

## **MONTHLY MEETING – AUGUST 28, 2007**

On Tuesday, August 28, 2007, the Town Board of the Town of Paris held their regular monthly meeting. Chairman Gentz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Paris Grade School, 1901-176<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in the Library. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken as follows: Chairman Virgil Gentz; Supervisors, Ron Kammerzelt and Ken Monson; Clerk/Treasurer, Linda M. Terry; Building Inspector, Frank Christensen; Fire/Rescue Chief, Bill Beetschen; Plan Commission Vice-Chairman, Emil Kreger, and Town Attorney, John Knuteson.

Minutes from previous meetings of 7/24/07 & 8/14/07 were **APPROVED ON A KAMMERZELT/MONSON MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

The Treasurer's report was read as follows:

### **General Account**

July 1, 2007	\$ 66,515.37
Plus: Deposits	\$226,728.92
Less: Checks Issued	\$133,928.39
Balance: July 31, 2007	\$159,315.90

### **Investments**

State Investment Pool – 7/31/07 Balance	\$13,133,510.67
Money Market Account – 7/31/07 Balance	\$ 2,894,520.48

The Treasurer's Report was **APPROVED AS READ ON A MONSON/KAMMERZELT MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

**NONE**

### **BOARD COMMENTS:**

\*\*Supervisor Kammerzelt Thanked Paris School Administrator, Roger Gahart for allowing the Town Board to use the building for the meeting.

He also Thanked Chairman Gentz for attending the Smart Growth meeting that day.

\*\*Chairman Gentz stated that at the Smart Growth meeting, there was discussion regarding economic development.

He also stated that the Town Hall is coming along, and he is hoping to be in the new building in November.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:**

Chief Beetschen reported that the new engine is now in service.

He also stated that at the present time, the Town is seeing an increase in burning complaints; he would ask that citizens of the Town please call before starting to burn.

Supervisor Monson stated that he received the specifications from Chief Beetschen regarding the engine that the Town retired. He will put something in writing and have the other Board members look at it.

Chief Beetschen reported that the Town has a signed contract from Andres regarding medical billing. He would recommend that the Town go back 12 months for billing purposes. The billing will start in September.

## **PLAN COMMISSION BUSINESS:**

1. Petition from RRAM Productions Inc. (dba Great Lakes Dragaway) requesting the rezoning of Tax Parcel #45-4-221-081-0101 from A-2 General Agricultural District to PR-1 Park and Recreation District. The purpose of the petition is to allow the construction and operation of a motocross track on the property.

Plan Commission Vice Chairman, Emil Kreger reported that the Plan Commission had their meeting last week Monday, regarding the Dragaway request. He said that Mr. Henning gave his presentation and also, presented the Commission with various studies.

After the entire presentation was given, the Plan Commission unanimously voted to deny the request.

Mr. Kreger also reported that the Plan Commission discussed the economic development Chapter 13 for Smart Growth; mistakes were noticed in Chapter 13, thus, the Plan Commission Tabled that item.

### **Randy Henning:**

Mr. Henning stated that it has been an uphill battle to get the motocross track. There will be no wetlands destroyed. He has offered to have lighting reduction; the motocross will not add to the noise level.

Individuals that have lived in the Town have told Mr. Henning that they will not be bothered by the noise.

The race track has been in the Town for 54 years – many people who are complaining have not lived in the Town for that many years. Mr. Henning has run the track for 14 years; motocross is a family oriented sport. Many people in the Town would benefit by the jobs it would create.

### **Chairman Gentz:**

Chairman Gentz questioned the DNR's feelings regarding the entryway of the drag strip; he also questioned what SEWRPC's feelings on this expansion were. What about a berm on the East side of the track to cut down on the noise?

### **Randy Henning:**

SEWRPC is willing to work with the drag strip. The roadway was moved approximately 20 feet. He also stated that there is no room for a berm on the East side of the track. The motocross will be running concurrently with the drag strip. He would like to start the motocross in Spring of 2008.

### **Supervisor Monson:**

Supervisor Monson has concerns regarding the fire and rescue calls for the motocross.

### **Randy Henning:**

Informed the Board that the Lake Geneva track had only five transports for 2006. He also stated that he will have qualified EMT'S on site.

### **Chief Beetschen:**

Stated that fire/rescue is usually only told about a situation when there is a need to transport someone. People that are injured usually deny rescue help.

### **Chairman Gentz:**

Asked if in-house security would be increased?

### **Randy Henning:**

Stated that he used to have off-duty deputies for security; however, they said that they had nothing to do. Mr. Henning said that they will increase their EMT'S from 2 to 4; and increase ambulance from 1 to 2.

