

**TOWN OF PARIS
MONTHLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2005**

The February 22nd monthly meeting of the Paris Town Board was called to order by Chairman Virgil Gentz at 7:03 p.m. with all members in attendance. The pledge of allegiance preceded the meeting.

Minutes were read from the January 25, 2005, monthly meeting and were approved as read.

The treasurer's report had a balance in the general account of \$438,237.13 at the end of January, of which most was real estate tax collection, \$5,439,887.82 in the State Investment Pool and \$2,786,781.76 in the Money Market Account. Report approved as read.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Ron Lourigan, 1087 – 180th Avenue, reported to the board that the flag in the front of the building is torn and ripped. He would like to have it retired properly.

DISCUSS PETITION FROM RESIDENTS ON 176TH AVENUE ROAD FRONTAGE

John Holloway, Plan Commission Chairman, started off the discussion in order to make a clarification. He was approached by Linda Terry to help her with a petition to have the town take an active role in seeking a solution to the incorrect placement of 176th Avenue, a public road, which leaves certain properties without legal road frontage. John drafted the petition and it was circulated by the Daly Family. John informed the board of some mistakes he made in the petition and that the petition was not meant to offend the ruling. The property at 2375 – 176th Avenue and those properties north are not affected as are the ones to the south. The discussion of this issue was quite lengthy. The following people asked questions and made comments: Linda Terry, 2805 – 176th Avenue, Bob Streich, 1931 – 176th Avenue, Arlene Grisk, 3115 – 176th Avenue, Michael Foss, 3400 – 176th Avenue, Bud Milner, 2009 – 176th Avenue, Richard Daly, 2503 – 176th Avenue, David Poisl, 17105 – 38th Street, Mark Equist, 2816 – 176th Avenue, Betty Price, 2720 – 176th Avenue, Gail Gentz, 16906 – 38th Street, and James Fredrick, 16011 – 7th Street.

Gerald Geyso, 2524 – 176th Avenue, read the following written statement opposing this petition. Contrary to the petition, Judge Kluka's decision did not determine the right of access to Hwy. D by abutting property owners. That issue was decided by the Wisconsin Court of Appeals in the decision he has available. Moreover, that decision did not deny the Dalys or any other abutting property owner the right to reasonable access to Hwy. D.

Chairman Gentz read a memo from our town attorney, Matt Quinn, which stated these properties have a “reasonable access”, but neither the owner of their underlying land or the County who has the easement, is required to give them more than “reasonable access”.

Residents had concerns of access to their property, landowners cutting down trees in the right of way, ownership of property or right of way, who would pay medical bills if you were injured on the east side of the road, suggestion of talking with county corporation counsel, contacting Mark Wisnefski our County Board Supervisor (who was attending a county board meeting tonight), signing quit claim deeds, and the possibility of the town writing a letter in support of these residents, and/or attending a future county board meeting.

Ken Monson stated that the town could not write a letter supporting the residents of the town, because they would be going against the Geyso family.

Jeff Ashmus stated that this is an unfortunate situation. Information was gained tonight and meeting again would be an option to decide what can be done.

Virgil Gentz stated that ownership of property seems to be the biggest complaint and he would be happy to meet again with residents that might be interested in discussing quit claim deeds as a solution to this problem.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR 2004 AUDIT

Monson made a motion, Ashmus the second to approve the 2004 town audit be completed by Gordon J. Maier & Company, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$3600.00. Quotes were also received from Clifton Gunderson LLP and Deignan & Associates. Motion passed on a roll call vote with all yes votes.

DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TO INCREASE BUILDING PERMIT FEES

Building Inspector, Frank Christensen, brought to the boards attention that the building permit fees have not been increased since 1997. He gave the board information of what other municipalities are charging and we are less than them. On a Monson/Ashmus motion and second, it was approved to create a new fee schedule for building permit fees. An amendment to the ordinance will be drafted and adopted at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF 2005-2006 WISCONSIN UTILITY TAX MEMBERSHIP FEES

These dues are good investments which help protect our shared revenue. Monson thanked Gentz for serving on that board and attending all the meetings. Monson made a motion, Ashmus a second, in the best interest of the town they approve the 2005-2006 Wisconsin Utility Tax Association Membership dues not to exceed \$2000.00. Motion passed with all yes votes.

ACTION ON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER ACCIDENT INSURANCE POLICY

Bill Beetschen, Paris Fire/Rescue Chief, stated this action is great for our fire/rescue personnel. Monson made the motion, Ashmus the second, to approve the Volunteer Firefighter Accident Insurance Policy for \$2,683.04/annually beginning on March 1, 2005. Motion passed on a roll call vote with all yes votes.

UPDATES FROM JOHN HOLLOWAY

John reported that an agreement was met between SEWRPC and CPI on the storm sewer water plan and there will not be a retention pond.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

Ken consulted with Nick at Van's Roofing and it would cost about \$40,000.00 to repair the rubber roof on the meeting room side and the lower area between the meeting room and the addition and includes all new flashing around the perimeter.

All members agreed that repairs should be done. Ken will work with Atty. Matt Quinn to get the bids together.

Virgil hopes to have a Landfill Siting Committee meeting, for questions and answers of residents, the February 28th at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Terri will mail letters to the residents that were listed on W/M direct payment list.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS ALLOWED BY LAW

Mike Christensen showed a draft letter to the board which will be mailed to the residents with an order form for the bricks of the Memorial Garden Project. It will cost \$19.00/brick for printing and the board suggested the committee not charge more than \$35.00/brick now and \$50.00/brick after the initial time frame. The bricks will be all the same size.

Ron Lourigan, Paris School board member, suggested that Atty. Matt Quinn's memo regarding the 176th Avenue Petition on road frontage was in error because it stated that Thomas Slowinski, Administrator for Paris School, signed the letter/petition. A copy of the letter was shown to Ron, confirming the memo was not in error and Slowinski's signature was on the letter/petition.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings were mentioned as listed on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

On an Ashmus/Monson motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m. to pay the bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Fonk
Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Paris