

March 3, 2010

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 p.m. in the town hall. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. Forbes was absent; excused. The meeting was officially noticed.

Nelson made a motion to approve the February 17, 2010 minutes. Frank seconded it. Motion passed.

The board and several residents discussed Heartland Farms purchasing over 6,000 acres of land in the Town from Plum Creek and turning them into potato fields. There were many concerns including the water level, water quality and dust problems. The Town has a Comprehensive plan. The property that Heartland Farms wants to purchase is in the Rural Preservation area. It prohibits heavy use irrigation and only allows small agriculture; no large tracts. Nelson made a motion that the Town is not interested in looking further into Heartland Farms purchasing over 6,000 acres for potato fields. Frank seconded it. Motion passed.

Passineau made a motion to accept the contract with the City of Wisconsin Rapids for the use of the Compost site for Town of Saratoga residents. Residents would need to purchase a yearly ticket for \$35. Once you bring brush and clippings into the site, you may bring compost out. Nelson seconded it. Motion passed.

The board discussed the Seven Mile dam on Rangeline Road. The DNR and the Town have sent letters to the owner and have gotten no response. A removal order will be sent to the owner. The Town will remove the existing dam once the waiting period is up. Passineau suggested that the Town widen the road where the culvert will be replaced. It would be easier to do it now, it would be more work and cost later if the road would be widened. Passineau will check to see what the additional cost would be to widen the section now.

Frank made a motion to grant the operator's license for Jennifer Loftis. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed.

The board discussed carport structures. The board would like to look into the ones that are made out of tarp-like or vinyl material. The board would like to see how surrounding communities are handling these types of structures. It was tabled until the next meeting.

The Town of Grand Rapids wanted to know if the Town of Saratoga would be interested in splitting the cost to fix the section of Townline Road from 64th Street to 80th. There is a large culvert in that section of the road. The board would possibly look into sharing the cost of replacing the culvert, but not in fixing the entire road. Passineau will check with Grand Rapids to see if they have an approximate cost. An agreement would have to be signed between the two Towns.

Dave Ryan gave the Constable report. Ashley and Brian Schmitt received tickets for their dogs being unlicensed and running loose. The board told them that the municipal judge would make a judgment on the tickets.

Billie-Jo Kester gave the Treasurer's report.

Correspondences were read.

Frank made a motion to approve the bills paid. Nelson seconded it. Motion passed.

Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski
Town Clerk