**Chairman Gentz asked if there was anyone living in the Town in favor of the expansion:**

**David DeLabio**  
**19400-38<sup>th</sup> Street**

He grew up around this track for 40 years. The kids in the Town need someplace to go. Where should they go? There are really no sound issues or light issues – what’s the big deal? They have the EMT’S; why should Mr. Henning’s business suffer because someone doesn’t like it? These kids need somewhere to go.

**Jerry Ling:**

Questioned if the procedures are changing because the drag strip runs late?

**Kevin Black:**

In favor of the motocross; there will be no dust issues – the track is watered down.

**Kurt Krumm:**

Takes his family to motocross. If there is a drag strip problem, it has to be solved; however, this request is for motocross.

**Chairman Gentz asked if there was anyone living in the Town opposed to the expansion:**

**Klaus Dierks:**

The sound study that the Town was given is not accurate; humidity is a big factor in a sound study. Regarding the ambulance calls – there are no facts to what Mr. Henning has said. In 1994 when the drag strip conditional use was issued, there were conditions which haven’t been followed.

**Pam Luebke:**

There will be more than just 20 bikes running at one time. Also, Mr. Henning said that the motocross will be running concurrent with the dragstrip, so this will add to the noise. The Town’s people are dealing with the existing race track – they do not want an expansion.

**Beth Frederick:**

We have no problem with the drag strip, but we do not want an expansion. In 1994, he promised sound dampering, but nothing has been done to date.

**Jim Fonk:**

If this is rezoned to PR1, the Town could end up with another Country Thunder or Alpine Valley here.

**Charles Stegal:**

No one wants to address the increased traffic that this will cause on KR. There is already a lot of garbage thrown on the road.

**Erin Pugh:**

Tired of the garbage on the road; and tired of the traffic.

**Casmir Ostrowski:**

He stated that the noise will be bad. He would prefer that the existing problems are dealt with first.

**Julie Petersen:**

The dragstrip is noisy for a few seconds – the motocross will be noisy constantly.

**Aaron Frederick:**

People have said that the children need someplace to go – well, my backyard is not the spot. The drag strip is in my backyard. If kids need a place to ride – let them go to Bong. The drag strip is not following the existing conditional use permit – who regulates that?

**Franklin Schaeffer:**

Spoke to the Town's assessor, and was informed that the property values of people living within close proximity of the drag strip will be lower than others.

**Fran Fonk:**

We live within 1-1/2 miles of the strip; and we can hear it quite well.

**Janet Wenzel:**

Stated that the drag strip has been advertising having live bands – do they have or need permits for this type of activity?

**Ken Gilbert:**

Wondered if the drag strip pays taxes.

**Dick Luebke:**

When the motocross bikes go over the hills/jumps, there will be up and down noises.

**People not living in the Town that are in favor of the motocross:**

**Dan Zembruski:**

Think of all of the revenue that this will bring to the area.

**Len Skanlan:**

He has been riding dirt bike since he was nine years old. He has been racing in Lake Geneva; this would be a welcome addition to Paris.

**Dave Derringer:**

Works in the industry, and there may be funding available to the track.

**Randy Borzik:**

People should plant trees in their yards if they don't want to hear the noise.

**Chuck Belcher:**

There used to be a motocross track at the drag strip – it never created a problem. He doesn't understand why the security is such a big thing.

**Kristen Anderson:**

Lives on Green Bay Road; and the traffic by her is much worse than it would ever be on KR. She also stated that the noise is not that bad.

**Erin Aune:**

She is a promoter from Lake Geneva – the start and stop times are not exact.

**Greg DeBerg:**

He is from Racine and stated that the racers need someplace to race.

**Chairman Gentz:**

The conditional use permit was granted in 1994 by Kenosha County. It is a County function for enforcement. He doesn't know if live bands were included in the conditional use permit.

**Supervisor Kammerzelt:**

Has the following items of concern:

1. By rezoning; the property could be used as something else;
2. We cannot ignore citizen comments;
3. Flood Plain Issues;
4. It is contrary to the Town's Land Use Plan;
5. There is only one entrance and exit.
6. What about a helipad;
7. What about rescue;
8. There is no separation of racing and practice times;
9. There are going to be the same number of lights;
10. Noise study says no additional noise;
11. There is no economic gain to the community

**MOTION TO DENY PETITION, MADE ON A KAMMERZELT/MONSON MOTION.  
MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

Supervisor Monson added that the residents of the Town do not want any additions to the existing problems. Mr. Henning has not addressed the existing problems. He's got an attitude of unwillingness.

