

**Town of Grant
9011 County Road WW**

**Monthly Board Meeting
November 10, 2010**

Present: Schwab, Kertis, Goska, Raasch and Zimmerman.
Chairperson Schwab called meeting to order at 6:30pm to review bills.

Announcements/Correspondence:

- Holiday Potluck at 5:30pm on Dec. 8th before Monthly Board Meeting
- Portage County Planning & Zoning approved amendments to the County Ordinance; final decision goes to the County Board.
- Public Service Commission notice of Public Hearing Nov. 30, 2010 for Wis. Electric Power Co. to construct and place in service a biomass-fueled cogeneration facility in Rothschild, Marathon Cty
- Wis. Dept of Revenue sent notice of training to be attended by assessor Claude Ringlemon.

Public Hearing

Schwab opened the Public Hearing at 7pm. to solicit citizen's input on a request from Rob Luecht and Heather Grys Luecht for the rezoning of property located at the NW corner of 86th St. and Deer Road. The request is to rezone from low density residential to general agriculture for the purpose of using the land for general farming (produce and farm animals) and accessory buildings. Rob and Heather Luecht would like to have property rezoned so they could in the future look at having chickens, cattle, gardening business, buildings for farm use, etc., but no formal plan is in place. Jim Wendels' from the Plan Commission explained that the request is within the guidelines of the Town of Grant Comprehensive Plan. He also indicated that rezoning is a very formal process, which involves having new zoning maps made, appearing before the Portage County Planning and Zoning and Portage County Board for approval also. Raasch indicated that the property NE is general agriculture, NW-low density residential, W-commercial and E-low density residential. Notices were sent to adjoining property owners and no responses were received by the clerk. Schwab closed the Public Hearing at 7:20pm.

Monthly Board Meeting Resumes

Presentation: Scott Bernette, Grand Rapids VFD: Chief Bernette presented his 3rd Qtr Report indicated that they responded to three calls: 1-vehicle accident, 1-LZ Setup and 1-Mutual Aid Request from EMS. They had three training session for the quarter and a number of Public Relation participation which included Community Events: Sandbagging Operations (Portage County) and Children's Miracle Network Balloon Rally. He also, presented a report for Yearly Fire Inspections for 2010, with 22 buildings Jan-Jun with 2 violations and 22 buildings July-Dec. 31 with 0 violations for a total of 46 building inspections for 2010.

Request for Rezoning by Luecht: Wendels' indicated that the Plan Commission recommends approval of request. Goska suggested that Rob & Heather be considerate of neighbors when they decide what kind of farming they would like to do.

Motion: (Goska, Kertis) Approve rezoning from Low Density Residential to General Agriculture for Rob and Heather Luecht at NW corner of 86th St. and Deer Road. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.

Garage/Heavy Equipment/Roads:

- Road Construction and Maintenance work is all complete for 2010
- STOP sign replacement has been completed.
- Grader Repairs included oil pan gasket and a number of miscellaneous repairs for a total of \$5,298.00 for repairs and \$1,060.00 for transporting.
- Rex Galbreth drove off road into ditch on 90th Street (Cty WW-Griffith), tore up shoulder several feet shy of new culvert, while trying to repair shoulder with tractor and blade, he took the end walls off of culvert pipe. Police report was filed.
- Yield Sign on Angle Dr./ Remove STOP sign on Birch St.: Kertis would like to remove STOP sign on Birch St and install Yield Sign on Angle Dr. indicating it is difficult for snowplow drivers to see traffic coming on Angle when plowing on Birch. Rickman indicated that STOP sign on Birch was installed prior to 2000, Higgins have concerns for children safety, as the children must wait for school bus on the corner of Birch and Cty Rd. F. Goska would like to get heavy equipment off of Angle Dr. and Schwab indicated that Birch should be the thoroughfare. Wendels' said that traffic determines which road is thoroughfare. Marv Raasch said Don't fix it if not broken. It was suggested to remove 1st row of pine trees on Peggy Higgins property on right away and push snow way back to give more room for children waiting for school bus in winter. No other action was taken, an email from Wis. Towns Association indicated that an Ordinance would have to be made to change Yield and Stop sign locations.

Motion: (Schwab, Goska) Move to approve Monthly Board Meeting minutes from October 13th, with one correction of spelling for Goetz. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.

Motion: (Goska, Kertis) Approve minutes of Special Town Board Meeting of Oct. 27th as written. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.

Officers' Reports: United Emergency Medical Response/Portage County contract approved for one year, in December 2010, then will go on 3 year cycle. Reports from Stevens Point, Amherst and Town of Grant. Next Ambulance Meeting will be Nov. 11th.

Committee Reports:

- Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee (GCAC): Scott Provost had a presentation on Public Rights Stage (PRS), on the Little Plover River. Provost explained the public's right of water is embedded in the Public Trust Doctrine in Wis., which means all waters are held in trust for the public. Everyone has a right to use the water. There is a certain amount of water that can be taken from a river or stream before having negative impact. There are many criteria to look at when establishing a PRS, such as measurements, fisheries data, chemical temperature data, physical flow, habitat data and how navigable the stream is.

- Historical/Sesquicentennial Committee: Raasch reported that on Election Day she talked to a number of residents about doing interviews and information from different families that have been lifelong residents to get information. Creating a list of businesses that have been in Town of Grant. The Town has purchased a scanner, so they can return pictures and documents right away. Meeting held on first Monday of each month.
- Plan Commission: Wendels' reported that next meeting is Nov. 17th @ 7pm. Outdoor Wood Burner Ordinance will be looked at concerning High Density Residential areas concern of smoke, asthma, 300 ft separation from residence, function with high stack, any concerns attend meeting. Goska indicated that in Eugene, OR outdoor wood burners were restricted in High Density Residential areas because of the smoke.
- Zoning permits for October totaled \$420.00.

Financial Reports:

- Total Receipts for month of October were \$121,164.80, with General Transportation Aid and transfer of funds from Chase Account. Treasurer and Clerk are in balance with their books.
- Budget Sheet was distributed with checks issued for Nov. meeting.
- 2011 Budget Line Detail was available to residents to look over before Budget Hearing.

Motion:(Schwab, Goska) Move to conduct full audit for 2010 in view of changes made in QuickBooks in 2010 and since 2011 is an election year and go to review in 2011. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.

Public Participation: Pat Barten would like cost of materials and labor for sign yard. Marv Raasch wanted to know what was done with Okrays when they disked close to the road 110th St (Cty FF-Elm).

Motion: (Goska, Kertis) Approve Operator License for Chealsie Lehman and Connie Paulsen for Kountry Kwencher, DBA: DJ's Corner Bar. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.

Transfer Station: Schwab is working on updating Recycling Brochure with Julie Kramer, to be sent with tax bills.

Newsletter: Draft copy

Website: Goetz is working on Town Website.

Upcoming Dates:

- Budget Hearing November 23rd @ 7:00pm
- Fall Road Inspection November 13th @ 8:00am
- F.T. Employee Work Agreement November 29th @ 4:00pm

Motion: (Schwab, Goska) Move to adjourn at 9:05pm. Carried. Unanimous Ayes.

Respectfully submitted by


Vicky Zimmerman,
Clerk, Town of Grant