

January 16, 2019

The Saratoga Town Board met at 6:00 p.m. in the town office. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. All members were present. The meeting was officially noticed on January 14, 2019.

Forbes made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 2, 2019 meeting. Frank seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Jon and Audrey Ardnt, 9410 80<sup>th</sup> Street South, request a business permit. They have been selling Christmas trees, wreaths, and rope in Wisconsin Rapids for over 30 years. Their trees are grown outside of the Town of Saratoga. They would like to store the trees and things in their shed and sell from their property. They would sell between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Heeg made a motion grant the business permit. Passineau seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Frank made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-1; Amending the Town of Saratoga Fee schedule. The sign permit fee was added back to the schedule, along with a minimum fee for Fire sprinklers. The certified survey map review and re-submittal fees were removed. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Passineau made a motion to grant the operator's licenses for Douglas Warmann, Sklar Embertson, and Felicia Mielke. Frank seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the total money paid to Nash Law Group in 2018 for Ordinance violations. The following list is the amount of money spent for each person for legal services rendered.

Kenneth Jaecks-	\$1,751.66
Tony Berger-	\$670.00
Rick Stratton-	\$1211.25
Jennifer Converse	\$410.00
Arnold Strangfeld	\$1540.00
James Handke	\$460.00
Leo/Catherine Piatz	\$810.00
Jeremy Sievers	\$1006.67
Nathan Dick	\$280.00
Ed Hardwick	\$946.67
Michelle Bretl	\$480.00
Barry Pio	\$405.00
Sandra Warner	\$440.00
Joe Valiska	\$420.00
Mike Zurfluh	\$330.00
Alice Peterson	\$370.00
Dave Ramsden	\$60.00
Luke Hilgers	\$80.00

\$1496.00 was spent for miscellaneous legal counsel.

The total spent in 2018 to Nash Law was \$13,167.25.

The total the Town received in fines and forfeitures in 2018 was \$6,198.67.

The Boy Scouts pack 178 would like to use the hall on February 23, 2019.

The Saratoga EMS would like to use the hall on May 19, 2019 for their fundraiser. The Board ok'd to use the hall for both events.

Lorelei Fuehrer gave the Building Inspector's report. Building is slower this time of year. She has been working on correspondence for building code violations for property owners.

Dave Ryun gave the Constable's report. The Town has been trying to work with Barry Pio since October to get his property in compliance with the Town's nuisance ordinance. At the last meeting Barry told the Board he would have the mess on his porches cleaned up within a week. Dave observed his property today and the mess is still there. The updated clean-up plan that was signed at the last meeting giving him a week to clean the porch and until the end of April for the rest of the property will be revoked since he didn't follow through with his portion. A citation will be sent.

Court for Ken Jaecks was held on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The current business permit ordinance states that all new businesses must obtain a permit. Ken's lawyer stated that he has been in business since before the ordinance was adopted in 1999, so he didn't need to obtain a business permit. Although Ken's dealer's license was not renewed and his business has changed, the judge ruled against the Town.

The Board would like to look at changing the business permit ordinance so that all businesses within the Town need to obtain a business license. It ensures that the fire departments are inspecting businesses that are open to the public and that personal property is being assessed.

Leo Piatz's trial is scheduled for Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Arnold Strangfeld's case is moving forward and prosecution is continuing.

Luke Hilger's property around the corner of Church and County Road Z has been completely cleaned.

The property was owned by Nathan Dick on County Road Z was deeded back to Wood County. There is still a very large mess around the house and coming out of the garage. Many of the neighbors are concerned about the garbage flying around and the unwanted animals. The Town will check the Town's attorney to see how we can get the garbage cleaned up around the property.

Billie-Jo gave the Treasurer's report. Money was sent to the Wood County Treasurer for unclaimed property for Dakota Karbowski and Ken Ferkey. Their checks have un-cashed for several years.

The Town hall doors should be fabricated in the next month.

The Town does not own a drone and does not contract with anyone to use drones to find properties that aren't in compliance with Town ordinances.

The Town has an obligation to follow-up with violation complaints when they are received from town residents. Viewing or pictures are taken either from the road right-of-way or from a neighbor's property where the violation can be seen.

On the very rare occasion that a drone is used, it is specific to the one property, and is only when the investigator feels threatened.

The Town spends more money on prosecution of ordinance violations than it makes back in fines and forfeitures.

The Town Board does not want to issue tickets or go to court. They would prefer to work with property owners to get a property in compliance.

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

Frank made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Heeg seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Heidi Kawleski, Town Clerk