Chairman Gentz stated that they have to find a place to race. There is a need out there; however, residents have legitimate complaints. He went on to say that in speaking to approximately 100 residents, the unofficial count he has is: 86 against; and 14 in favor.

**UPDATES FROM PLAN COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, JOHN HOLLOWAY:**

Mr. Holloway was excused from attending the meeting this evening.

**TOWN BUSINESS:**

1. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING HOUSE NUMBERING SYSTEM FOR THE TOWN: (previously tabled)  
MOTION TO REMOVE FROM TABLE, MADE ON A  
MONSON/KAMMERZELT MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

Supervisor Monson has received information from Lange Enterprises. He will get some figures together and present it to the Board at the next month's meeting.

2. **DISCUSSION REGARDING RECEIPT OF ANNEXATION PETITION:**

Chairman Gentz stated that the Board Members have recently seen in the Kenosha News that someone was interested in annexing property into the City of Kenosha.

**Attorney Knuteson made the following comment:**

"The Town of Paris recently received notice from Southport Commons, LLC of its intent to circulate a petition for direct annexation of land currently in the Town of Paris, West of I94 into the City of Kenosha. The Town of Paris had a number of positive discussions about the possibility of negotiating a boundary agreement with the City of Kenosha. The Town of Paris Board is disappointed that talks with the City of Kenosha broke down due to its aggressive posture regarding the amount of land the City wanted to annex and the millions of dollars the City of Kenosha requested to be 'donated' to the City, when the City of Kenosha has plenty of developable lands. The Town of Paris has always sought t

o keep its 36 square miles rural and ‘green’. This annexation is an example of irrational municipal growth and urban sprawl. The Town of Paris is also concerned that the City of Kenosha is attempting to extend, to a portion of the Town of Paris, water services outside of the Great Lakes basin, which has unresolved questions and state, national and international implications to protect the Great Lakes. While current Wisconsin law gives the Town of Paris a limited right to comment on the annexation petition, the Town of Paris clearly opposes this annexation.”

**Supervisor Kammerzelt made the following comments:**

“In regards to Gary Stetson’s petition to annex a southeastern portion of Paris next to I94 and 60<sup>th</sup> Street, it is apparent that this proposal is urban sprawl at its height of concept. The City of Kenosha and its staff should be commended for its efforts in the revitalization of downtown, and other areas of the City, but this attempt I believe, is ill-advised. Kenosha has last completed boundary agreements with Somers and Bristol; that gives the City hundreds of acres to develop. The land received from Pleasant Prairie boundary agreement, made almost 20 years ago, haven’t been fully developed yet. There have been commercial proposals in Kenosha proper with infrastructure intact, ready to serve the development that has been turned down by their planning commission and staff; yet they don’t mind if the people of Paris have to put up with their commercial plans. This is all on the heels of the State of Wisconsin Smart Growth initiative enacted in 2001 State budget which is supposed to curb urban sprawl and promote better land use for the whole community. These, and the fact that this petition land is outside of the sewer service area and, as of right now, unable to be served by Lake Michigan water. This isn’t Smart Growth; this is Dumb Growth.”

Supervisor Kammerzelt also stated that the petitioner owns a total of 56 acres; not 117 acres that has been requested for annexation. This may not be a valid request.

**MOVE TO OPPOSE THE ANNEXATION PETITION, AND COORDINATE WITH OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO DRAFT AN OBJECTION TO THIS PETITION, MADE ON A KAMMERZELT/MONSON MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

**3. CONSIDERATION OF DONATION TO PARIS SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR HALLOWEEN PARTY:**

**APPROVE THE SUM OF \$250.00 TO THE PARIS SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR THEIR HALLOWEEN PARTY, MADE ON A MONSON/KAMMERZELT MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

Supervisor Kammerzelt wants to make sure that this is for all of the children that live in the Town; not only Paris School students.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF OPERATOR’S LICENSE PENDING CLEAR RECORD CHECK:**

**Rachel Smith**

**APPROVED ON A MONSON/KAMMERZELT MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

**5. ANY OTHER UPDATES:**

Chairman Gentz stated that he will be out of Town from August 31<sup>st</sup> – September 21<sup>st</sup>. Supervisor Kammerzelt would like to publicly Thank Mr. Henning for the work that he put into his petition.

Supervisor Monson wished to Thank new School Administrator, Roger Gahart for allowing the Town to hold their meetings at the school while the Town Hall is under remodeling. He also congratulated Mr. Gahart on his new position at the School.

**AT 9:30 PM, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED ON A  
MONSON/KAMMERZELT MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

***LINDA M. TERRY***  
***Clerk/Treasurer***