

l zone truce

Municipal leaders could take a step back from the conflict and reflect upon what is really important in this extraterritorial matter and how they can contribute to conflict resolution," he writes in a letter to the five involved municipalities. "We expect that there is a lot more that unites us than divides us."

Gibbs said the 90-day truce will allow municipalities to focus on conflict resolution and to concentrate around what is really important and will matter from now and 10 years from now to residents."

In committee debate, supervisor Heidi Cihlar said the extraterritorial zoning conflict represented a "test of

leadership" for Marathon County.

She said it was important that the county decide whether the county planned to back up towns battling extraterritorial zoning, especially if the county is serious about having a zoning program that all county towns will want to be a part of.

"This will set the direction for how we will go into the future," she said.

Supervisor John Bandow, who is Frankfort town chairman, said he believes the county should pay all legal bills for zoning matters in county-zoned townships.

Marilyn Bhend, a citizen member of the committee, said she supported the 90-day truce because it would promote

communication and cooperation.

"This is a good thing to do," she said.

Supervisor John Small, who is the village president of Marathon City, said he did not believe the county had a role in extraterritorial zoning matters because counties are not explicitly mentioned in state law.

County corporation counsel Scott Corbett, however, said state law gives county zoning department "very broad powers."

The county could reimburse the towns for the Phillips legal bill, he said, if it wanted to do so.

Small abstained from voting on the Gibbs' proposal.

okay bids street work

sealed will be Brooklyn, Brewster, Kurt, Freeman, Beech, Quaw and Kai. Trustees also approved a crack filling contract from Lakes Asphalt Maintenance for \$7,169.

Trustee Paul Schilling said he prefers slag seal over chip seal. "It wears like iron compared to the chip," he stated.

In other business, the board approved a zoning variance request from Alan Heil at 1401 S. Third Ave. Heil requested increasing the size of his detached garage from 1,200 to 1,800 square feet.

He commented, "My friend said he'd rather die than go back there again."

Westlund said the current poor care provided by the VA was "wrong and we have to fix it."

She said the federal government needed to budget more money for veterans' medical care.

"It's our responsibility to keep up our end of the deal," she said.



Manure spill at Willcome farm

Brighton farm cited

The Department of Natural Resources will issue a \$500 fine to a town of Brighton farm responsible for release of a million gallons of manure in May, some of which entered the Little Eau Pleine River.

The Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department investigated the incident on the Willcome Farm.

Staff found that manure from the 100-cattle operation was allowed to overflow from a 12 by 20 foot short-term, permitted holding tank. Air

photographs indicate that the tank released manure for over a year.

Paul Daigle, spokesman for the county department, said "a significant" amount of manure found its way into the Little Eau Pleine River.

He said the manure release has been cleaned up and spread on a neighbor's land. As of May 9, he said, all of the spilled manure had been disced in.

"This is one of the largest spills we've had in recent years," Daigle said.