

Town of Stockbridge
Annual Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, 2016
Stockbridge Community Hall

Minutes Subject to Approval

Chairman Ken Schaefer called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Supervisors Jeff Yelton and Connie Loewe, Clerk Janene Van Hoorn, Treasurer Ralph Schmid, Town Road Superintendent Jerry Ortlieb and 11 town residents and/or property owners.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Gib Ortlieb made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2015 Annual Meeting and November 11, 2015 Budget Hearing and Special Town Meeting. Seconded by John Nadler. Motion Carried.

Treasurer Ralph Schmid and Clerk Janene Van Hoorn presented the Town of Stockbridge 2015 Financial Statement. The 2017 Annual Meeting was set for April 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Schaefer opened the floor to comments. Bob Boerger, owner of Lakeview Campground, inquired about the status of improvements to Ledge Road. The board explained current budgeting issues and that improvements to Ledge Road will have high priority in the 2017 budgeting process. Gib Ortlieb asked the board about increasing the tax levy to cover the cost of road work which needs to be completed in the town. A discussion occurred regarding current levy limit requirements and methods to increase the tax levy by referendum or special town meeting. Schaefer suggested creating a committee to explore an increase in the tax levy for road improvements and maintenance. Judy Hartl made a motion to form a committee to explore possible tax levy options. Seconded by John Nadler. 12 ayes and 2 nays. Motion Carried. A question regarding obtaining a short term loan to complete road work was received from John Hartl. Chairman Schaefer explained that the budget for 2016 had been adopted and was binding for this calendar year. Chairman Schaefer gave an update on the Mud Creek Road bridge and Quinney Road culvert projects. Schaefer stated if these projects come in under projected cost, money may become available to complete additional road work in 2016.

Groundwater Guardians volunteer Judy Hartl explained a coordinated voluntary well water testing program offered in Calumet County. The Town of Stockbridge is in line for the well water testing program this year. Discussion on the voluntary program occurred and a consensus was reached that the town promote the well water testing opportunity.

Schaefer stated the town has a 12 Ton Tandem Axle Backhoe Trailer which is no longer in use. John Nadler made a motion to sell the trailer by sealed bid with a minimum bid of \$2500. Seconded by Chuck Ecker. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Town salaries were discussed. Gib Ortlieb made a motion to better align the clerks salary with other area clerks by increasing the clerk's salary by \$4,000 per year starting with the 2017 term. Seconded by John Nadler. Motion Carried Unanimously. Gib Ortlieb made a motion to raise the meeting per diem to \$65 starting with the 2017 term. Seconded by John Nadler. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Chuck Ecker brought up the need to budget for a new fire truck.

The residents in attendance were updated on the Town of Stockbridge Large Item Clean-up and updates on recycling. Dave Ortlieb asked about increasing the size of the town board from 3 to 5 people.

Being no further business Ralph Schmid made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by John Nadler. Meeting adjourned 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janene Van Hoorn
Stockbridge Town Clerk