois Gabriel, Mark Wojciechowski.

Ken said that people were intimidated by all of us, so he is speaking for them as they don't feel comfortable coming to the meetings.

Tommy Romanowski said that he doesn't appreciate being talked down to. Please, we are all part of a community because he doesn't think there is a majority. Ken asked if Tommy was OK with all the darts thrown here tonight? Tommy said it sounded like they were needed.

Mary Hele wanted to know if all the information Suzie had given tonight regarding her residential address matched the voter registration address on record. Yes, it all matches. There followed a discussion, a question from Kathy Minitari was what would happen if the decision from the State is not

made before the election. Discussion was held as to the avenue that would be taken dependent on the Wis. Elections Commission decision.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was given by Gladys. Maryhelen balanced with all the bank accounts as well as with Gladys. Ken asked if the budget resolution was ready for 2024. It is not at this time, but will be ready for the April meeting. Ken then asked about a new accountant for the town. He and Mary do not remember there being a board discussion about hiring a different account. Mary voiced her opinion that, while not mandated, a decision of that nature might have benefited from a board discussion. The clerk had found this accountant and signed all of the contracts with them to complete the annual audit for the Town. The name is Two Rivers Accounting, Brandan Williger. Much discussion followed.

ROAD ACTIVITIES

Kory talked about the measurable snow received last week stating this is the worst time to plow due to the fact that thawing has been occurring. Scott has burnt the brush pile by the gravel pit. He has installed speed limit signs on Sucker Creek Rd. Scott had talked with Kory about the shop computer and the software would be outdated by October 1st. So, Kory had Scott purchase a new computer. After the election, the board will need to do a drive around to discuss the summer projects. Next Kory spoke about the new truck (full time job getting prices) with some finalized numbers. At this point the cost of the steel to add the accessories to the truck will be somewhat of an unknown due to the new tariffs being put into place. Kory made the motion to purchase a one ton patrol truck from Don Johnson for the cost of \$52,655.08. Ken seconded this motion. After more discussion, the motion was amended to include the estimate of \$22,000 for the accessories as it would be all together for the loan. Roll call vote on motion and amendment: Ken, yes: Kory, yes: Mary , yes. Motion passed. Discussion was had regarding a contract with Rousar's for the accessories. The Board said to order what is needed as the cost of steel will be going up. If they need payment, let us know.

BFCESD REPORT

Don Brunclik gave a report for the BFCESD . There is a meeting this Thursday at 6:30 PM at the fire hall if anyone wants to attend. He gave the numbers for calls in Jan. 17 ambulance calls with 7 fire calls. The Garolalo Family Foundation has donated \$50,000 toward the purchase of a new ambulance. The Jon Sleik Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on May 18th.

OLD BUSINESS

A decision on closing Sucker Creek road to ATV/UTV needs to be made. Much discussion occurred as well as Sect. 5 of the ATV/UTV Ordinance was discussed. Kory made a motion to close the SE portion of Sucker Creek Rd. to ATV/UTV traffic. This was seconded by Mary. After much discussion, it was decided that the following items would be tried before closing the road completely: 35 mph signs (up already) request additional patrols, talking with bar owners that use these trails for customers, add some signs, lose trail signs, notices in all the bars. It was suggested that facebook is very helpful also. Ken Widiker would be OK with these during a trial period. A fund was started for the cost of the signs. Jeff Kruger offered to talk with the bar owners and collect some funds. With these decisions. Kory rescinded his motion to close this trail at this time. Next was the discussion to rescind Sect. 5 of the ATV/UTV. Ken made the motion to rescind Sect 5 of the Ordinance. Kory seconded the motion. Roll call vote, Ken, yes: Kory, yes: Mary, yes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Gladys announced that the next meeting will be the Annual meeting of the electors to be held on April 15, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Maryhelen had correspondence from Jiffy Biffy, call for once a month service through the summer. Also information about aquatic plant management for Red Cedar Lake and Hemlock, post on the website, renewal of the Linde tanks, February reports from the UDC Inspector as well as reports from Barron Co. Land Use.

Kory had received an email from the Ice Age Trail committee. There is a bridge across Pigeon Creek which is part of the Ice Age Trail. They would like the town's permission to rebuild this bridge. Kory will sign and return this request.

Mary had no correspondence.

Ken spoke about the beginning office for the newly elected persons. The final day for the current Board is April 14th. This being the last meeting for Ken, Mary and Maryhelen.

Kory made a motion to adjourn and pay the bills. This was seconded by Mary Hele. All approved. (8:30)

This meeting was in the Chronotype, posted at the town hall, Red Cedar Country store, Cedar Lake Grill, LLBC and the website.